

From: [ECY RE CRO SEPA Coordinator](#)
To: [Shannon Bright](#); [CDS User](#); [Kelly Bacon \(CD\)](#)
Cc: [Johnson, Amber \(ECY\)](#)
Subject: RE: Concerns regarding potential contamination to groundwater, fish habitat, and aquifer from Kittitas County Conditional Use Application CU-23-00001 3 BR Custom Cuts
Date: Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:05:41 AM

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Hello Shannon,

Thank you for your email. [The "3 BR Custom Cuts"](#) proposal is currently running its open comment period. The responsible official (in this case Kittitas County) will gather comments and concerns regarding this SEPA ([WAC 197-11-355 \(4\)](#)). Ecology is an "Agency with environmental expertise" mean[ing] an agency with special expertise on the environmental impacts involved in a proposal or alternative significantly affecting the environment" ([WAC 197-11-714\(2\)](#)) and will comment appropriately in regards to the proposal in question.

WAC 197-11-355

Optional DNS process.

(1) If a GMA county/city with an integrated project review process (RCW 36.70B.060) is lead agency for a proposal and has a reasonable basis for determining significant adverse environmental impacts are unlikely, it may use a single integrated comment period to obtain comments on the notice of application and the likely threshold determination for the proposal. If this process is used, a second comment period will typically not be required when the DNS is issued (refer to subsection (4) of this section).

(2) If the lead agency uses the optional process specified in subsection (1) of this section, the lead agency shall:

(a) State on the first page of the notice of application that it expects to issue a DNS for the proposal, and that:

(i) The optional DNS process is being used;

(ii) This may be the only opportunity to comment on the environmental impacts of the proposal;

(iii) The proposal may include mitigation measures under applicable codes, and the project review process may incorporate or require mitigation measures regardless of whether an EIS is prepared; and

(iv) A copy of the subsequent threshold determination for the specific proposal may be obtained upon request (in addition, the lead agency may choose to maintain a general mailing

list for threshold determination distribution).

(b) List in the notice of application the conditions being considered to mitigate environmental impacts, if a mitigated DNS is expected;

(c) Comply with the requirements for a notice of application and public notice in RCW 36.70B.110; and

(d) Send the notice of application and environmental checklist to:

(i) Agencies with jurisdiction, the department of ecology, affected tribes, and each local agency or political subdivision whose public services would be changed as a result of implementation of the proposal; and

(ii) Anyone requesting a copy of the environmental checklist for the specific proposal (in addition, the lead agency may choose to maintain a general mailing list for checklist distribution).

(3) If the lead agency indicates on the notice of application that a DNS is likely, an agency with jurisdiction may assume lead agency status during the comment period on the notice of application (WAC 197-11-948).

(4) The responsible official shall consider timely comments on the notice of application and either:

(a) Issue a DNS or mitigated DNS with no comment period using the procedures in subsection (5) of this section;

(b) Issue a DNS or mitigated DNS with a comment period using the procedures in subsection (5) of this section, if the lead agency determines a comment period is necessary;

(c) Issue a DS; or

(d) Require additional information or studies prior to making a threshold determination.

(5) If a DNS or mitigated DNS is issued under subsection (4)(a) of this section, the lead agency shall send a copy of the DNS or mitigated DNS to the department of ecology, agencies with jurisdiction, those who commented, and anyone requesting a copy. A copy of the environmental checklist need not be recirculated.

For further comments or concerns, I recommend communicating with the SEPA official for this proposal. I've added Kelly Bacon to this email for your convenience.

Thank you,

Joy Espinoza
WA State Dept. of Ecology
Central Regional ERTS & SEPA Coordinator
1250 W, Alder Street
Union Gap, WA 98903-0009
(509) 379-3967

From: Shannon Bright <shannonbright_@hotmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 4:04 PM

To: ECY RE SEPA REGISTER <separegister@ecy.wa.gov>; Petropoulos, Terra (ECY) <tebu461@ECY.WA.GOV>; White, Lori (ECY) <lowh461@ECY.WA.GOV>; ECY RE Former Orchards <formerorchards@ECY.WA.GOV>; Neet, Wendy (ECY) <wnee461@ECY.WA.GOV>; ECY RE CRO SEPA Coordinator <crosepa@ecy.wa.gov>; Carp, Lizzie (ECY) <lcar461@ECY.WA.GOV>; Radcliff, Eugene (ECY) <erad461@ECY.WA.GOV>

Subject: Concerns regarding potential contamination to groundwater, fish habitat, and aquifer from Kittitas County Conditional Use Application CU-23-00001 3 BR Custom Cuts

Department of Ecology,

Re: Kittitas County Conditional Use Application CU-23-00001 3 BR Custom Cuts at 3200 Wilson Creek Rd, Parcel #214534

The eastern boundary of this parcel is Lyle Creek, a Type F (fish bearing) stream, part of the Naneum, Wilson, and Cherry Creek Watershed. From the eastern boundary of this parcel Lyle Creek runs south adjacent to Rosebriar Lane, then west adjacent to Lyons Road, then south adjacent to Wilson Creek. I have included a map from the National Hydrography Dataset which was included in a Stream and Critical Areas Evaluation and Mitigation Plan – East Branch of Lyle Creek p. 4 of 14, related to Kittitas County RU-22-00003 which demonstrates this.

I have also included a PDF with photos at the site and at the intersection of Lyons Road and Wilson Creek Rd where you can see the impact of spring run-off and its effect on the groundwater resulting in seasonal flooding.

The neighbors have strong concerns about the potential impact of this conditional use application for a full-service meat processing operation which includes a slaughterhouse. The updated application advises they intend to slaughter 20-30 animals a day and use 3,000 gallons of water a day, utilizing an onsite septic system. The most recent Project Narrative, SEPA Checklist, and Water, Offal & Indelible Product Mitigation Plan for CU-23-00001 do not clarify how they will assure that this septic system will not contaminate the groundwater, fish habitat in Lyle Creek, the aquifer, and nearby wells. The most recent Project Narrative advises the facility will cover 37,100 sf—which potentially further potential disruption to the groundwater.

Our hope is that you review this application and recommend that a complete hydrogeological assessment be conducted on the plan to determine the susceptibility of the groundwater to contamination and that you recommend a Determination of Significance and that the county begins the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process.

Neighbors in the Wilson Creek area will be getting together tomorrow night, 5.25.2023, from 5-7p, at the Kittitas Room in the Hal Holmes Center if you would like to attend.

The comment period ends at 5:00pm on May 26, 2023.

Here is a link to all documents associated with the application:

<https://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/cds/land-use/project-details.aspx?title=Conditional%20Use%20Permits&project=CU-23-00001+3+BR+Custom+Cuts>

Thank you for your consideration,
Shannon Bright
Wilson Creek Neighbors
509.312.0668