



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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December 24, 2014



Kaycee Hathaway
Kittitas County Community Development
411 N. Ruby Street, Suite 2
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Re: CU-14-00005

Dear Ms. Hathaway:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment during the optional determination of nonsignificance process for the farming operations related to KC 17.15.060.1 A – Marijuana Processing and Production on a 15.03 acres parcel, proposed by Mary Gonzalez. We have reviewed the documents and have the following revised comments.

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Ecology recommends that all phases of the commercial cannabis growing development be described in this environmental checklist form. A site plan was available, but very little details of the plan were included in the environmental checklist answers. No build-out information, such as total square feet of impervious surfaces or square feet per phase, was provided to this reviewing agency.

SHORELANDS/ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE

The wetlands on site should be delineated and rated to assure that appropriately sized buffers are in place throughout all phases of the project to protect the wetland functional values. In later phases of the project, the buffer from the wetlands is proposed to be cut in half to 60 feet. At this size buffer (combined with a slope) only 50 to 70 percent of nutrients being applied on the surface could expect to be treated by an intact vegetated grass buffer. The impacts of the use of fertilizers on the adjacent wetland should be evaluated. Measures that will be employed by the applicant to protect the water quality and other functional values of the wetlands on site should be described by the applicant. Periodic assessment of the impact of the project on adjacent wetlands is recommended.

If you have any questions or would like to respond to these Shorelands/Environmental Assistance comments, please contact **Catherine Reed** at (509) 575-2616.

