

August 12, 2021

TO: Recipients of the Landsburg Forebay Cleaning SEPA DNS/Checklist

FROM: Kevin Buckley, SEPA Responsible Official

SUBJECT: Addendum to the Landsburg Forebay Cleaning SEPA Environmental Checklist and Determination of Non-Significance

PURPOSE OF THIS ADDENDUM

In February 2012, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) prepared a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Checklist that analyzed environmental impacts of the proposed annual Landsburg Forebay Cleaning maintenance work. As lead agency, SPU issued a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) for the annual Forebay cleaning work on February 16, 2012. Since then, SPU has conducted Forebay cleaning on an annual or near-annual basis.

From time to time, SPU identifies additional work that should be performed during Forebay cleaning, while the water level in Cedar River is low. For example, on October 14, 2013, SPU issued a DNS Addendum analyzing the effects of including periodic repair of the Forebay access road and ramp in the annual Forebay cleaning work. On May 16, 2019, SPU prepared another DNS Addendum to assess effects of 3 types of activities sometime conducted during the Forebay cleaning work: Repairing and Replacing the Debris Protection Boom, Maintaining and Inspecting Equipment Associated with the Diversion Dam and Fish Passage Facility, and LiDAR Scanning and Concrete Core Sample Drilling in Diversion Dam Channel Bottoms.

SPU has prepared the current addendum to assess the effects of repairing the concrete surfaces of the Landsburg Downstream Passage facility (see Updated Project Information section, below) during the Forebay cleaning work. As SEPA lead agency, SPU has reviewed the findings and concluded the proposed additional work does not substantially change the analyses of impacts contained in the February 2012 Environmental Checklist and will not result in any significant environmental impacts. This addendum has been prepared in accordance with authority provided in SMC 25.05.600 and in accordance with procedures described in SMC 25.05.625.

UPDATED PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Summary

The Landsburg Headworks includes the Landsburg Diversion Dam on the Cedar River as well as an associated Landsburg Fish Passage facility and a sockeye salmon hatchery. The Landsburg Fish Passage facility was constructed in 2003 to allow migratory fish access to the Cedar River above and below Landsburg Diversion Dam. The Fish Passage facility includes a Fish Ladder, a Downstream Passage structure through Landsburg Dam, and a Fish Screen which screens fish out of the water diverted for drinking water. The facility supports SPU's ability to meet fish passage obligations identified in the Cedar River Habitat Conservation Plan. The Downstream Passage structure includes a concrete-lined

channel that conveys water to an adjustable tipping gate that allows fish swimming downstream to safely pass through the dam (Attachment A). SPU has been tracking progressive damage to concrete on the channel bottom with a sequence of LiDAR scans. Results of this analysis as of 2018 indicate degradation of the concrete has proceeded to the point that, if left uncorrected, reinforcing metal in the concrete could be exposed within 5 years. This would expose fish to metal that could injure the fish and potentially lead to structural deficiencies in the dam.

To address this condition, SPU has identified a project that would remove and replace concrete in the Downstream Passage structure. To perform these necessary repairs, the work must be conducted when the Landsburg Diversion Dam's Forebay is dewatered. The concrete repair would be completed during an extended Forebay cleaning operation (approximately 2 weeks) tentatively scheduled for June 2022. The Forebay cleaning operation is a separate project and would occur regardless of the repairs to the Downstream Passage concrete.

Because the concrete channel bottom must be dry and the tip gate ordinarily controlling flow through the channel to be repaired must be raised (closed) to isolate the work area from the Cedar River, SPU staff would temporarily stop flow through the channel. SPU would stop flow through the channel by placing a temporary diversion assembly of plastic sheets, gravel bags, and stop logs on the upstream side of the channel. SPU would stage a mobile crane and materials on the abutment nearest to the Downstream Passage structure. SPU staff would then fly material from the staging area to the work area and lower the material, with workers at the channel assembling the diversion assembly by hand as the crane lowers materials into place.

Additional Information

All other work would be as evaluated in the Landsburg Forebay Cleaning SEPA Checklist, as modified by previous follow-on SEPA actions describing proposed work during Forebay cleaning. The work described in this addendum would be required to meet the terms and conditions of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) (current Permit Number 2018-4-408+01 issued June 8, 2018 and expiring June 7, 2023 or a newly issued HPA) and US Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act Section 404 authorization (Reference Number NWS-2011-1021-WRD). No additional technical reports have been prepared that directly relate to this proposal.

CHANGES TO ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

Replacing the concrete in the Downstream Passage structure would be performed when the Forebay is dewatered, allowing work below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) to be conducted when the Forebay is dewatered, thereby avoiding avoid water quality impacts. The work would have little or no potential to impact water quality except when such work includes using and/or transferring fluids such as lubricating oils over water. In any case where fluids would be used or transferred over water, all work associated with the fluid would be conducted within containment. During concrete demolition and resurfacing, measures would be used to prevent concrete and dust from leaving the work area and entering water or air.

The additional material and crew transport activities that comprise the repairs would result in additional greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. GHG emissions for annual Forebay cleaning operations would increase by approximately 23.25 metric tons of carbon dioxide emission (MTCO₂e)—from 5.7 to 28.95

MTCO2e. The work would generate approximately 35 additional vehicle round trips due to the transport of materials, equipment, and crew to and from the work site.

If you have questions about the proposed work, please call or email:

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Any comments must be submitted via email no later than August 27, 2021 to:

Kevin Buckley, SEPA Responsible Official
Seattle Public Utilities
Kevin.Buckley@Seattle.gov

Signature: _____

Issue Date: August 12, 2021

ATTACHMENT A: SITE PLAN SHOWING LOCATION OF DOWNSTREAM PASSAGE STRUCTURE.

