

# PUGET SOUND CLEAN CARS STORMWATER PARTNERSHIP

ISSUE

# 01

MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER  
INFORMATIONAL KICKOFF MEETING

**Welcome** to the Puget Sound Clean Cars Stormwater Partnership, a collaborative effort to reduce stormwater impacts associated with automotive vehicle fluid leaks in the State of Washington. In this first edition of our quarterly Newsletter, we present a brief overview of the project background, scope, expectations, and activities to date.



## Project Background and Overview

In February 2016, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Puget Sound Clean Cars Stormwater Partnership, a collaborative research project concerning vehicle fluid leaks and stormwater impacts. Gradient and the Society for Automotive Engineers (SAE) submitted a joint proposal, based on their technical expertise in environmental and human health hazard and risk assessment and automobile engineering, respectively. Ecology designated Gradient and SAE as the successful bidders in August 2016, and the project commenced in January 2017.

The primary objective of this collaboration is to identify technologies to reduce stormwater impacts associated with automotive vehicle fluid leaks in the State of Washington. To meet this objective, we will convene a stakeholder panel consisting of experts from the government, academia, NGOs, and industry. This group of stakeholders will work together to research and identify the following:

- environmental and human health impacts of automobile fluid leaks
- vehicle leak data (sources, frequency, and volume of leaks, etc.) to identify potential management options
- current automotive design and maintenance efforts
- vehicle design efforts related to preventing vehicle leaks
- innovative technologies and onboard diagnostics
- policy options and incentives to accelerate efforts to reduce vehicle leaks using automotive technologies
- drivers and barriers to preventing vehicle leaks using automotive technologies
- safer chemical alternatives

The project is designed to be a collaborative effort between stakeholders from government, academia, industry, and interested non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The project team will consist of the operations team, the working group, and the stakeholder advisory group. An overview of each of these groups is provided below:

## Operational Team

Ecology and its consultants (Gradient and SAE) will direct and coordinate implementation of this work plan. The operational team will be responsible for identifying and recruiting experts for the working group and stakeholder advisory group, coordinating meetings and communications among the groups, and responsible for completion of the final research report, based on the findings of the stakeholders.

## Working Group

A small group (10-12 people, not including Gradient, SAE, and Ecology) of dedicated representatives from government, academia, NGOs and automotive-related businesses, and chaired by a representative from Ecology, will focus on addressing technical issues. The working group will be tasked with gathering technical information related to the project main objectives and for inclusion in the final summary report. Working group members will attend and participate in quarterly web-meetings throughout the project.

## Stakeholder Advisory Group

A larger advisory group (no size limit) comprised of all other interested stakeholders will receive quarterly newsletters and email communications. The advisory group will be encouraged, but not required, to submit comments on project related questions and interim draft sections of the final report as they are assembled. The advisory group will also be encouraged to attend specific progress update web-meetings scheduled according to benchmarks achieved throughout the project timeline.

## Project Deliverables

Data relevant to the above areas will be collected as part of an ongoing literature search, and through stakeholder discussions to be held on a quarterly basis starting in March 2017. Findings and information collected will be summarized in a final report delivered to Ecology in June 2018.

## Upcoming Events

Web meetings will be held on a semi-regular basis starting in April 2017 and continuing through June 2018. Web meetings will be 30 minutes to 1 hour in length, and be hosted by Ecology's consultant, Gradient, with assistance from SAE International, to discuss project related tasks, information needs and progress updates. Findings and information collected during these web-meetings, as well as an ongoing literature search, will be summarized in a final report delivered to Ecology in June 2018 and presented at a future SAE conference.

Collaboration between:

