



CITY OF SNOHOMISH

116 UNION AVENUE • SNOHOMISH, WASHINGTON 98290 • (360) 568-3115 • WWW.SNOHOMISHWA.GOV



STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (SEPA) 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. Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS [\[help\]](#)

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

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 [\[help\]](#)

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements - that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

Project #: SL21-0003	
Date: 1/14/2021	Staff Intake: KHH



A. BACKGROUND [\[help\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Air Gap Project

2. Name of applicant:

City of Snohomish

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

Andrew Sics, City of Snohomish, PO Box 1589, Snohomish, WA 98291
360-282-3174

4. Date checklist prepared:

January 14, 2020

5. Agency requesting checklist:

City of Snohomish

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

This project will be constructed summer of 2021.

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

No.

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

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Waste Discharge Permit No. WA-0029548, July 2018 & General Sewer Plan, 2020

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.

None known.

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

City of Snohomish Shoreline Permit.

**ADMINISTRATION
COMMENTS ONLY**

SEPA Threshold
Determination, Design
Review (DRB)
Determination, Shoreline
Substantial Development
Permit, Floodplain permit,
Building Permits



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.)

To permit a project for installing two air gaps to the water system at the City's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The project will include the following:

- Two air gap facilities at the WWTP; one near the headworks at the north end of the facility and one near the southeast corner of the facility.
- Two 500 gallon poly tanks for each air gap location including associated piping, valves and pumps.
- Two 3-inch thick 10-foot by 20-foot concrete pads

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.

2115 Second Street, Snohomish, WA 98290. See included vicinity map on plans.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth [\[help\]](#)

a. General description of the site (circle one):
Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____
Flat (1 - 3%) .

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
Adjacent to work area, there are slopes of approximately 3%.

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 agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

Mostly fine sandy silt, silty, and silty fine to medium sands with some gravels. No known agricultural soils in the area.

**ADMINISTRATION
COMMENTS ONLY**

Air gap facilities are proposed within two 240 square foot structures, to be located in two different locations at the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Both locations are currently paved. Project entails air gap equipment to be housed within the proposed structures, and underground piping in the vicinity.

Tax Parcel Number
28051300201800
Section 13, Township 28,
Range 05.

Steeper slopes are found at the flood protection berms on the south side of the site adjacent to Snohomish River; the project site is in a flat area.



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

No.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Installing 3-inch thick by 10' x 20' concrete pad for each air gap Excavated materials to prepare grade are to be replaced with these fill materials (no net gain/loss - 12 CY). Approximate disturbed area = 400 SF.

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

Some erosion could potentially occur during the construction of the proposed projects. However, proper erosion TESC provisions will be implemented.

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

100% but zero net impervious area increase.

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

Construction performed during dry periods (between May 1st and September 30th), followed by seeding and restoration of existing ground contours, features and substrates, will significantly reduce potential erosion impacts. Temporary Erosion and Sedimentation Control (TESC) provisions will be implemented.

2. Air [help]

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Temporary construction machinery and vehicle exhaust emissions are anticipated during construction of the proposed projects. Dust emissions during excavation may also occur. There shall be no emissions to the air resulting from the operation of the finished projects, with the exception of vehicle emissions generated during employee site visits.

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

None Known.

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

Vehicle emissions shall be kept to a minimum by turning off construction equipment and other vehicles instead of allowing them to idle during periods when they are not being used. Appropriate dust control measures (sweeping, watering) will be implemented as part of each project's TESC plan to keep construction-generated dust to a minimum. The checklists for individual projects will further address this on a site specific basis.

3. Water [help]

a. Surface Water:

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.

Yes, the project is adjacent to the Snohomish River.

Impervious area only refers to project area of site, which is fully paved. Overall WWTP site contains less than 2% impervious surfaces.

A wetland is present east of the project site; proposed project area is outside of the wetland buffer in a paved area



**ADMINISTRATION
COMMENTS ONLY**

- 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.

Yes, the project is adjacent to and within 200 feet of the Snohomish River. The proposed project plans are as included.

- 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.

No fill or dredge activities in water bodies or wetlands is anticipated.

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

No surface water withdrawals or diversions are anticipated.

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

Although the entire site is within the 100-year floodplain, the berms around the WWTP protect it from the 100-year flood.

- 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.

The existing WWTP discharges treated municipal wastewater into the Snohomish River in accordance with NPDES Permit No. WA-002954-8 and will continue to discharge during and after construction.

Project site is in Zone AE (elev 29) per FIRM panel 1061G. Floodplain permit required; structures must meet flood-resistant standards.

b. Ground Water:

- 1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No.

- 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.

None.



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.

Runoff control during construction will be prescribed in construction documents and the project TESC plans.

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

No.

- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

No.

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

Best management practices will be followed in accordance with currently adopted standards.

4. **Plants** [\[help\]](#)

- a. Check the 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
- Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- 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?

None.

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

None Known.

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

The disturbed area will be restored with topsoil and grass seed.

Areas of disturbance are paved.



- e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

None known.

5. Animals [help]

- a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
 mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
 fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

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

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Salmonoid Stock Inventory (SaSI) in 2002 indicated that the Winter Steelhead presence was depressed for both the Pilchuck River and the Snohomish River.

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

Bald eagles (not federally listed, but still protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act) have been reported in the City's water service area.

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

Construction work must occur within specific windows that do not interfere with migration and spawning of listed Salmonoids and nesting bald eagles. Construction activities must meet all pertinent regulations.

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

None Known.

6. Energy and natural resources [help]

- 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.

Petroleum fuels and lubricants will be consumed by machinery used during construction.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No.

All of western Washington is within the Pacific Flyway for migratory birds and the Riverview Wildlife Refuge is west of the lagoons. The project area does not contain nesting locations.



**ADMINISTRATION
COMMENTS ONLY**

- 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:
None.

7. Environmental health [\[help\]](#)

- 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.

Heavy equipment to perform work will use diesel gas. Leak or spill unlikely but possible.

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
None known.

- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.
None known.

- 3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.
Heavy equipment to perform work will use diesel gas. Leak or spill unlikely but possible.

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.
None are anticipated. Local police, fire and aid should suffice during construction.

- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:
Spill prevention plan.

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?
None.

Overall site is wastewater treatment facility. Existing and previous lagoons and surrounding soils will not be disturbed.

Public access to the WWTP is restricted to prevent exposure to wastewater. Sampling and testing is performed regularly to verify compliance with applicable regulations.



**ADMINISTRATION
COMMENTS ONLY**

- 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.

Temporary construction noise may be expected during working hours.
No long-term noise is anticipated with any of the identified improvements.

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

Construction equipment will need to be properly maintained and muffled, and the hours of construction will be limited to coincide with the normal workday period.

Construction noise regulated by Chapter 8.16 SMC.

8. Land and shoreline use [\[help\]](#)

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

The site is currently the City of Snohomish WWTP. The site is surrounded by the Snohomish River to the south and west, Highway 9 to the east, and land owned by the Pilchuck Audubon Society to the north.

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

No.

- 1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

No.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

The site consists of concrete masonry Lab Building, Chlorination Building, Chemical Building and Blower Building, each housing equipment and controls used for operation of the wastewater treatment plant. In addition, the Lab Building has personnel and work spaces. There are also concrete structures on the site (e.g., headworks, effluent filters, chlorine contact tank) used for treatment of the wastewater.

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

No.

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

The current zoning for the site is industrial.



**ADMINISTRATION
COMMENTS ONLY**

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

The current zoning for the site is industrial.

Comprehensive Plan designation is Industry.

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

N/A

Urban Conservancy designation - SMP

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

No.

Several wetlands are present on the overall WWTP site, however proposed project site is outside wetlands and their buffers.

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

None.

Three employees work at the WWTP - will not be affected by this project

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

None

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

N/A

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

N/A

Existing land use will not change as a result of this project

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

N/A

9. Housing [\[help\]](#)

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

None.

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

N/A



**ADMINISTRATION
COMMENTS ONLY**

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

N/A

10. Aesthetics [\[help\]](#)

- 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

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

No. Nothing above ground will be added.

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

N/A

Two metal sheds are proposed to house the air gap equipment. These will be no more than 15 feet (appx) in height.

The buildings will not be seen from the street.

11. Light and glare [\[help\]](#)

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

The proposed projects would generate no light or glare.

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

No.

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

Not known.

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

None.

12. Recreation [\[help\]](#)

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

There are recreational opportunities (e.g., boating) on the Snohomish River bordering the south and west sides of the site. The flood protection berm along the south and west sides of the site bordering the Snohomish River serves as an informal recreational trail. The land owned by the Pilchuck Audubon society bordering the north end of the site is used for bird watching.



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

No.

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

None.

13. Historic and cultural preservation [\[help\]](#)

a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe.

No.

b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

No.

c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

Reference the Washington Heritage Register (WHR).

d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

If cultural artifacts or historic resources are uncovered during construction, project work should be suspended immediately. Appropriate authorities at the County and State levels would be notified and appropriate measures would be taken to protect these resources.

14. Transportation [\[help\]](#)

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

The primary access to the site is off of Second Street which extends east to downtown Snohomish, west on Riverview Road to residential and farming areas and has exit and entrance ramps to Highway 9.

Per DAHP consultation (under tracking #2021-02-00934), standard Inadvertent Discovery Plan recommended, with particular care given to the southern air gap location.

Inadvertent discovery plan required during construction activities per SMC 14.252



- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

The site is not served directly by public transit, but Community Transit provides bus service within the general vicinity. The nearest transit stop is about ½ mile to the east of the site.

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

No parking spaces will be constructed or eliminated.

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No.

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

No.

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

None.

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No.

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

Construction would take place in a timely manner to minimize obstructions and alterations of local traffic flow. Approved traffic control will be provided during construction if needed.

15. Public services [\[help\]](#)

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No.



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

None.

16. Utilities [help]

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:

electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system,
other _____

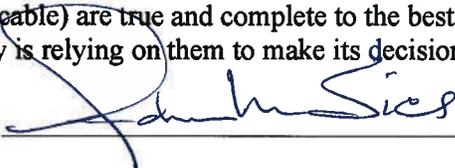
b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

Two air gap facilities involving connection to the existing water system for two separate locations at the WWTP are proposed for the project. General construction activities include installing these facilities above ground.

WWTP facility already connected to utilities

C. Signature [help]

The information and answers provided in this Environmental Checklist (including Supplement for Non-project Actions, if applicable) 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: 1-14-21

Agency Evaluation completed by: Brooke Eidem, Planner Date: 2/23/2021

Signature: 