

July 2, 2024

Attn: Jamey Ayling, Planning Manager Kittitas County  
(509) 962-7065 | [Jamey.Ayling@co.kittitas.wa.us](mailto:Jamey.Ayling@co.kittitas.wa.us)  
411 N Ruby St, Suite 2 | Ellensburg, WA 98926

**KITTITAS CO CDS  
RECEIVED  
07/03/2024**

**PSE THO-13 Distribution Line Pole Replacement – Application for Shoreline Exemption Letter**

I am writing on behalf of Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to apply for a Shoreline Exemption Letter from Kittitas County to allow for our replacement of one distribution pole along our Thorp – Ellensburg service corridor, as well as the installation of a pole-mounted recloser and pull-off area for access. Because the pole is within Rural Conservancy shoreline jurisdiction, floodplain and potential wetland buffer, it is my understanding that a Shoreline Exemption Letter from Kittitas County is required to allow for this repair/maintenance work.

**Project Description** (*Questions drawn from Kittitas County Shoreline Exemption Permitting form*)**1. Briefly summarize the purpose of the project:**

*PSE must replace one distribution pole which is in shoreline jurisdiction, and/or associated 100-year floodplain/wetland review area at 2440 Hanson Rd. (map no. 17-18-05030-0001). The existing pole is insufficient to host a pole-mounted vacuum interrupt line recloser, which is a device that allows for automatic and/or remote shut-off of PSE's lines in the case of outages or emergencies. A pull-off area is necessary to provide crews with quick access to the pole-mounted recloser when on-site operation is necessary. This necessary circuit maintenance will allow PSE to continue serving customers with safe and reliable power, and will make our infrastructure more resilient to wildfires and other outages.*

*Pole replacement typically involves replacing poles in-kind using a similar style and size wood pole, and locating the new pole within 1-5 feet of the existing poles. Old poles are cut at their base or removed entirely, and are taken offsite once all overhead attachments have been transferred by the responsible owner. Surface disturbance is estimated at about 4 square feet, and total excavation is approximately 22 cubic feet (0.8 cubic yards) per pole. Additionally, a 22.2 cubic yard pull-off and accompanying pipe culvert will be installed in the right-of-way behind the fog-line and edge of asphalt using crushed rock. The pull-off dimensions are 50 feet by 12 feet to create a safe area for PSE truck and equipment access and stabilization to replace the pole and make circuit repairs.*

*All work for this project will occur within established county rights-of-way under our franchise agreement and/or within a private utility easement. The work site will be accessed either using vehicles/equipment with rubber tires if the work occurs in the dry/summer months (which is planned), or with track gear if the work is delayed past October. The only area where ground disturbance will occur is the location of the new pole hole immediately adjacent to the existing pole. There is no vegetation management required for this pole replacement. All work will occur during reasonable hours and construction limits clearly marked.*

2. **What is the primary use of the project (e.g. Residential, Commercial, Public, Recreation).**  
*Utility infrastructure.*
3. **What is the specific use of the project (e.g. single family home, subdivision, boat launch, restoration project)?**  
*Utility infrastructure.*
4. **Fair Market Value of the project, including materials, labor, machine rentals, etc.**  
*Approximately \$100,000 (pole replacement, recloser and pull-off total).*
5. **Anticipated start and end dates of project construction:**  
*Start = August 2024                      End = September 2024*

**Note:** See attached site plan for depiction of pole location in relation to shoreline environment designation, flood hazard zone and wetland review area.

---

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (503) 899-7101 or at [nathen.lamb@pse.com](mailto:nathen.lamb@pse.com).

Sincerely,

**Nathen Lamb**  
Municipal Land Planner  
1140 N 94th St | Seattle, WA 98103  
(503) 899 – 7101 | [Nathen.Lamb@pse.com](mailto:Nathen.Lamb@pse.com)