



San Juan County News Release

350 Court Street No. 5, Friday Harbor, WA 98250 • PH (360) 370-7405 • Fax (360) 370-5085

SJI Transfer Station Draft Environmental Impact Statements Available

July 28, 2008

The 266 page Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the San Juan Island Transfer Station Replacement Project will be released at approximately 11 a.m. at the regular Monday Council/Staff Work Session Meeting of the San Juan County Council.

The release is a landmark in the process begun by the County Council in 2006 when it tasked the Public Works Department and the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, a citizen's committee appointed by the Council, with studying the replacement of the current transfer station. The existing operation has been running well beyond its designed capacity and currently does not meet health and safety codes.

Beginning at 11 a.m. on July 28th the DEIS document will publicly available for download in "pdf" format from the County's website at: www.sanjuanco.com/deis.aspx . The electronic file will also be available free of charge on compact disk at the front desk of the Community Development and Planning Office (CDP) , 135 Rhone St. in Friday Harbor. Hard copies may be purchased at the CDP office for the \$39.90 cost of printing and binding (15 cents per page).

Review copies will be available in Friday Harbor at:

- San Juan Island Public Library, 1010 Guard Street
- SJC Public Works Department, 915 Spring Street
- SJC Community Deveopment & Planning Dept, 135 Rhone St.

The draft document contains the results of studies on the potential impacts of locating an expanded solid waste transfer facility on each of five potential sites on San Juan Island, including the current site on Sutton Road and of taking no action at all. Because of the size of the project, said Utility Manager Ed Hale, state law required that alternative sites be considered. (More information is available on the County Website www.sanjuanco.com.)

The County has scheduled two Informational meetings, August 7 and August 28, to answer questions about the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. A Public Hearing to receive oral comments on the DEIS will be held on September 4. Written comments may be submitted at any time prior to September 12.

The San Juan County Public Works Department and the Solid Waste Advisory Committee – a citizens committee – will utilize the DEIS and citizen input to make its site recommendation to the County Council. The Council is expected to make the final site selection decision in January 2009.

Complete information on the informational events, and how and where to submit comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, is attached and also available on the Transfer Station Project's section of the County's web site.

#

San Juan Solid Waste Transfer Station Project
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
Related Events

- **July 28, 2008, 11:00 a.m. – San Juan County Council Hearing Room**
 - SJI Solid Waste Transfer Station EIS Released
 - 45 day public comment period begins*

- **August 4, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 pm – Fire Station Meeting Room, 1011 Mullis, Friday Harbor.**
 - Informational meeting with technical experts, county staff and authors of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Subject matter experts will answer questions about the DEIS and provide information about ways individuals can have their concerns heard.
 -

- **August 28, 2008, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 pm – Fire Station Meeting Room, 1011 Mullis, Friday Harbor.**
 - Informational Meeting #2. Experts will again be available to answer questions about the Draft Environmental impact statement and accept written comments.

- **September 4, 2008, 5:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. – Fire Station Meeting Room, 1011 Mullis, Friday Harbor.**
 - Public input meeting. Though written comments will be accepted throughout the 45 period, this will be the only opportunity for the public to offer verbal comments, suggestions and criticisms to be incorporated into the final Environmental Impact Statement report.

- **September 12, 2008 – 5 p.m.**
 - Close of public comment period for Transfer Station Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

* During this period, written comments may be submitted at any of the public meetings or via mail, email or dropped off in person at the addresses below. Oral comments will be accepted only at the September 4 public meeting.

To submit written comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement between 7/28 and 9/12/08:

- 1) **Email:** solidwasteplanning@sanjuanco.com
- 2) **U.S. Mail to:** Transfer Station Comment
Community Development & Planning Dept
PO Box 947, Friday Harbor, WA 98250
- 3) **Deliver to:** Community Development & Planning Dept
135 Rhone Street
Friday Harbor, WA 98250