



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

15 W Yakima Ave, Ste 200 • Yakima, WA 98902-3452 • (509) 575-2490

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Kittitas County  
CDS

November 12, 2008

Kari Braniff  
Kittitas County Community Development  
411 N Ruby Street, Suite 2  
Ellensburg, WA. 98926

Dear Ms. Braniff:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the short plat of approximately 12.01 acres into 2 lots, proposed by Roger Gill [SP 08-00045]. We have reviewed the application and have the following comment.

**Water Resources**

No water right records associated with this property were found in the Central Regional Office. In Washington State, ground water withdrawals of up to 5,000 gallons per day (gpd) used for single or group domestic supply, industrial purposes, stock watering or for the irrigation of up to ½ acre of lawn and garden are exempt from the permitting process. However, with the proposed lot sizes (approximately 6 acres each) irrigation could easily be over ½ acre. If irrigation water is not available through an irrigation district, Ecology encourages the use of covenants to help property owners stay within the groundwater exemption criteria until a valid water right is obtained for irrigation.

With the Supreme Court's guidance on the limitations of groundwater exemptions, all lots within this proposed division would be covered by a single groundwater exemption provided this development is not part of a larger project. To comply with 5,000 gpd limit, Ecology recommends metering the wells for this development. Water use data should be recorded by the property owner of the well monthly. Department of Ecology personnel, upon presentation of proper credentials, shall have access at reasonable times, to the records of water use that are kept to meet the above conditions, and to inspect at reasonable times any measuring device used to meet the above conditions. For metering information, please contact Ken Schuster at (509) 454-4263.

Sincerely,

Gwen Clear  
Environmental Review Coordinator  
Central Regional Office  
(509) 575-2012

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