

SEPA¹ Environmental Checklist

Purpose of checklist

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization, or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. **You may use “not applicable” or “does not apply” only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown.** You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

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 help 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.

Instructions for lead agencies

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B, plus the Supplemental Sheet for Nonproject Actions (Part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in “Part B: Environmental Elements” that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

¹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/Checklist-guidance>

A. Background

[Find help answering background questions²](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Whatcom County Water District 13 – General Sewer Plan and Wastewater Treatment Plant Engineering Report

2. Name of applicant:

Whatcom County Water District 13

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

532 Sprague Valley Drive, Maple Falls, WA 98266

Cheryl Klessig, Office Manager 360-509-1801

4. Date checklist prepared:

April 30, 2026

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Whatcom County Water District 13

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

Plan approval May 2026. Design of WWTP Improvements complete March 2028, construction complete April 2030.

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

Yes - Design & permitting for WWTP improvements anticipated to be approved May 2028. Construction of improvements anticipated to start in August 2028, completed in April 2030.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

For design, permitting, and construction, the following environmental documentation will be required:

- Construction documents to include clearing & grading, erosion control, building plans (structural, electrical, mechanical, architectural)
- Cultural resources review
- Geotechnical exploration and evaluation

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

² <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-A-Background>

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

The Plan/ER requires approval from Ecology, Whatcom County Engineer, Health, Planning, and also Whatcom County Council.

Design of the WWTP improvements will require approval from Ecology. For construction, clearing, grading, and building permits will be required from Whatcom County. Permits will be required from Labor & Industries for electrical work.

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. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

This proposal includes the development of a General Sewer Plan (collection system) and Engineering Report (wastewater treatment plant) for wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal for Whatcom County Water District 13, in accordance with state and federal regulations. The Plan provides growth projections for the District's sewer service area, evaluates the condition and capacity of the existing collection and treatment system, provides recommended capital projects to address deficiencies, and provides a schedule and cost estimate for constructing new wastewater facilities to meet future demands and regulations.

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 topographic 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.

District headquarters and the wastewater treatment plant are located at 532 Sprague Valley Drive, Maple Fall, WA. The District's service area encompasses approximately 566 acres within the Columbia Valley UGA. The District straddles SR 547 and can be reached by driving east, from Bellingham on SR547.

B.Environmental Elements

1. Earth

[Find help answering earth questions³](https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth)

a. General description of the site:

The District's sewer service area lies on the valley floor between Red and Sumas Mountains. The valley floor is relatively flat, with no significant surface waters, except Sprague Lake and Kendall Creek which drains Sprague Lake, flowing south to the

³ <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth>

Nooksack River, approximately 2.5 miles away. The wastewater treatment plant lays in the southern corner of the District, west of SR547. The sewer collection system conveys sewage from all developed portions of the District to the WWTP. Treated effluent is disposed in a large drainfield located approximately 2,200 feet north of the WWTP. Large undeveloped land exists on both sides of SR547 and are currently being developed, or planned for development.

Circle or highlight one: **Flat**, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

Five (5) percent on the valley floor. Slopes exceeding 50% exist on the mountain slopes around the valley.

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 agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

Most soils in the valley are well graded sands and gravels.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

The steep slopes of the adjacent mountains have experienced some instability, as evidenced by rock slides, beyond any of the developed areas.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Future construction of a new wastewater treatment plant at the existing 3.5 acre site will require deep foundation excavations for large concrete vessels that will be partially buried. The excavated material will be hauled away and disposed, or used to fill the existing lagoons. Fill material will include imported crushed rock for the subgrade of paved surfaces and topsoil for landscaping.

f. Could erosion occur because of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Future construction will expose soils to erosion.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

5-10 percent.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any.

Future construction will require erosion control measures per Whatcom County and State regulations.

2. Air

[Find help answering air questions](#)⁴

- a. **What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

Future construction will produce dust. After completion, the plant may emit typically wastewater gasses; however, the design will ensure odors are kept to a minimum and will be less than the existing aerated lagoon system.

- b. **Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.**

No.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:**

Future construction will utilize typical construction equipment with required emission controls.

3. Water

[Find help answering water questions](#)⁵

- a. **Surface:**

[Find help answering surface water questions](#)⁶

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.**

The nearest body of water (Sprague Lake) is located approximately 400 feet to the east/southeast, behind existing homes.

2. **Will the project require any 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. Indicate the source of fill material.**

None

⁴ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-Air>

⁵ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water>

⁶ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Surface-water>

- 4. Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

No

- 5. Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

No

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

No

b. Ground:

[Find help answering ground water questions](#)⁷

- 1. Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

No

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

The existing State Waste Discharge Permit for the WWTP requires disposal of treated effluent to be discharged to ground via a large drainfield located 2,200 feet north of the WWTP. The future facility will do the same; however, the water will be treated to a higher standard in order to protect groundwater quality.

c. Water Runoff (including stormwater):

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

Runoff in the valley typically infiltrates into the very permeable soils, with little surface ponding. Future runoff collected onsite will most likely be treated and discharged to an infiltration facility designed to Whatcom County and State standards.

- 2. Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.**

⁷ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Groundwater>

It is possible that small amounts of fuels or lubricants could leak onto the ground and seep into the soils; however, the contractor will be required to have spill response kits in each vehicle and be required to address spills.

3. Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

No

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

Future construction will require the contractor to provide and maintain erosion control and spill control materials and equipment.

4. Plants

[Find help answering plants questions](#)

a. Check the 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
- orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

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

Future construction will remove trees and grass in order to construct the new treatment facility.

c. List threatened and 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.

Landscaping will be provided to screen the facility and provide groundcover.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

None known

5. Animals

[Find help answering animal questions](#)⁸

- a. **List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.**

Examples include:

- **Birds:** hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
- **Mammals:** deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
- **Fish:** bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

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

None known

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

The site is located within the Pacific Flyway

- d. **Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.**

The site is currently fenced and will remain so after the future construction is completed. No changes relating to wildlife are anticipated.

- e. **List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.**

None known

6. Energy and natural resources

[Find help answering energy and natural resource questions](#)⁹

- 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.**

Similar to the existing facility, the future WWTP will utilize electricity for power. Also, the existing diesel-powered emergency generator will remain, as required.

- b. **Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.**

No – future facilities will be constructed at heights similar to single-family homes.

- c. **What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any.**

⁸ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-5-Animals>

⁹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-6-Energy-natural-resou>

As required, the future facility will be designed to conserve energy as is feasible and practical.

7. Environmental health

[Health Find help with answering environmental health questions](#)¹⁰

- a. **Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur because of this proposal? If so, describe.**

Overflow of untreated sewage is possible; however, the future facility will be designed to accommodate all expected flows.

1. **Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.**

None known

2. **Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.**

None known

3. **Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.**

None known at this time

4. **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

None known

5. **Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.**

Operation of the future facility will include appropriate procedures for preventing overflows and also for storage of chemicals.

b. Noise

1. **What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?**

None

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, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site)?**

Noise during construction of the future facility will be controlled via the County's allowable working hours. Operation of the future plant is not expected to generate

¹⁰ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-7-Environmental-health>

much noise beyond exercising the emergency generator, deliveries to, or wastehaul of materials from, the facility.

3. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

All motorized equipment (pumps, blowers, valves, etc.,) will be housed inside an insulated building or buried beneath the surface.

8. Land and shoreline use

[Find help answering land and shoreline use questions](#)¹¹

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

Residential housing. Future facility will not impact housing.

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses because of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

No

1. Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how?

No

c. Describe any structures on the site.

The site contains a small operations building and a small garage/shop.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

Some of the existing concrete structures will be demolished and wastehauled. Most of these structures are underground, or near ground level.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

UR4 - urban residential, 4 du/acre

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Urban Growth Area (UGA) - residential

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

N/A

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

¹¹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-8-Land-shoreline-use>

No

- i. **Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**

3 workers

- j. **Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**

Zero

- k. **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any.**

Not applicable

- l. **Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any.**

The existing facility will not change the character with the future improvements and will not impact adjacent land uses

- m. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:**

Not applicable

9. Housing

[Find help answering housing questions](#)¹²

- a. **Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

Zero

- b. **Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

Zero

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:**

Not applicable

10. Aesthetics

[Find help answering aesthetics questions](#)¹³

- a. **What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

To be determined – most likely less than 20 feet

- b. **What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**

None

¹² <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-9-Housing>

¹³ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-10-Aesthetics>

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

None

11. Light and glare

[Find help answering light and glare questions](#)¹⁴

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

The future facility will have yard lights to assist operations and to enhance safety and security.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

Future onsite lighting will be directed only to those areas requiring light.

12. Recreation

[Find help answering recreation questions](#)

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Walking

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 recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

Not applicable

¹⁴ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-11-Light-glare>

13. Historic and cultural preservation

[Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions](#)¹⁵

- a. **Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.**

None known

- b. **Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.**

None known. Prior to construction, a Cultural Resources Review will be required.

- c. **Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.**

Through coordination with DAHP and federal funding agencies, affected tribes will be consulted on the project.

- d. **Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.**

To be determined, as required by DAHP. The project will be required to have an Inadvertent Discovery Plan and protocols should the contractor discover artifacts

14. Transportation

[Find help with answering transportation questions](#)¹⁶

- a. **Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

Site can be accessed from SR547, Peaceful Valley Drive, Balfour Valley Drive, Sprague Valley Drive

- b. **Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**

The only nearby bus stop is located at the intersection of SR547 and Peaceful Valley Drive, approximately 4,000 feet away

¹⁵ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-13-Historic-cultural-p>

¹⁶ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-14-Transportation>

- c. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No

- d. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

- e. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

Employee and customer trips to the future facility are not expected to change; however, additional truck trips are expected to transport sludge to an offsite disposal facility. Trips are expected to increase from 6 trips a day for one week to 2-5 trips per week throughout the year.

- f. Will the proposal interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

None

15. Public services

[Find help answering public service questions¹⁷](#)

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

Not applicable

16. Utilities

[Find help answering utilities questions¹⁸](#)

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: **electricity**, natural gas, **water**, **refuse service**, **telephone**, **sanitary sewer**, septic system, other:

¹⁷ <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-15-public-services>

¹⁸ <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-16-utilities>

- 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.

All utilities to the site will remain the same after the future WWTP is constructed. It is possible, that PSE power will need to provide a larger transformer to provide power to the future WWTP

C. Signature

[Find help about who should sign](#)¹⁹

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.

X 

Type name of signee: Roger Kuykendall, P.E.

Position and agency/organization: Project Manager, Gray & Osborne, Inc., District Engineer

Date submitted: April 30, 2026

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions

[Find help for the nonproject actions worksheet](#)²⁰

Do not use this section for project actions.

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The future WWTP is being proposed to protect groundwater and accommodate future growth within the District. With growth, there will be more sewage flowing to the future WWTP, and therefore, more effluent discharged to ground.

¹⁹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-C-Signature>

²⁰ <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-d-non-project-actions>

- **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:**

The future WWTP will accommodate growth within the District and discharge more treated effluent into the ground; however, the new WWTP will remove much greater amounts of solids, organic matter, and nitrogen than the existing WWTP. Therefore, there will be less pollution discharged into the ground.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

Yes – some trees will be removed to construct the new WWTP. There would be no impacts to fish or marine life.

- **Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:**

Impacts to plants and animals would be limited to that necessary to construct the improvements.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

Replacing the existing aerated lagoon WWTP with a mechanical plant will require a significant amount of additional electrical power to operate.

- **Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:**

All equipment will be properly sized to avoid wasting energy and control systems will run equipment only when it is needed.

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection, such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

No environmentally sensitive or protected areas will be affected.

- **Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:**

Not applicable

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

There will be no impacts to land or shoreline use, as the future facility will be constructed on the existing parcel.

- **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:**

Not applicable

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

There are no anticipated to be any meaningful impacts to the roadways, public services, or utilities.

- **Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:**

Not applicable

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

All aspects of the project will meet all applicable local, state, and federal requirements.