Washington State has approximately 3,000 historical leaking underground petroleum storage tanks and tank systems. Petroleum storage tank releases threaten Washington’s drinking water, environment and economy. Petroleum includes motor fuels, jet fuels, lubricants, petroleum solvents, and used oils.

The Pollution Liability Agency (PLIA) will expand the state’s ability to respond to the high customer demand to clean up petroleum contaminated sites through the Petroleum Technical Assistance Program (PTAP) as established under RCW 70.149.040 (9).

What services are available under PTAP?

PLIA may provide informal advice and assistance on the administrative and technical requirements of the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), which is the state’s cleanup law. PLIA will also provide written opinions on independent remedial actions on qualifying petroleum cleanup sites.

What types of opinions will PLIA provide on cleanups?

PLIA will issue written opinion letters on whether the proposed or completed cleanup actions have met the substantive requirements of MTCA.

Opinions include:

- No Further Action (NFA) on the Site/Property
- Further Action (FA) on the Site/Property
- Partial Sufficiency (PS) of the Site cleanup.
What types of sites qualify for services under PTAP?

The following low-risk petroleum sites are eligible for PTAP:

- Sites that don’t have a sediment and/or surface water pathway.
- Sites funded through PLIA’s Loan and Grant or Reinsurance programs.

What types of sites do not qualify for services under PTAP?

The following sites do not qualify for PTAP:

- Sites with co-mingled, non-petroleum contaminants.
- Sites currently in litigation.
- Sites under active contract with the Department of Ecology.
- Sites within the bounds of or impacting, a Superfund, Nuclear Program-managed, Industrial Section, or Dangerous Waste site.

How do I apply for the PTAP?

Complete the online application found on PLIA’s website at www.plia.wa.gov. Applications will be available starting January 2, 2018.

What is the fee for services under PTAP?

There is a one time service fee of $7,500 for services provided under PTAP. Payment is due before PLIA will provide technical assistance or opinions.

What happens after my application has been accepted?

After PLIA has accepted your application, we will contact you to schedule an intake meeting. At the intake meeting, the Site Manager will review your application and work with you to develop a feasible timeline for closure. PLIA’s goal is to issue a written opinion letter within 45 days of the intake meeting.