



Health Advisory Notice to Homeowners / Residents

Nov. 7, 2006

Residents of this area with homes located below the area of a recent diesel fuel leak are advised to continue using bottled drinking water until further notice. The fuel leak originated at a Puget Sound Energy (PSE) electricity generator for the Crystal Mountain Ski Resort. The affected area is downstream, in the Silver Creek basin, to the White River.

With this notice, PSE has provided your residence with bottled drinking water. We are collaborating with local and state health departments about the safety of your drinking water. If you need additional supplies, please call PSE at 1-888-831-7250. PSE will notify residents when the possible contamination of drinking water has been resolved.

PSE has been working with state and federal agencies since Friday, Nov. 3, to contain and clean up an estimated 18,000 gallon leak of diesel fuel from the company's back-up electricity generator located on Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest land below the Crystal Mountain Ski Area in Pierce County.

Emergency cleanup crews from PSE, Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have been working around the clock since the initial report of the spill to contain the diesel fuel and protect the nearby wetlands and Silver Creek.

The spill's cause is still under investigation.

Working with the U.S. Forest Service, PSE on Friday, Nov. 3 notified homeowners in the immediate area about the spill and recommended that they take safety precautions such as using bottled drinking water.

In addition, PSE representatives and outside technical experts were available on Saturday, Nov. 4 during the White River Recreation Association's annual meeting at the Greenwater Fire Department to answer questions and concerns about the spill.

On Sunday, Nov. 5, the fuel was observed in Silver Creek, which is approximately 1,200 feet from the spill site and about 15 miles from the town of Greenwater, Wash.

On Monday, Nov. 6, state Ecology Department officials were concerned that an undetermined amount of diesel fuel had entered Silver Creek due to extraordinary rains and complex soil conditions at the spill site.

Tests are being conducted to determine the extent of any water contamination. Until the tests are complete, we recommend continuing to take the safety precaution of using bottled water for drinking, brushing teeth, preparing food and making ice.

Silver Creek is an important salmon-bearing creek. State and tribal fish and wildlife officials have begun conducting some initial wildlife surveys in the area and downstream of the spill site.