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719 2ND AVENUE, SUITE 200 | SEATTLE, WA 98104 | P 206.394.3700

MEMORANDUM

DATE:	February 19, 2021
TO:	Kittitas County Community Development Services
FROM:	Katheryn Seckel, Parametrix
SUBJECT:	2004 SEPA Checklist 2021 Addendum
CC:	Patti Johnson, Kittitas County Solid Waste Ian Sutton, Parametrix
PROJECT NAME:	Ryegrass Limited Purpose Landfill Expansion

Per Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-600(2), this project meets the criteria that allows the use of the existing 2004 SEPA Checklist to evaluate the proposed expansion of the Ryegrass Limited Purpose Landfill (LPL) Expansion project:

> *(2) An agency may use environmental documents that have previously been prepared in order to evaluate proposed actions, alternatives, or environmental impacts. The proposals may be the same as, or different than, those analyzed in the existing documents.*

Per WAC 197-11-706, this addendum provides additional information to the existing 2004 SEPA Checklist. The additional information does not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts as considered in the existing checklist. This addendum emphasizes only those sections of the 2004 SEPA Checklist that are being supplemented, the original 2004 SEPA Checklist is attached (Attachment 1).

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Ryegrass Limited Purpose Landfill Expansion

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

Kittitas County Solid Waste Programs Director
925 Industrial Way
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(509) 962-7542

4. **Date Checklist Prepared:**

February 5, 2021

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

Permit documents will be completed and submitted in spring of 2021 with anticipated permit approvals later in 2021. LPL operation will continue in the currently permitted area until permits are received and final fill grades are achieved. Then filling will progress southward into the newly permitted area.

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

At this time, the County planning for an operational capacity into 2043. As the LPL approaches capacity in the future, and as part of the County's Solid Waste and Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan update process, the County will need to assess if additional capacity is desired There are no plans for future additions, expansion, or activities related to or connected with this proposal.

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

- Limited Purpose Landfill Approval [Kittitas County Public Health and Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology)]
- Kittitas County: Zoning Conditional Use Permit
- Kittitas County: Fire Marshal Review and Approval

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.)

Kittitas County Solid Waste Programs (County) owns and operates the existing Ryegrass Limited Purpose Landfill (LPL) located in Kittitas County, Washington. The site is currently permitted under Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-350-400, Limited Purpose Landfills. The current facility was reclassified as an LPL in 2004 with a planned capacity of approximately 550,000 cubic yards, including cover soil. The LPL had a projected closure in 2021, which has been extended through operational efficiencies and good practices. The County is planning to further expand the LPL to be able to provide continued disposal services to the region, as the current 2005 permitted volume is nearing capacity. The existing LPL has an approximate disposal footprint of 13.5 acres. The proposed expansion will provide capacity for filling to continue to the south, as shown in Attachment 2 and will increase the disposal footprint to approximately 30.1 acres. The proposed expansion remains within the existing County property and is estimated to provide available disposal capacity through 2043.

The LPL, as it currently operates, accepts segregated industrial solid waste, construction, demolition, and land clearing (CDL) debris, wood waste, and other materials consistent with the approved Plan of Operations under WAC 173-350-400. The expanded LPL will additionally accept carpet and intermixed amounts of cardboard. As with the existing LPL, the proposed LPL expansion area will be unlined and the County will continue to use disposed of crushed concrete and other appropriate material for operational cover material.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

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.

Figure 2-1 of the LPL Permit Application illustrates the final grading plan for the expanded LPL. The LPL development does not anticipate significant excavation in advance of filling activities.

The final grading plan defines the shape, grades, and final boundaries of the landfill.

The LPL will have a maximum side slope of 3:1 and a minimum top deck slope of 5%. The expansion will increase the current 13.5-acre disposal footprint to approximately 30.1 acres and provide a refuse fill capacity of approximately 1,300,000 cubic yards beyond the 2020 topography.

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

Erosion may occur to exposed soils as the landfill is filled; however, the surface water management system for the site will capture run-off from the site until slopes are stabilized. Run-off will be conveyed to an evaporation pond with adequate storage capacity to prevent off-site flow during a 25-year storm event as sized to the LPL disposal area. Additionally, during site operations, the landfill will be regularly inspected for erosion and slope maintenance will be performed as needed.

The final landfill configuration will include side slope ditches installed to reduce erosion of the side slopes due to sheet flow runoff. Slopes will also be vegetated as part of landfill closure.

There is still the potential that the closed LPL could be susceptible to erosion of the final cover soil materials and damage to the vegetative cover. The LPL permit requires a post-closure care and maintenance period to repair slopes due to erosion.

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

The project construction will not significantly impact the percentage of impervious surfaces at the site. Impervious surface impacts will be limited to improvements to the existing gravel service roads.

Ground Water:

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 general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No. The site will not include a supply well. Water will not be discharged to groundwater; however, water may infiltrate and become groundwater.

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

Infiltrating surface water may contact disposed waste and become groundwater. The LPL Permit Application includes a hydrogeologic demonstration that groundwater supply will be protected from waste material. Additionally, the site has a groundwater monitoring program in place to identify if waste materials are able to enter groundwater.

The landfill will have run-on controls (berms and ditches) in place to route surface water around waste materials to natural drainageways. Precipitation that falls on the waste will be captured through run-off controls (berms and ditches) and retained on site in an evaporation pond. Run-off from the close landfill will be directed to natural drainageways.

4. Plants

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

The Washington Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage program identifies two rare plant occurrences (*Pediocactus nigrispinus* and *Lomatium lithosolamans*) approximately 2,000 feet to the northeast, east, and southeast of proposed activities.

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

The presence of noxious weeds are not known to be on or near the site. Review of the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) Noxious Weed Data Viewer does not indicate noxious weeds on or near the site.

5. Animals

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

According to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife interactive mapping for Priority Habitat Species (PHS on the Web), Township 17 is mapped for greater sage-grouse, a state threatened species. Occurrence on the site is unverified though unlikely given this is an active landfill.

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

The site is part of the greater Pacific Flyway migration route for birds, which includes all of Washington.

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

No invasive animal species are known to be on or near the site.

7. Environmental Heath

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

Potential environmental health hazards are managed through the WAC 173-350-400 requirements. Hazardous waste is prohibited for disposal at the site and is prevented through waste inspection practices.

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

The Ryegrass LPL is on the same property as the formerly operated MSW Ryegrass Landfill, identified as cleanup site #4061 according to Ecology. Cleanup of the site began in 1998. In 2012, Ecology determined that the remedial actions conducted by Kittitas County met the cleanup order (#DE98-SW-C168) between Kittitas County and Ecology.

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.

No hazardous chemicals/conditions are expected to affect project development and design. Review of the National Pipeline Mapping System public viewer confirms there are no nearby gas transmission lines, hazardous liquid pipelines, liquefied natural gas plants, or breakout tanks in the project area or vicinity.

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.

During LPL operation, small amounts of materials may be stored onsite in equipment or for maintenance of equipment including gasoline and diesel fuels, oils, hydraulic fluids, and lubricants.

4) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

The proposed LPL expansion will adhere to the Kittitas County Board of Health Solid Waste Regulations Ordinance 1999-1 (promulgated under the authority of RCW 70.05 and 70.95) to protect public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the citizens and environment of Kittitas County.

Loads are screened for possible contaminants (e.g., hazardous waste materials such as paint cans or batteries), and if non-permitted waste is found to have been disposed onsite, the Kittitas County Public Health and Solid Waste Programs staff are notified immediately.

b. Noise

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.

Noise will be the result of heavy equipment (bulldozer) and vehicles operating on site associated with the landfill operation. Operation of the facility is from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties?

The site is currently an operating LPL. Adjacent land use is open range (cattle) and wind renewable energy operations. The proposal will not affect these uses.

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 as a result 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 expansion of the existing LPL will remain within the existing property boundary, which has not been used as a working farmland or forest land; therefore, there will be no conversion of farmland or forestland.

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:

The proposal would not affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land operations.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site.

Rural Working land use designation.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so specify.

Kittitas County's "compass" interactive map program, accessed on February 12, 2015, shows Washington Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)-mapped streams on or near the subject parcel:

- Watercourse ID 1202291469751. Intermittent. Stream is north of the project parcel and landfill expansion area. It is typed by the WDNR as "non-fish bearing" (Type 9). It is greater than 1,400 feet from the northern extent of the LPL expansion area.
- Schnebly Coulee (Watercourse ID 1201974469683). Intermittent. Stream extends into the parcel boundary to the east of the proposed landfill expansion. It is typed by the WDNR as "unknown" (Type 4) for fish presence. Schnebly Coulee is mapped as greater than 1,600 feet from the eastern extent of the landfill expansion area.
- Watercourse ID 1202223469574. Intermittent. Stream is southeast of the landfill expansion area, within the project parcel. It is typed by the WDNR as "non-fish bearing" (Type 9). It is greater than 1,600 feet from the southeastern extent of the LPL expansion area.
- Watercourse ID 1202692469508. Intermittent. Stream is southwest of the landfill expansion area, just outside the project parcel. It is typed by the WDNR as "non-fish bearing" (Type 9). It is greater than 700 feet from the southwestern extent of the LPL expansion area.
- Watercourse ID 1202437469540. Intermittent. Stream is west of the landfill expansion area, just outside the project parcel. It is typed by the WDNR as "non-fish bearing" (Type 9). It is greater than 1,500 feet from the western extent of the LPL expansion area.

See Attachment 3, which shows WDNR-mapped watercourses relative to the landfill expansion area.

l. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

There are no residences associated with the completed project. There will be one person working on the site eight hours a day, four days a week.

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

Since the project would not impact agricultural or forest lands of long-term commercial significance, no measure are proposed.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

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.

Review of the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) online database (WISAARD), no buildings, structures, or sites are 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.

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.

There is no evidence of landmarks, features, or other evident of Indian or historic use or occupation.

The predictive model for "environmental factors with Archaeological resources" show the site as being low risk to very low risk.

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.

The DAHP WISAARD online mapping database was consulted to understand the potential for cultural and historic resources. The site is an existing disturbed site.

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.

Kittitas County and its contractors will comply with laws and regulations protecting cultural resources should they be accidentally uncovered as a result of construction, site preparation, or other modifications associated with ground disturbance. If archaeological resources or human remains are encountered during construction, the County and its contractors will follow the appropriate procedures in accordance with county, state, and federal laws.

14. Transportation

f. 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?

The LPL expansion will provide for the continuation of an existing operation. In 2020, the LPL received approximately 1,200 customers, or approximately six trucks per day. Additional vehicle trips may be generated if carpet becomes an accepted material at the site. The acceptance of cardboard in mixed demolition loads is not anticipated to increase vehicle trips.

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

No measures are proposed to reduce or control transportation impacts.