

Attachment 1
2004 SEPA Checklist

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Kittitas County CDS



**Kittitas County Ryegrass Limited Purpose Landfill
Permit Reclassification**

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. BACKGROUND

1. **Name of proposed project, if applicable:**
Ryegrass Limited Purpose Landfill ~ Permit Reclassification
2. **Name of applicant:**
Kittitas County Solid Waste Programs
3. **Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:**
Patti Johnson, Solid Waste Director
Kittitas County Solid Waste Programs
925 Industrial Way
Ellensburg, WA 98926
Phone: 509-962-7070
4. **Date checklist prepared:**
August 12, 2004
5. **Agency requesting checklist:**
Kittitas County
6. **Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):**
Permitting documents will be completed and submitted in late summer 2004. Changes in landfill operations due to the reclassification will be implemented immediately after the permit is issued. The permit is expected to be issued no later than February 2005.
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 is planning for 15 years of operation at the facility. As the landfill nears capacity, the County will consider continuing operation of the facility beyond the 15 year operating period. This decision will be based on the County's solid waste management planning and recommendations. No other activities are planned at the site as part of this proposal.
8. **List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.**
There has been no environmental information prepared related to this proposal.

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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.**
No other applications are pending at this time.

10. **List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.**
The project must be reviewed by the Kittitas County Health Department and Washington State Department of Ecology. These agencies review the proposal, specifically detailed permit application documentation, to ensure that the design, operation, environmental monitoring, closure, and post-closure care of the facility meet or exceed regulatory requirements.

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.)**

New solid waste handling regulations, Chapter 173-350 Washington Administrative Code, effective in February 2003, require owners of existing facilities to close or initiate and complete a permit modification process. Kittitas County Solid Waste Programs has elected to continue operation of its facility as part of their comprehensive solid waste management program, consistent with the most recent update to the County's Solid Waste Management Plan. Based on the types of wastes that will be accepted, the County is required to apply for the reclassification of their existing CDL landfill to one of a Limited Purpose Landfill subject to the requirements of these new regulations.

The County is interested in continuing its current practice of design and operation of an unlined facility. The new regulations allow the local Health Department to approve such a design.

Currently the County is only considering changing its accepted waste types to include sheet rock. This will likely increase the amount of waste the facility accepts by 30 to 50 percent. The County plans to operate the landfill for 15 years following reclassification. The expanded landfill footprint will occupy approximately 14 acres.

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.

The landfill is located approximately 18 miles east of Ellensburg, WA to the south of the Vantage Highway. Specifically it is in the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 16, Township 17 North, Range 21 East. A site plan and vicinity map including topographic information are shown on the attached drawing EC-1.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. **General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____.**

The site of the landfill is hilly.

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

The steepest natural slope on the site is about 20%. Areas of the site have previously been developed as part of the existing CDL landfill operations. Slopes as a result of this existing development may be as steep as 3:1 (3 horizontal to 1 vertical).

- 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 prime farmland.**

The site is underlain by weak to moderately strong basalt bedrock that is locally overlain by a thin veneer - typically less than six inches thick - of gravelly sandy loam (USDA). The rocky nature of the surface soils precludes it from efficient and economical agricultural uses.

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

No.

- e. **Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**

There is very little grading proposed for the project. Due to the shallow bedrock that exists on the site, it is expected that landfilling will occur by filling on top of existing ground. Some fine grading may take place on the site to facilitate access to the landfill and for surface water management. Consistent with current operations, material used for grading may have to be hauled in from an off-site source, if the existing on site soil borrow sources are insufficient.

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

No. There will be no clearing as part of this proposal. Any potential erosion due to the construction or operation of the facility will be handled as part of the surface water management system and final closure design.

- g. **About what percentage of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?**
No new impervious surfaces are part of the proposal.

Currently there is a small office trailer and an equipment building on site. There is also a paved road which provides access to the trailer from the site entrance, and gravel-surfaced road to the landfill from the trailer. This represents less than one percent of the entire 640-acre site.

- h. **Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:**
The landfill will be designed with perimeter berms and ditches that divert collected stormwater around the landfill to natural drainages to the south and west.

2. **Air**

- a. **What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e. dust, automobile, odors, and industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

During operations, the facility will receive waste for disposal. Airborne dust will be created as the material is dumped, moved and compacted at the working face and when cover is placed over the waste. Consistent with current operations, no dust control is anticipated.

During closure construction (in the future) dust will result from construction traffic and earthwork operations associated with installation of the final cover. Dust suppression methods employed by the contractor such as sprinkling site roads and work areas should keep the dust leaving the site at low levels.

- b. **Are there any offsite sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.**
No.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:**
None.

3. **Water**

- a. **Surface:**

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- 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 it flows into.**
No.
 - 2) **Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) of the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**
Not applicable.
 - 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.**
Not applicable.
 - 4) **Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities, if known.**
No.
 - 5) **Does the proposal lie within a 100-year flood plain? If so, note location on the site plan.**
No.
 - 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.
- b. **Ground:**
- 1) **Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**
No.
 - 2) **Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example) 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.**
Not applicable.
- c. **Water Runoff (including storm water):**

- 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.**

Stormwater runoff will be the result of precipitation. Runoff from upstream of the landfill will be intercepted by diversion berms and routed around the landfill and reconnected to natural drainages to the south and west. Runoff from the active landfill areas will be contained by earthen berms. Runoff from the closed landfill areas will be routed to the natural drainages.

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

Yes. There is a potential for percolating precipitation to encounter inert waste materials disposed within the limits of the landfill. Impacts due to surface water runoff have been eliminated by best management practices (e.g., diversion ditches, berms, and other engineered runoff controls). The site experiences an average of eight to nine inches of rainfall per year of which approximately 80 percent is evaporated.

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

The natural soil foundation layer provides some attenuation of vertically percolated rainwater.

4. **Plants**

- a. **Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:**

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
 evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
 shrubs
 grass
 pasture (grazing land)
 crop or grain
 wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other
 water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
 other types of vegetation

Existing vegetation consists of ryegrass and sagebrush.

- b. **What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?**

Natural vegetation will be removed from areas to be developed as part of the landfill as required; most areas of the planned development have minimal (only grass) to no vegetation.

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

None known.

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

Native grasses and vegetation will be installed during landfill closure.

5. Animals

- a. **Circle any birds and animals, which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site, if any:**

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds,

other: None

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver,

other: None

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish,

other: None

- b. **List any threatened or endangered species known to be on, or near the site.**
None known.

- c. **Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.**
No.

- d. **Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:**
None.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

- 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.**

Petroleum fuels will be used for operating equipment and vehicles . All fuels needed will be directly from fuel delivery vehicles brought to site for that purpose. There will be no on site fuel storage and dispensing system to refuel operating equipment and vehicles.

Existing electricity service will be used for power at the existing office trailer and equipment building.

- 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.

7. Environmental Health

- 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.**

No. Hazardous materials are not permitted or accepted for disposal in the landfill. The site's operation plan include procedures for inspecting deliveries as well as handling and removal of materials from the site for proper disposal.

- 1) **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

None.

- 2) **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)?**

No new on-site noise sources will be created as a result of this proposal. There are no existing off-site sources that will affect this proposal.

- 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. Monday through Friday.

- 3) **Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

None.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

- a. **What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?**

Land uses adjacent to the facility include open range. The current use of the site is landfill and other solid waste operations.

- b. **Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.**

No.

- c. **Describe any structures on the site.**

The structures on the site consist of an existing fee collection house and equipment building.

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- d. **Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?**
No.
- e. **What is the current zoning classification of the site?**
The current county zoning of the site is Forest and Range.
- f. **What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**
Landfill
- g. **If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?**
Not applicable.
- h. **Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.**
No.
- i. **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 eight hours a day for five days a week on site.
- j. **Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**
None.
- k. **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:**
Not applicable.
- l. **Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:**
None. The proposal is required to reclassify the landfill based on new solid waste regulations. There is no change in the land use of the site as part of this proposal.
9. **Housing**
- a. **Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**
None.
- b. **Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**
Not applicable.
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:**
Not applicable.

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- 10. Aesthetics**
- 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 are a part of this proposal.
 - b. **What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**
There will be no scenic views obstructed or altered.
 - c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:**
None.
- 11. Light and Glare**
- 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?**
Not applicable.
 - c. **What existing offsite 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**
- a. **What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**
No designated recreational opportunities are in the immediate project vicinity. However, some hunting is known to occur.
 - b. **Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**
No. Hunting is not permitted on site.
 - c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:**
None.
- 13. Historic and Cultural Preservation**
- a. **Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.**
No.

- b. **Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on, or next to the site.**
None known.
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:**
None.
14. **Transportation**
- a. **Identify public streets and highways serving the site and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any:**
The existing landfill is located off of State Route 10 - the Old Vantage Highway. An existing paved on-site road provides access from the landfill site to the Old Vantage Highway.
- b. **Is the site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**
No.
- c. **How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?**
Parking is already provided for facility staff (associated with current operations). No new parking is proposed.
- d. **Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).**
No.
- e. **Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.**
No.
- f. **How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.**
The County will accept sheet rock if approved by the Health Department and the Department of Ecology. In this case an increase in traffic of about 30 to 50 percent can be expected over current levels. Increased traffic levels in the future would be the result of growth in waste generation. An average of approximately seven vehicles per day currently access the site.
- g. **Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:**
There should be no transportation impacts as a result of this project.
15. **Public Services**

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- a. **Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, 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

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

Existing utilities at the site include electricity and telephone.

- 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.**

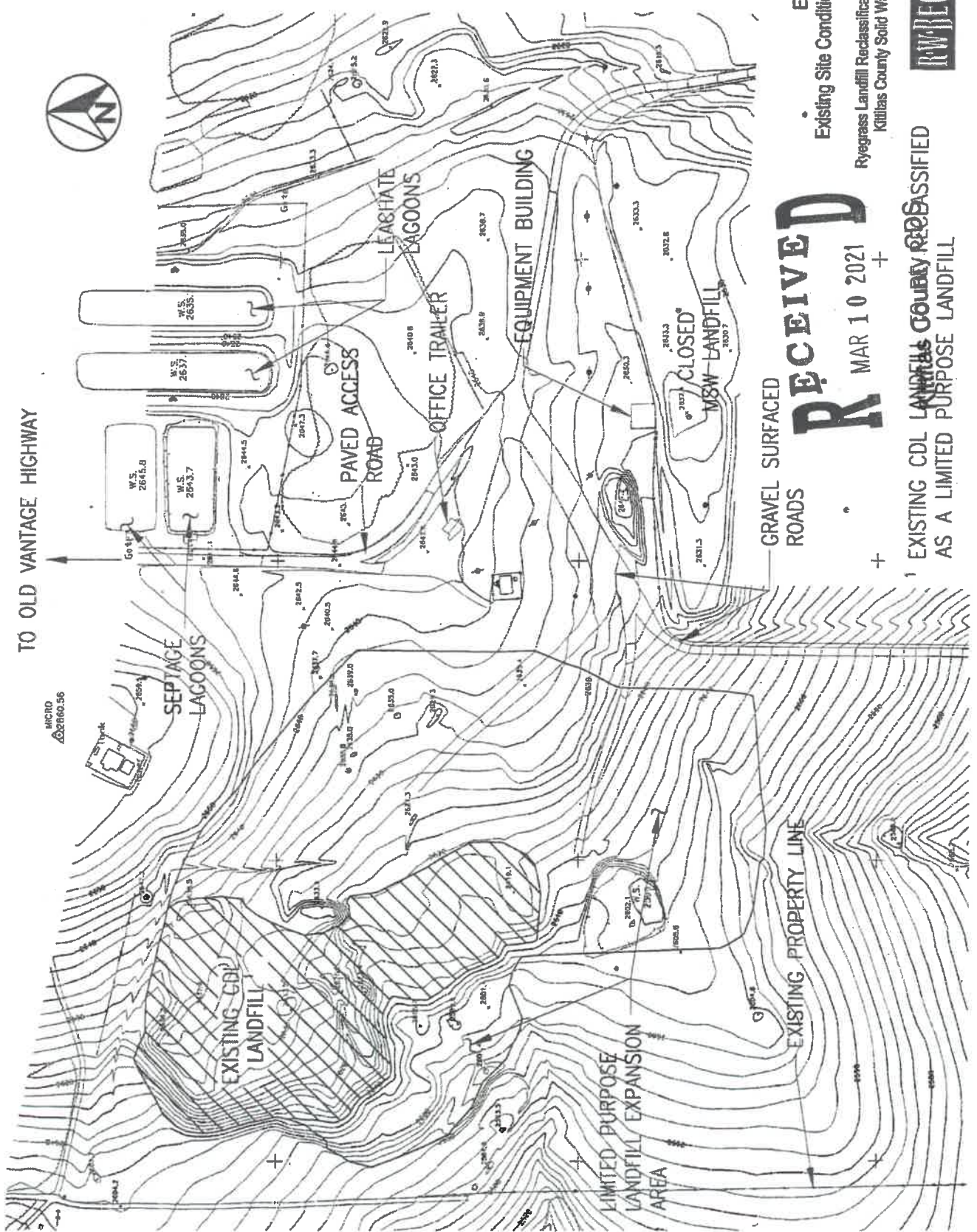
No new utilities are proposed.

C. Signature

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.

Signature: _____

Date Submitted: _____



EC-1
Existing Site Conditions
Ryegrass Landfill Reclassification
Kittitas County Solid Waste

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EXISTING CDL LANDFILL RECLASSIFIED
AS A LIMITED PURPOSE LANDFILL