North Transfer Station Odor Evaluation Project

Summer 2024

Project Background

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) operates the North Transfer Station, located in Wallingford. SPU strives to be a good neighbor and maintain air quality standards, including controlling odors.

As part of its commitment to being a community-centered space, SPU is working to evaluate odor complaints by assessing current conditions and developing potential solutions for mitigating odors.





As part of its commitment to be a space that serves the community, SPU is carrying out an odor assessment at the North Transfer Station.

Project Updates

SPU hired Jacobs Engineering Group, a national consulting firm with expertise in odor control and a strong local presence, to help with this project. Since Spring 2023, we have:

- Collected warm weather seasonal odor samples in June 2023.
- Evaluated new odor complaints, weather data, and current operating conditions to identify possible operational improvements.
- Modeled site-specific odor patterns and impacts using odor sample results, terrain data, air discharge velocity, and direct weather observations.
- Assessed operational improvement cost solutions and feasibility of implementation based on modeling results.

We are exploring several recommended solutions to mitigate odors including:

- 1. Improving the existing odor reduction misting system that uses an odor-neutralizing compound that is mixed with water for dispersion.
- 2. Installing a new vapor-misting system in conjunction with the existing misting system, specifically targeting the areas around the compactors.
- 3. Installing new air curtains on all three roll-up doors on the tipping floor.

Next Steps

In the coming months, we will complete our data evaluation, share our findings, and outline the next steps at an open house scheduled for September 2024. For more information on the North Transfer Station, please visit our project website.