



APPENDIX

# **G State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA) Documents**



## Memorandum

**Date:** May 6, 2022

**To:** Stephanie Schwenger  
Solid Waste Planning and Program Management

**From:** Ingrid Wertz  
Lead SEPA Responsible Official

Ingrid Wertz  
Digitally signed by Ingrid  
Wertz  
Date: 2022.05.06  
08.09.08 -07'00'

**RE:** SEPA Closeout: Seattle's 2022 Solid Waste Plan Update

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This memorandum documents the completion of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) process for the Determination of Non-Significance (DNS).

The DNS was issued on April 11, 2022. The DNS and SEPA Environmental Checklist were posted to the Washington Department of Ecology SEPA Record Submittal (SRS) Portal, and the DNS was recorded as entry #202201664 in the State SEPA Register.

The DNS was published in the *Daily Journal of Commerce* in the April 11, 2022 edition, recorded in the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections "Portal" as Record Number 000452-22PN, and listed in the Public Notices Summary.

The comment period ended on April 25, 2022. There were no comments.

The appeal period ended on May 2, 2022. There were no appeals.

The SEPA process was completed on May 6, 2022 and the project is authorized to proceed, contingent on any other required permits and approvals.

**Seattle's 2022 Solid Waste Plan Update  
SEPA Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)**

Description of Proposal

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) has prepared the Preliminary Draft 2022 *Solid Waste Plan Update: Moving Upstream to Zero Waste* ("2022 Plan Update"), the latest long-range plan directing SPU's management of solid waste. The 2022 Plan Update amends the 2011 Solid Waste Plan Revision, *Picking Up the Pace Toward Zero Waste*. "The Plan satisfies a state requirement to maintain a coordinated, comprehensive solid waste management plan in a current and applicable condition (RCW 70.75)."

The 2022 *Plan Update* guides how Seattle will manage and finance its solid waste services and facilities over the next 6 years, and projects system management needs over 20 years. The 2022 *Plan Update*:

- Highlights historic solid waste trends, including progress toward goals, and details solid waste system projections
- Describes how Seattle advances waste prevention and diversion from landfill through policy, customer outreach and education, investments in the circular economy, and enforcement of solid waste rules, regulations, and contracts
- Describes the solid waste system and how Seattle provides essential waste collection, recycling, composting, and disposal services to 1.4 million people in the City
- Recommends 39 actions for Seattle to continue innovating in solid waste management
- Suggests creating new goals consistent with Seattle's growing emphasis on reducing waste at the source

The 2022 *Plan Update* does not detail the specific solid waste activities that would be undertaken, but rather, discusses the City's management goals related to solid waste management and the types of activities necessary to achieve those goals in a safe and economical way. More specifically, the 2022 *Plan Update* describes how the City would manage the City's solid waste by preventing waste, increasing recycling and composting, and improving services over the next 20 years. Plan implementation would require future evaluation and development of programs and capital improvement projects designed to address SPU's identified solid waste issues and needs.

Before it can be implemented, the 2022 *Plan Update* must be adopted by the Seattle City Council and then approved by the Washington State Department of Ecology. Adoption and approval of the 2022 *Plan Update* is considered a non-project action under SEPA.

Proponent

Seattle Public Utilities  
Seattle Municipal Tower Suite 4900  
P.O. Box 34018  
Seattle, WA 98124-4018

Location of Proposal

The planning area for the 2022 *Plan Update* includes all areas within the municipal limits of the City of Seattle, King County, Washington, including about 82 square miles of land populated by about 745,000 people. SPU owns and operates two major solid waste transfer facilities, the North and South Transfer Stations located at 1350 North 34th Street (zip code 98103) and 130 South Kenyon Street (zip code

98108), respectively; and the North and South Household Hazardous Waste facilities at 12500 Stone Way North (zip code 98133) and 8105 Fifth Avenue South (zip code 98108), respectively. Non-recyclable solid waste from the recycling and disposal stations is transported to privately owned intermodal facilities, where it is loaded onto railcars and transported to the Columbia Ridge Regional Landfill in Arlington, Oregon. Recyclable materials are transported to or picked up by private recycling business. Compostable materials are transported to Lenz Enterprises or Cedar Grove Composting, both private composting businesses.

#### Lead Agency

Seattle Public Utilities, the lead agency for this proposal, has determined that it does 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.

This Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for fourteen (14) days from the issuance date below.

A copy of the environmental checklist is available online at:

<http://www.seattle.gov/utilities/neighborhood-projects/construction-impacts>

A copy of the 2022 Solid Waste Plan Update is available online at:

<https://www.seattle.gov/utilities/about/plans/solid-waste>

#### Public and Agency Comments

Comments on this DNS must be submitted by April 25, 2022 and must be sent by email to:

Ingrid Wertz, SEPA Responsible Official

Seattle Public Utilities

[ingrid.wertz@seattle.gov](mailto:ingrid.wertz@seattle.gov)

Signature:

Ingrid Wertz  
Digitally signed by Ingrid  
Wertz  
Date: 2022.05.06  
08:09:08 -07'00'

Ingrid Wertz

Issue Date: April 11, 2022

#### Appeals

Appeals of this DNS must be accompanied by an \$85 filing fee and must be filed by 5:00 p.m. on May 2, 2022. Please see the Office of the Hearing Examiner web site for Temporary Operating Rules During COVID-19: <http://www.seattle.gov/hearing-examiner>