

## DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE

**Description of Proposal:** 2009 – 2027 City Water System Plan update. The document in its entirety can be found at [www.westrichland.org/WaterCompPlan.cfm](http://www.westrichland.org/WaterCompPlan.cfm).

**Applicant:** Roscoe Slade  
Public Works Director  
City of West Richland  
3801 W Van Giesen St.  
West Richland, WA 99353

**Location of Proposal:** Entire City; portions of T9NR28E, T9NR27E, T10NR27E, and T10NR28E.

**Lead Agency:** West Richland Community Development Department

**File Number:** ER 2009-52

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

XX This DNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below. You may submit comments on this proposal to the address below before 5:00 PM, December 4, 2009.

**Staff Contact:** For information on this proposal, contact Thaniel Gouk, Associate Planner, at (509) 967-5902 or [ngouk@westrichland.org](mailto:ngouk@westrichland.org).

**Responsible Official:** Bob Leedy, Director  
City of West Richland  
Community Development Department  
3801 W. Van Giesen Street  
West Richland, WA 99353  
Phone: (509) 967-5902

**Date:** November 20, 2009

**Signature:** 

**WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

*Purpose of checklist:*

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

*Instructions for applicants:*

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

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:*

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

**A. BACKGROUND**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

**City of West Richland  
Water System Plan  
July 2009**

2. Name of applicant:

**City of West Richland  
Public Works Department**

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

**Roscoe Slade III, P.E.  
Public Works Director  
City of West Richland  
3801 West Van Giesen Street  
West Richland, Washington 99353  
Phone: 509-967-3431**

4. Date checklist prepared:

**July 27, 2009**

5. Agency requesting checklist:

**City of West Richland**

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

**Projects for 2009 through 2027**

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

**Yes, implementation of improvement projects planned along with environmental review of projects during design, if applicable.**

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

**None**

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**

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

- **City Council adoption**
- **Approval by the Department of Health**

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 Water System Plan is a planning document used to evaluate the water system and plan future improvements for six and twenty year planning horizons. The plan describes the system in detail, including the sources, treatment, and distribution. An improvement program is established based on projected system needs. The plan also looks at water rights, conservation program, water system standards, as well as operations and maintenance.**

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 proposal consists of many projects within the City of West Richland. These projects are generally located in Township 9 north, in Ranges 27 and 28 east. Projects are also located in Township 10 north, in Ranges 27 and 28 east. Each individual project will be evaluated for environmental elements when the actual projects are planned and designed.**

**B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

**1. Earth**

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

**The area covers a wide range of types of terrain covering all of the listed description above. Each project will be evaluated individually during the project design and planning, if applicable.**

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

**N/A – non project**

- 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.

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

## **2. Air**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

3. Water

a. Surface:

- 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.

**The City of West Richland is bordered in placed by the Yakima River which is a tributary to the Columbia River.**

- 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.

**N/A – non project**

- 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.

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

- 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.

**N/A – non project**

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.

**The water system currently has seven operating wells. Improvements are planned for several of the wells to be upgraded to have on-site generation of hypochlorite for disinfection. Well #1 is also planned to be upgraded to pump its full water right capacity. An additional well is also planned as development growth moves to the west of the City.**

- 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.

**N/A – non project**

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.

N/A – non project

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

N/A – non project

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

N/A – non project

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

crop or grain

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?

N/A – non project

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

**The following are listed as endangered or threatened in Benton County:**

**Aliciella leptomeria (Great Basin gilia)**

**Ammannia robusta (grand redstem)**

**Anagallis minima (chaffweed)**

**Cistanthe rosea (rosy pussypaws)**

**Cuscuta denticulata (desert dodder)**

**Eriogonum codium (Umtanum desert buckwheat)**

**Lipocarpa aristulata (awned halfchaff sedge)**

**Loeflingia squarrosa var. squarrosa (loeflingia)**

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

N/A – non project

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:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

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

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

The following are listed as endangered or threatened in Washington State that may possibly be located in West Richland:

- Northern Leopard frog (Endangered)
- Oregon spotted frog (Endangered)
- American white pelican (Endangered)
- Brown pelican (Endangered)
- Ferruginous hawk (Threatened)
- Marbled murrelet (Threatened)
- Sage grouse (Threatened)
- Sandhill crane (Endangered)
- Sharp-tailed grouse (Threatened)
- Snowy plover (Endangered)
- Spotted owl (Endangered)
- Streaked horned lark (Endangered)
- Upland sandpiper (Endangered)
- Mardon skipper (Endangered)
- Oregon silverspot butterfly (Endangered)
- Taylor's checkerspot (Endangered)
- Columbian white-tailed deer (Endangered)
- Fisher (Endangered)
- Gray wolf (Endangered)
- Grizzly bear (Endangered)
- Lynx (Threatened)
- Mazama (Western) pocket gopher (Threatened)
- Pygmy rabbit (Endangered)
- Western gray squirrel (Threatened)
- Woodland caribou (Endangered)
- Western pond turtle (Endangered)

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

**The migration route of various birds may occur within the City of West Richland. Bass and Salmon migrate up the Lower Yakima River.**

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

**N/A – non project**

## 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.

**N/A – non project**

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?

If so, generally describe.

**N/A – non project**

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:

**N/A – non project**

## 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.

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

**b. Noise**

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

**N/A – non 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.

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

**8. Land and shoreline use**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

**N/A – non project**

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

**N/A – non project**

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

**N/A – non project**

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

**The plan is to provide water to developments, housing and industry consistent with the City Comprehensive plan within the Urban Growth Area (UGA).**

#### **9. Housing**

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

**N/A – non project**

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

**N/A – non project**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

**N/A – non project**

#### **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?

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

#### **11. Light and glare**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

## **12. Recreation**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

## **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.

**N/A – non project**

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

## **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.

**N/A – non project**

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

**N/A – non project**

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

**N/A – non project**

- 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).

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

#### 15. Public services

- 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.

**N/A – non project**

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

**N/A – non project**

#### 16. Utilities

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

**N/A – non project**

- 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.

**N/A – non project**

#### D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(do not use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

**Dust and soil erosion may occur during construction of individual projects.**

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

**Construction projects will require watering for dust control and erosion control plans to prevent erosion of silt deposition in local waterways.**

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

**None known.**

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

**N/A**

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

**None known.**

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

**N/A**

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

**None known.**

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

**N/A**

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

**None known.**

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

**N/A**

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

**None known.**

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

**N/A**

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

**None known.**

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: 11/19/09 .....