

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

RCW 197-11-960

PURPOSE OF CHECKLIST:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) chapter 43.21C, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

INSTRUCTION FOR APPLICANTS:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if the question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know", or "does not apply". Complete answers to the question now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

USE OF CHECKLIST FOR NON-PROJECT PROPOSALS:

Complete this checklist for non-project proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply". IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NON-PROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For non-project actions, the reference in the checklist to the words “project”, “applicant”, and “property or site” should be read as “proposal”, “proposed”, and “affected geographic area”, respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Construction and Post Stormwater Ordinance

2. Name of applicant:

Douglas County

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

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Jennifer Lange
Phone: (509) 884-7173*

4. Date checklist prepared:

November 2, 2009

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Douglas County, Transportation Department

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

The ordinance is planned to be presented for adoption in January 2010, and will become effective in February 2011.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansions or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain:

The county will implement Construction and Post Construction Stormwater Programs no later than February 2011. The program will include measures to minimize the discharge of pollutants associated with construction activities and to implement standards for design, construction and long term maintenance of permanent stormwater facilities. The program includes procedures for plan reviews, site inspection, record keeping and enforcement.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared or will be prepared directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain:

The proposal is initiated as a requirement of the Department of Ecology, Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit and the Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR: Protection of the Environment, to develop, implement and enforce a program to address discharges from construction sites and permanent stormwater facilities.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain:

None are known.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

The resolution must be adopted by the Board of County Commissioners. The Washington State Department of Ecology will also review the County's ordinance and program for compliance with the Eastern Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page.

The Construction and Post-Construction Stormwater Ordinance establishes requirements for stormwater management for land-disturbing projects greater than one acre. The ordinance addresses the ongoing maintenance and operation of stormwater facilities. The ordinance delegates the enforcement to the Douglas County Transportation Department.

12. Location of the proposal: Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographical map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The ordinance will be applicable in Douglas County Washington.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling hills, steep slopes, mountainous, other: All of the above.
The area is generally hilly, but slopes range from flat to steep. Most of the area slopes toward the Columbia River.
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
The area includes all degrees of slopes, from flat to steep hillsides in the foothills.
- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example: clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.
The proposal will be applicable county wide. USDA Soil Conservation Service (NRCS – Natural Resource Conservation Service) soil maps are utilized for specific site soil determinations.
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.
The proposal will be applicable county wide. Some areas have been classified as geohazard areas. Douglas County maintains maps depicting those areas.
- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.
No fill is associated with this proposal.
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so generally describe.
Not applicable.
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example: asphalt or buildings)?
Not applicable.
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion or other impacts to the earth, if any.
Not applicable.

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e. dust, automobile odors, and industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.
None are known.
- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.
None are known.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any.
Not applicable.

3. Water

a. Surface

- 1. Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.
Yes, the Columbia River.
- 2. Will the project require work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.
No.
- 3. Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected.
None.
- 4. Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities.
No.
- 5. Does the proposal lie within a 100 year flood plain? If so, note location on the site plan.
No.

6. Does the proposal involve any discharge of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No.

b. Ground

1. Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose and approximate quantities.

No.

2. Describe waste materials that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage, industrial, containing the following chemicals: agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of systems, the number of houses to be served, or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

Not applicable.

c. Water runoff (including storm water)

1. Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (including quantity, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe:

None.

2. Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? Generally describe.

No, the purpose of the ordinance is to prohibit waste materials from enter the ground water or surface water.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts.

Not applicable.

4. Plants

- a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

Deciduous tree: *alder, **maple, aspen, other***

Evergreen tree: ***fir, cedar, pine, other***

Shrubs

Grass

Pasture

Crop or grain

Wet soil plants: ***cattails, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other***

Water plants: *water lily, eelgrass, **milfoil, other***

Other types of vegetation: ***sage brush, native range land vegetation***

- b. What kind of amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

None.

- c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

None known.

- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any.

None.

5. Animals

- a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

Birds: ***Hawk, Heron, Eagle, Songbirds, Other: Duck, Chukar, Quail, Crow, Pigeon, Seagull***

Mammals: ***Deer, Bear, Elk, Beaver, Other: Moose, Rabbit, Raccoon, Skunk, Coyote, Rodents, Groundhog***

Fish: *Bass, **Salmon, Trout, Herring, Shellfish, Other:***

- b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Bald eagles are occasionally seen along the Columbia River. During spawning season, Bull Trout, Upper Columbia River Steelhead, and Upper Columbia River Spring Run Chinook are in the Columbia River.

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

The Columbia River is a salmon and trout migration routes. Mule deer move into and out of the UGA as part of their winter/summer movements.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.
None will be needed.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.
None.
- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.
No.
- c. What kind of energy conservation features are include in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any.
None.

7. Environmental Health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spills, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.
1. Describe special emergency services that might be required.
None.
 2. Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.
Not applicable.
- b. Noise
1. What type of noise exists in the area which may affect your project? (for example: traffic, equipment operation)
No noise in the area will affect this proposal.
 2. What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis? (for example: traffic, construction, operations, other) Indicate what hours noise would come from site.
None.
 3. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any.
Not applicable.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?
The proposal is applicable county wide. Use varies including residential, agricultural, commercial, industrial and recreational.
- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.
Use varies including residential, agricultural, commercial, industrial and recreational.
- c. Describe any structures on the site.
A variety of structures exist within the in the program coverage area.
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?
No.
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
Current zoning varies from low density residential to high density residential, commercial and industrial, ect.
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
A wide range of designations exist within the program coverage area.
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
Douglas County's Regional Shoreline Master Program went into effect in August 2009.
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an environmentally sensitive area? If so, specify.
Some areas have been classified as environmentally sensitive. Douglas County maintains maps depicting those areas.
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
The County adopted population is approximately 39,227.
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
None.
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any.
Not applicable.
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal in compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any.
Not applicable.

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low income housing.
None.
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low income housing.
None.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any.
Does not apply.

10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?
Does not apply.
- b. What view in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?
None.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control esthetic impacts, if any.
None.

11. Light and Glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?
None.
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?
No.
- c. What existing off-site source of light or glare may affect your proposal?
None.
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any.
None.

12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity.
Soccer, tennis, baseball, softball, cycling, running, walking, and watersports are all recreational opportunities found in the vicinity.

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.
No.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreational opportunities to be provided by the project, if any.
None.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

- a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, describe.
Not applicable.
- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.
Not applicable.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any.
None are proposed.

14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plan, if any.
Not applicable.
- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?
Link Transit provides service within the program coverage area.
- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?
None.
- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (including whether public or private).
No.
- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.
No.
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate peak hours.
None.

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any.
No measures are proposed.

15. Public Services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public service (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.
No.
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on public services, if any.
None.

16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: ***electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system.***
All of these utilities are available within program coverage area.
- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.
Not applicable.

C. SIGNATURE:

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: *Jennifer Lange* Date Submitted: *11/5/09*