

WAC 197-11-980

DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE AND REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE SCOPE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR A PROPOSED SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION

Description of Proposal: The San Juan County Public Works Department is proposing improvements to the current solid waste transfer facility which will entail significant upgrades to the existing facility or necessitate a new facility at a different location.

Background: Due to inadequacies of the existing solid waste facility, it can no longer operate safely given the amount of material that it is receiving. Last spring, the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC), with considerable input from the public, began examining the solid waste collection, transfer, processing and disposal needs of San Juan Island. As a result of this process, the SWAC concluded that San Juan County should take immediate action to design and construct a new solid waste transfer facility at either the current location or a new site. This was presented to the County Council on and the Council directed the SWAC to move forward with siting the facility.

Project Proponent: San Juan County Public Works Department

Lead Agency: San Juan County through the Community Development and Planning Department

Determination of Significance: Both San Juan County Public Works Department and Community Development and Planning have determined this proposal is likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be prepared as required under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), RCW [43.21C.030](#) (2)(c). An environmental checklist and threshold determination do not have to be prepared because the proponent and the lead agency have decided that a Determination of Significance (DS) will be issued and an EIS will be prepared.

If you have comments on the decision to issue a DS, please send them to the Community Development and Planning Department address under the scoping section of this notice by June 13, 2007. The DS may also be appealed by submitting a written request for review to the Director of the Community Development and Planning Department at the address below. An appellant must be prepared to make specific factual objections. The Community and Planning Department staff contact in this notice can provide you with information on the appeals process. The appeals period begins June 14, 2007 and closes July 5, 2007.

EIS Process: The EIS process is used to identify and analyze probable adverse impacts from the proposal, reasonable alternatives to the proposal, and mitigation measures that would reduce the impacts from significant to insignificant. This process starts with the issuance of this Determination of Significance (DS) which also begins 30-day public comment and appeals periods that ends on June 22, 2007. A public scoping meeting will be held on June 19, 2007. Along with the public comment period, the scoping meeting is a chance for the public to provide comments on the proposal.

Following the scoping meeting, a scoping document will be produced that summarizes the concerns and identifies which impacts will be analyzed in the draft EIS. Once the draft EIS is prepared, there will be a 30-day public comment period and public hearing on the draft EIS. A summary of comments received on the draft EIS will be produced and considered in the preparation of the final EIS. Following the release of the final EIS, there is a 21-day appeals period.

Scoping: Agencies, any affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. The County is specifically looking for comments on: 1) any potential adverse impacts; 2) insignificant impacts that can be eliminated from the EIS review; 3) reasonable alternatives to the proposal; 4) mitigation measures for any adverse impacts; and 5) licenses or other approvals that may be required for the project.

The 30-day public comment period on the scope of the EIS begins on May 23, 2007. All comments must be received or postmarked by Friday, June 22, 2007.

Please send your comments on the DS and scope of the EIS to: Shannon FitzGerald, Community Development & Planning, P.O. Box 947, Friday Harbor, WA 98250. Comments can also be faxed to 360-378-3922 or emailed to shannonf@co.san-juan.wa.us or dropped off at the Community Development & Planning office at 135 Rhone Street in Friday Harbor.

A **public scoping meeting** will be held for the purposes of providing information and receiving comments on the scope of the EIS. This meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 19, 2007 at the Mullis Community Senior Center, located at 589 Nash Street in Friday Harbor, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Location of Proposal: The sites and areas that will be analyzed in the EIS include the following and any other sites that are made available prior to the development of the EIS:

- **Existing location at 212 Sutton Road (Tax Parcel Number 350234001)**
- **1609 Beaverton Valley Road (TPN 351044001)**
- **One or more of three potential sites south of the airport which include:**
 1. **106 Golf Course Road (TPN 352343008 & 352343006);**
 2. **No assigned address, but located between 1104 and 994 Cattle Point Road (TPN 352331007 & 352331009)**
 3. **203 Daniel Lane (TPN 352324006 & 352331008)**

San Juan County has identified the following as either having possible adverse environmental impacts or possibly being impacted by the proposal. We welcome your input on these and any other areas of concerns.

- Traffic
- Noise
- Lights
- Air Quality (Odor, dust)
- Vectors (rodents, insects, birds)
- Litter
- Household Hazardous Waste On-Site Storage
- Stormwater
- Wetlands

Available Documents: Information produced as part of the SWAC review of alternatives to a solid waste transfer station can also be found at the Public Works office at 915 Spring Street (M-F 8-4:30) the Community Development & Planning office at 135 Rhone Street (M-F 8-4:30) and the San Juan Island Library at 1010 Guard Street (MWF 10-6; TuTh 10-8; Sat 10-5; and Sun 1-5).

For more information on the EIS process, please contact Shannon FitzGerald at the Community Development and Planning Department at 360-370-7591 or shannonf@co.san-juan.

For information of the solid waste transfer facility, please contact Ed Hale at the Public Works Department at 360-370-0500 or edh@sjcpublicworks.org.

Responsible Official: Ron Henrickson **Position:** Director, Community Development and Planning Department

Contact: Shannon FitzGerald

Phone: (360) 370-7591

Address: P.O. Box 947
135 Rhone Street
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Date: May 18, 2007

[Statutory Authority: RCW [43.21C.110](#). 84-05-020 (Order DE 83-39), § 197-11-980, filed 2/10/84, effective 4/4/84.]