



KITTITAS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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"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.

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**
- \$260.00 Kittitas County Public Health

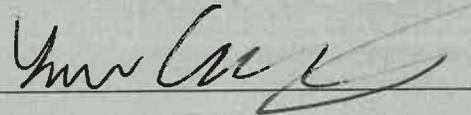
\$1,810.00 Total fees due for this application (One check made payable to KCCDS)

*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.

SE-25-00010

FOR STAFF USE ONLY

Application Received by (CDS Staff Signature): 	DATE: 5/12/25	RECEIPT# CD25-00497	
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A. Background [Find help answering background questions](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Lightcurve Kittitas County

2. Name of applicant:

Utilities One, Tristan Heimburch

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

300 W Somerdale Rd, Suite 5E, 1.803.979.7305

4. Date checklist prepared:

3/17/25

5. Agency requesting checklist:

DNR

6. Proposed timing of schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Summer/Fall 2025

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

No

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

A JARPA is being prepared for submittal to DNR. The project is exempt from local permitting.

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.

None

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

DNR Aquatic Lands Permit and associated easement.

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.)

The proposed project will add fiber optic cable over the Yakima River in two locations, connecting to existing utility poles. No new poles or ground-disturbing activities are proposed.

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.

Please reference the attached site plans delineating the Yakima River crossing;s in a portion of Section 34, Township 19N, Range 17 E and Section 2, Township 18N, Range 17E, West of the Willamette Meridian, near Thorp, Washington, with said river crossings being attached to existing utility poles generally situated at 47.0971212 N lat. / -120.7062789 W long and 47.0798204, -120.6739252

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS [\[help\]](#)

1. Earth

a. General description of the site:

The project is located within an existing utility easement on agricultural land.

Circle or highlight one: Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

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

<10%

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.

Soils are generally a fine sandy loam. The project is located within existing utility easements on agricultural and residential land. No ground-disturbing activities will occur during this project.

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

None

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.

No ground-disturbing activities will occur as part of this project.

f. Could erosion occur because of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

No clearing or ground-disturbing activities will occur as the project is to add fiber to existing utility poles. Erosion is not expected.

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

No additional impervious surfaces are proposed as part of this project.

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

No impacts to the earth will occur. Standard BMPs will be implemented.

2. Air

[Find help answering air questions¹](#)

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.

There will be temporary short-term emissions from utility vehicles. These emissions will only occur when the fiber is being installed.

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

None

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

None

3. Water

[Find help answering water questions²](#)

a. Surface:

[Find help answering surface water questions³](#)

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.

Yes. The Yakima River (Type S Water) and associated riverine wetlands.

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.

Yes. Fiber will be hung from existing poles over the river. No interaction with the water will occur.

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.

No fill material will be placed.

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

No surface water will be withdrawn or diverted.

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

The existing poles are located within the 100-year floodplain. Fiber will be hung from existing poles and well above the base flood elevation.

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.

No discharge of materials will occur from this project.

b. Ground:

Find help answering ground water questions⁴

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 a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No groundwater will be withdrawn for any reason.

2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (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.

No water material will be discharged or generated from this proposal.

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.

No impervious surfaces will be created and therefore no surface water runoff will be generated.

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

No. No waste material will be generated from this project.

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

No. Ground-disturbing activities are not proposed as part of this project.

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

N/A

4. Plants

[Find help answering plants questions](#)

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- 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?

No vegetation will be removed. Minor pruning of trees and shrubs may occur typical of maintenance within the utility corridor.

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

No threatened or endangered plants are known on or near the site.

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

None

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

None known

5. Animals

[Find help answering animal questions⁵](#)

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

Examples include:

- **Birds:** hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
- **Mammals:** deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
- **Fish:** bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

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

Gray Wolf (*Canis lupus*), North American Wolverine (*Gulo gulo luscus*), Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*), Suckley Cuckoo Bumblebee (*Bombus suckleyi*), are mapped on IPaC as being potentially in the project location. Given the

habitat constraints of these species and the existing developed condition of the site, it is extremely unlikely that they are present in the project location. Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) is also mapped in the Yakima River.

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

The site is located within the Pacific Flyway.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.

None

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

None known.

6. Energy and natural resources

[Find help answering energy and natural resource questions⁶](#)

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.

The equipment used for the installation of the fiber will either be diesel or gas-powered. Their use will be entirely limited to installation.

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

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.

None proposed.

7. Environmental Health

[Health Find help with answering environmental health questions⁷](#)

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

None known.

1. Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

None known.

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.

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.

No toxic or hazardous chemicals will be produced or stored.

4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None

5. Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.

None

b. Noise

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

There will be traffic noise from the adjacent roadways and equipment noise from adjacent agricultural fields, but it will not affect this project.

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)?

There will be short-term construction noise from the equipment hanging the fiber optic cable on existing poles.

3. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

None

8. Land and shoreline use

[*Find help answering land and shoreline use questions⁸*](#)

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.

The project is located within an existing utility right of way adjacent to agricultural/residential properties and roadways.

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 because 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?

The site has been used for agricultural and residential purposes. This use will not be changed.

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?

No

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Existing utility poles

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

Structures will not be altered in any way.

- e. **What is the current zoning classification of the site?**
Agricultural Resource Lands
- f. **What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**
Agriculture 20
- g. **If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?**
Rural Conservancy
- h. **Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.**
Yes. The Yakima River is a Type S Water and there are riverine wetlands mapped along its ordinary high water mark.
- i. **Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**
None
- j. **Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**
None
- k. **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any.**
None
- l. **Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any.**
The project will install a utility within an existing utility easement and, therefore, is compatible with existing and project land uses.
- m. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:**
None

9. Housing

[Find help answering housing questions⁹](#)

- a. **Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**
N/A
- b. **Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**
N/A
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:**
N/A

10. Aesthetics

[Find help answering aesthetics questions¹⁰](#)

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

No structures will be installed as part of this project. The fiber will be installed on existing utility poles.

- b. **What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**

None

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:**

None

11. Light and glare

[Find help answering light and glare questions¹¹](#)

- a. **What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

None

- b. **Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**

No

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

None

- d. **Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:**

None

12. Recreation

[Find help answering recreation questions](#)

- a. **What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**

Recreational uses on the Yakima River

- b. **Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**

No

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

None

13. Historic and cultural preservation

[Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions¹²](#)

- 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.

No

- 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.

No

- 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.

None

- 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.

None

14. Transportation

[Find help with answering transportation questions¹³](#)

- 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.

The sites are generally served by the Thorp Highway or Highway 10. Once installed access will be limited to infrequent maintenance.

- 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?

N/A

- c. 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).

No

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

No

- e. 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?

None

f. 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.

No

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

None

15. Public services

[Find help answering public service questions¹⁴](#)

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.

No

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

None

16. Utilities

[Find help answering utilities questions¹⁵](#)

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

The project is located in an existing utility corridor.

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.

The project is for Lightcurve to install fiber optic cable to serve the surrounding community.

C. Signature

[Find help about who should sign¹⁶](#)

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.

X *Tristan Heimbuch*

Type name of signee:

Position and agency/organization:

Date submitted: