

**From:** [Sara Prather](#)  
**To:** [Jeremy Johnston](#); [Kelly Bacon \(CD\)](#); [Zachery Peebles](#); [Kittitas County Public Works](#); [Mark Cook](#)  
**Cc:** [Brittney Oliver](#); [Rikki Schmitt](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Brown & Jackson Septage Storage Pond & Land Application Project  
**Date:** Friday, February 19, 2021 5:14:04 PM  
**Attachments:** [pchfakfnolkonaic.png](#)

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Jeremy,

Thank you for your response! We look forward to the SEPA determination and progressing to the next steps.

-Sara

On 2/19/2021 2:16 PM, Jeremy Johnston wrote:

Hi Sara,

I received your email and a similar email from Rikki Schmitt. I will address both in this response.

It appears my understanding of the revisions in reference to a change in location of the project may have been misplaced. After a discussion this morning with our planner processing the application, I was informed that the revised site plan submitted indicates a moderate adaption to the original plan. My initial impressions had been a more substantial adjustment to the project location than is actually being proposed. This lead to my impressions that a new SEPA review was warranted. Based on a more complete understanding of the proposed changes, I believe these changes are moderate enough to continue with the original checklist.

We are currently reviewing the SEPA checklist, subsequent studies and comments in reference to this new proposed location. CDS will issue a determination once we are able to review the file information in relation to the new site plan. I plan to meet with our Director and the project planner next week to go over the relevant information and begin drafting our determination.

I apologize for the misunderstanding. Let me know if I missed anything from either of your emails.

Jeremy Johnston

Kittitas County Planning Official

[jeremy.johnston@co.kittitas.wa.us](mailto:jeremy.johnston@co.kittitas.wa.us)

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From: Sara Prather <[sprather@wpeinc.net](mailto:sprather@wpeinc.net)>  
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2021 1:11 PM  
To: Kelly Bacon (CD); Jeremy Johnston; Zachery Peebles; Kittitas County Public Works; CDS User; Mark Cook  
Cc: Brittney Oliver; Rikki Schmitt  
Subject: Brown & Jackson Septage Storage Pond & Land Application Project

Hello,

I've been working with Rikki Schmitt on the Brown & Jackson Septage Storage Pond & Land Application Project. We are in need of clarification on your process of approvals. I have reviewed correspondence from the County on both the SEPA side, as well as the Grading Permit, and it appears the information/direction is somewhat conflicting. My hopes with this email is that we can receive a formal response as to where this project is within the process, why they're being asked to re-start, and gain guidance on the next steps toward reaching approvals.

Rikki was asked to withdraw her original SEPA application and re-apply as there was a "change in location of the ponds". To clarify, the original SEPA specified a Tax Parcel Number with approximate acreage disturbed, which is still a valid description of the project location/size. There

were minor revisions to the grade and a very minuscule shift of placement, but that should have absolutely no affect on the SEPA application from an environmental standpoint, as the project is still contained within the project description. The request also came verbally, and not as a written statement of determination/conclusion. It is my understanding that the lead agency (Kittitas County) is required to issue a formal determination/conditions of approval, based on the SEPA for the project.

It was also explained that the Grading Permit is being held up by SEPA, in which the applicant has yet to be issued any sort of determination/Conditions of Approval for the original SEPA. I have reviewed Kittitas County Municipal Code, and am having a hard time finding the process and procedure for the Brown & Jackson's need to withdraw the SEPA and re-apply without having a formal determination from the county. If you could please point me in the direction of that reference, I would really appreciate that. It could be quite possible that I'm missing information on how the County governs the SEPA process, but typically an MDNS, DNS, or DS (Request of EIS) is issued prior to public comment/public hearing, in which the client has received and responded to public comment, as requested by Community Development.

As we know, the SEPA process is time consuming and costly. I could understand an SEPA amendment to the description of location being requested, but due to the location of the pond still being as described, I'm just not sure what would constitute a completely new process.

I'm sending this email to multiple contacts in hopes it reaches everyone involved to allow for consistent and clear communication.

Any information would be very helpful, and I thank you for your time.

Thank you,  
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Thank you,

**Sara Prather**

*Project Manager / Planner*

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