



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Central Region Office
1250 t Alder St., Union Gap, WA 98903-0009 • 509-575-2490

April 17, 2026

Ellie Myers
Kittitas County Community Development
411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2
Ellensburg, WA 98926

RE: SEPA 202601333; SE-26-00003

Dear Ellie Myers:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment during the Optional Determination of Nonsignificance process for the Kittitas PUD 1 HQ proposal. We have reviewed the documents and have the following comments.

Water Resources Program

In Washington State, prospective water users must obtain authorization from the Department of Ecology before diverting surface water or withdrawing ground water, with one exception. Ground water withdrawals for a project up to 5,000 gallons per day used for single or group domestic supply, up to 5,000 gallons per day used for industrial purposes, stock watering, and for the irrigation of up to one-half acre of non-commercial lawn and garden are exempt from the permitting process. Water use under the RCW 90.44.050 exemption establishes a water right that is subject to the same privileges, restrictions, laws and regulations as a water right permit or certificate obtained directly from Ecology. If you have any questions or would like to respond to these Water Resources comments, please contact Nathan Longoria at (509) 907-1752 or email at Nathan.Longoria@ecy.wa.gov.

Water Quality Program

Project with Potential to Discharge Off-Site

If your project anticipates disturbing ground with the potential for stormwater discharge off-site, the NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit is recommended. This permit requires that the SEPA checklist fully disclose anticipated activities including building, road construction and utility placements. Obtaining a permit may take 38-60 days.

The permit requires that a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (Erosion Sediment Control Plan) shall be prepared and implemented for all permitted construction sites. These control measures must be able to prevent soil from being carried into surface water and storm drains by stormwater runoff. Permit coverage and erosion control measures must be in place prior to any clearing, grading, or construction.

In the event that an unpermitted Stormwater discharge does occur off-site, it is a violation of Chapter 90.48 RCW, Water Pollution Control and is subject to enforcement action.

More information on the stormwater program may be found on [Ecology's stormwater website](#). Please submit an application or contact **Wendy Neet** at the Dept. of Ecology, (509) 571-6733 or Wendy.Neet@ecy.wa.gov with questions about this permit.

Ecology's comments are based upon information provided by the lead agency. As such, they may not constitute an exhaustive list of the various authorizations that must be obtained or legal requirements that must be fulfilled in order to carry out the proposed action.

If you have any questions or would like to respond to these comments, please contact the appropriate reviewing staff listed above.

Sincerely,



Amber Johnson
SEPA Coordinator, Central Region Office
509-723-5677
crosepa@ecy.wa.gov