

## STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Central Region Office

1250 West Alder St., Union Gap, WA 98903-0009 • 509-575-2490

April 19, 2023

Bradley Gasawski Kittitas County Community Development Services 411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2 Ellensburg, WA 98926

RE: 202401560; SE-24-00009 Jansen

Dear Bradley Gasawski:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment during the Optional Determination of Non Significance process for the **Jansen 4.5 Mile Subdivision Road**. We have reviewed the documents and have the following comments.

## Water Resources

The Attorney General's Opinion, (AGO 1997 No. 6) regarding the status of exempt ground water withdrawals, states that a group of wells drilled by the same person or group of persons, at or about the same time, in the same area, for the same purpose or project should be considered a single withdrawal and would not be exempt from the permitting requirement contained in RCW 90.44.050; if the total amount withdrawn for domestic use exceeds 5,000 gallons per day or if a total of more than .5 acre of lawn and garden are irrigated.

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 <u>Nathan.Longoria@ecy.wa.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Jessica Swift

Jessica Swift On behalf of SEPA Coordinator Central Regional Office 509-379-0702 crosepacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov