KITTITAS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
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Office (509) 962-7506
"Building Partnerships – Building Communities"

SEPA 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: [help]

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.

APPLICATION FEES:

$600.00 Kittitas County Community Development Services (KCCDS)**
$950.00* Kittitas County Department of Public Works**
$275.00 Kittitas County Public Health

$1,825.00 Total fees due for this application (One check made payable to KCCDS)

*2 hours of review included in Public Works Fee. Additional review hours will be billed at $243 per hour.

** Note:KCCDS and PW fees are waived if project is a VSP sponsored fish enhancement project.

FOR STAFF USE ONLY

Application Received by (CDS Staff Signature):	DATE:	RECEIPT#
Rachael Stevens	6/21/2021	RECEIVED JUN 21 2021 Kittitas County CDS DATE STAMP IN BOX

A. Background [help]

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: [help]

   Kittitas PUD Bettas Road Substation Expansion

2. Name of applicant: [help]

   Matt Boast, PUD No. 1 of Kittitas County

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [help]

   1400 Vantage Hwy, Ellensburg, WA, 98926 509-933-7200 x804

4. Date checklist prepared: [help]

   June 18, 2021

5. Agency requesting checklist: [help]

   KITTITAS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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

   Construction schedule has yet to be determined, earliest construction would start in September of 2021 - October of 2021

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

   No future plans

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

   Contained in NOI, see attached. SWPPP is being prepared.

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. [help]

   No

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

    NOI, Conditional Use, BLA (Boundary Line Adjustment)

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.) [help]

    See "Project Narrative" in Expanded Site Information, attached

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. [help]

S15, T19N, R17E. Site location is 4,000ft southeast of intersection of Hayward Rd and Bettas Rd., east of the existing substation. Coordinates 47.136403, -120.701459

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS [help]

1. Earth [help]

a. General description of the site: [help]

(circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____

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

Existing substation has average slope of 2%. There are some isolated ~40% slopes in the area, but most steep slopes are ~25%

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. [help]

Loamy-skeletal, split between Hydrological soil groups C and D

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

None, site is stable and project will adjoin an existing substation that has been compacted and stabilized.

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. [help]

Site grading is relatively balanced, see Site Plan attached. Fill source to be determined by construction contractor.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [help]

Erosion in construction phases will be mitigated by erosion control measures, final constructed substation pad and access roads prevent erosion and minimize stormwater drainage velocity to prevent erosion

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

There is about 0.5% impervious area (~800sf of transformer foundation, misc foundations, and control building.)

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

A SWPPP and erosion control plan are being prepared for the site, see plan and details attached

2. Air [help]

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. [help]

General emisisons from construction equipment to be expected during construction, but no anticipated emissions from site during operation

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

N/A

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [help]

N/A

3. Water [help]

a. Surface Water:

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. [help]

Receiving waterbody is Dry Creek (Riverine R4SBC)

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. [help]

Project work will take place over 600ft from Dry Creek.

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. [help]

N/A

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [help]

No

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

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. [help]

No

b. Ground Water:

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 general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [help]

No

2) Describe waste material 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 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. [help]

N/A

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. [help]

Stormwater will be directed offsite to mimic existing conditions through directed ditches and culverts. A portion of this water will flow northeast towards dry creek, similar to the existing substation at the site is designed.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. [help]

N/A

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

There will be minimal impact to the existing site's drainage patterns through this addition, drainage is designed to continue to follow existing patterns

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

Site grading and drainage design conforms to existing conditions as possible, see Site Plan attached

4. **Plants** [help]

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: [help]

____deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
____evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
__✓__shrubs
(minimal) __✓__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? [help]

There is minimal existing vegetation (grasses, shrubs) that will be removed where the site will be constructed

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [help]

None.

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

None

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

None

5. Animals [help]

a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. [help]

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

Site is a substation expansion. Birds and mammals avoid the area and there are no water features for fish.

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [help]

None

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. [help]

None

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: [help]

None, as this addition is anticipated to have minimal impact to the existing site area

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. [help]

None

6. Energy and Natural Resources [help]

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. [help]

Electrical to power site equipment

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

No

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: [help]

Substation improvements are being added to improve electric utility service including incorporating energy conservation features of facilities within the service territory.

7. Environmental Health [help]

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

No.

1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses. [help]

None

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. [help]

None

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. [help] Some toxic or hazardous chemicals will be utilized by construction equipment during construction (petroleum, oils, and lubricants.) A SWPPP will be issued to the contractor for BMP guidance. No toxic or hazardous chemicals will be stored on site during operation of the substation. Select electric equipment will utilize cooling liquids that may be toxic or hazardous, as well as some mineral oil-filled equipment and SF6 gas. Secondary containment will be provided for the transformer.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [help]

None

5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [help]

No increased environmental hazards anticipated

b. Noise [help]

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

No significant noise

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. [help]

Normal construction noise of vehicles and machinery operating during construction will occur during normal business hours, mostly on weekdays

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: [help]

None

8. Land and Shoreline Use [help]

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. [help]

This project is an expansion of an existing facility, so no affect to current land use is anticipated

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 as a result 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? [help]

N/A

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: [help]

No

c. Describe any structures on the site. [help]

Existing substation site includes control building and electrical equipment

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

No, this site will be an expansion on the east side of the existing site

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [help]

Agriculture 20

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

Rural Working

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

N/A

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

CDS performed a critical area review of the property. A type 4 stream crosses the parcel near and parallel to the northern property line. As proposed, the project will be well outside of the structural setback requirement for this stream.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? [help]

None full-time, regular maintenance and monitoring would occur

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [help]

None

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: [help]

None

L. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: [help]

None, this project is an expansion to the existing site so land use will not be impacted

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

None

9. Housing [help]

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

None

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

None

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: [help]

None

10. Aesthetics [help]

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

The control equipment enclosure will be similar to a metal building system or pre-engineered building. The tallest non-antenna structure is a steel pole and it 70 feet tall.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? [help]

None

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

None, this project will appear similar to existing site

11. Light and Glare [help]

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

None or minimal

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

Not anticipated

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

None

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

None

12. Recreation [help]

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

None

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [help]

No

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [help]

None

13. Historic and cultural preservation [help]

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. [help]

None

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. [help]

None

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. [help]

The project is a substation expansion from a Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) substation. The improved areas will be constructed on land that was previously disturbed during the BPA initial phase of construction. Potential impacts to cultural and historic resources are not anticipated and copies of previous surveys are available at BPA.

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. [help]

If cultural or historic resources are discovered construction will stop and agencies having jurisdiction will be contacted. ok

14. Transportation [help]

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. [help]

Existing site access is a crushed rock access road off of Hayward Rd, proposed site will expand upon the existing access road to connect to expansion site

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? [help]

No

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? [help]

None

d. 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). [help]

No

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

No

f. 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? [help]

Less than one trip a day, one trip a week is to be expected

g. 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. [help]

No

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [help]

None

15. Public Services [help]

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. [help]

No, the site is an expansion to an existing substation and would result in minimal impact

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

None

16. Utilities [help]

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [help]
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other _____

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. [help]

Electricity

C. Signature [help]

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: Matt Boast

Name of signee Matt Boast

Position and Agency/Organization General Manager - Kittitas PUD No. 1

Date Submitted: 6/21/2021

D. supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [help]

(**IT IS NOT NECESSARY** to use this sheet 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?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

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

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

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

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

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?

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

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?

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

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

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

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