

# Determination of Significance and Request for Comments on the Scope of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the City of Seattle Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan

## Proponent, Location, and Description of Proposal

In 1998, Seattle Public Utilities prepared *Seattle's Solid Waste Plan, On the Path to Sustainability* as well as a programmatic environmental impact statement (EIS) that addressed the potential impacts of implementing this plan. The 1998 plan included recommendations that led to the preparation of the City of Seattle Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan in 2003. The Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan identifies the following recommended improvements to the City's solid waste facilities:

- Building a new solid waste intermodal transfer facility
- Rebuilding the two existing city transfer stations.

Although a programmatic EIS was prepared for the 1998 *Seattle Solid Waste Plan*, the 2003 Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan takes the process one step further by recommending specific facility improvements to address the waste management needs identified in the 1998 plan. Seattle Public Utilities has concluded that a facility-specific environmental review under the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) is needed to evaluate the recommended facility improvements.

The following alternatives will be considered in the environmental review:

**Alternative 1 (No Action):** Continuation of the status quo, maintenance of the existing City-owned transfer stations as required for them to stay operational, replacement of equipment when it wears out, and replacement of the offices and scale houses, as necessary, to meet building codes.

**Alternative 2:** Construction of an intermodal solid waste transfer facility on the west side of Harbor Island at Terminal 10, and demolition and rebuilding of the North Recycling and Disposal Station and the South Recycling and Disposal Station using additional property adjacent to each station.

**Alternative 3:** Construction of an intermodal solid waste transfer facility with King County on the west side of Harbor Island at Terminal 10 and on the adjoining Pendleton property south of Terminal 10; and demolition and rebuilding of the North Recycling and Disposal Station and the South Recycling and Disposal Station using additional property adjacent to each station.

**Alternative 4:** Construction of an intermodal solid waste transfer facility near South Corgiat Drive, northeast of Boeing Field, between the rail road tracks and Interstate 5; and demolition and rebuilding of the North Recycling and Disposal Station and the South Recycling and Disposal Station using additional property adjacent to each station.

**Alternative 5:** Construction of an intermodal solid waste transfer facility to the west of Airport Way South and south of South Edmunds Street; and demolition and rebuilding of the North Recycling and Disposal Station and the South Recycling and Disposal Station using additional property adjacent to each station.

## **Requirement for an Environmental Impact Statement**

As the lead agency for the SEPA process, Seattle Public Utilities has determined that at least one of the alternatives under consideration has the potential to result in significant adverse impacts on the environment. In accordance with Section 43.21C.030(2)(c) of the Revised Code of Washington and Chapter 25.05 of the Seattle Municipal Code, an EIS will be prepared. This EIS will be a supplement to the 1998 EIS prepared for *Seattle's Solid Waste Plan*.

Seattle Public Utilities has identified six environmental elements that will be evaluated in detail in the supplemental EIS:

- Transportation
- Noise
- Air quality and odor
- Land use
- Aesthetics and visual quality
- Plants and animals.

The proposed project is unlikely to result in significant adverse impacts on the following environmental elements; therefore, the supplemental EIS will cover these elements in less detail:

- Earth
- Water
- Hazardous materials
- Recreation
- Public services and utilities.

## **Comments on Scope of Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement**

Agencies, affected tribes, and the public are invited to comment on the scope of the supplemental EIS. Comments on alternatives, mitigation measures, probable significant adverse impacts, and required licenses or other approvals are welcome. Written comments on the scope of the supplemental EIS may be sent to the contact person indicated below and must be postmarked ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 12, 2004. Oral and written comments on the scope of the supplemental EIS may also be provided at two public meetings to be held on the following dates at the locations indicated.

Tuesday, **August 10th** at 6:30 p.m.

**B.F. Day School gym**  
3921 Linden Avenue North  
Seattle, Washington 98103

Thursday, **August 12th** at 6:30 p.m.

**South Park Neighborhood Center**  
8201 10th Avenue South  
Seattle, Washington 98108

These locations are wheelchair accessible.

## **Contact Person**

Henry Friedman, Solid Waste Facilities Planning Manager  
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Seattle Municipal Tower  
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## **Responsible Official**

Chuck Clarke, Director  
Seattle Public Utilities  
Seattle Municipal Tower  
P.O. Box 34018  
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## **Date of Determination of Significance**

**DATE: August 2, 2004**

Signed by Sharon K. White for Chuck Clarke on July 27, 2004

Appeal of Determination

This determination of significance may not be appealed. An opportunity to appeal the adequacy of the final supplemental EIS will be provided after the final supplemental EIS has been published.

**Note:** This material is available in alternative formats upon advance request.