# **SEPA<sup>1</sup> Environmental Checklist**

RECEIVED

December 19, 2023

Washington Geological Survey

# **Purpose of checklist**

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

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.

# Instructions for lead agencies

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

# Use of checklist for nonproject proposals

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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/Checklist-guidance

## A.Background

Find help answering background questions<sup>2</sup>

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

**Umptanum Road Quarry** 

2. Name of applicant:

MTA Holdings, L.L.C.

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

910 Anderson Road, Ellensburg, WA 98926

Contact: Alan Fife, (509) 866-0508

4. Date checklist prepared:

December 13, 2023

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

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

Within 1 year of permit approval.

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

Not at this time.

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

None.

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 are known.

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

DNR approval and issuance of a surface mine reclamation permit; Site Management Plan for the Washington Department of Ecology Sand and Gravel General Permit.

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.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-A-Background

The proposed project will consist of a basalt aggregate mine to provide crushed rock and engineered fill for local construction projects. The permit area will consist of 86 acres, of which approximately 35 acres will be disturbed by mineral extraction and related activities.

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.

The site is located approximately 3 miles south of Ellensburg in Kittitas County, Washington. Access to the quarry is at 5243 Umptanum Road. The mine permit area is located in the NW, NE, and SW quarters of the SW quarter of Section 22, Township 17 North, Range 18 East of the Willamette Meridian.

### **B.Environmental Elements**

### 1. Earth

Find help answering earth questions<sup>3</sup>

a. General description of the site:

Bedrock ridge located near the southwestern edge of a flat-lying alluvial valley.

Circle or highlight one: Flat, rolling hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
  Approximately 100 percent.
- 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.

Soils generally consist of silt and exposed basalt bedrock. The US Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx) maps soils in the project vicinity. Most of the site is mapped as Vantage very cobbly loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes, and Clerf-Vantage-Cheviot complex, 30 to 60 percent slopes. The north slope area is mapped as Tanksel-Patron-Camaspatch complex, 30 to 70 percent slopes. A small area in the northwest is mapped as Volinger-Mozen complex, 15 to 30 percent slopes. Only the Volinger-Mozen complex soils are described as prime farmland, and these soils will not be disturbed by the proposed mining project.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth

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.

The site will be mined for basalt aggregate resource. The permit area will consist of 86 acres, of which approximately 35 acres will be disturbed by mineral extraction and related activities. The total volume to be excavated including topsoil, overburden, and basalt resource is approximately 1.27 million cubic yards. Topsoil and silt overburden removed in this area will be stored in temporary stockpiles, which will be replaced back over the final mine floors during reclamation at the completion of mining.

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

Erosion of topsoil and overburden could occur along actively mined sections prior to reclamation. However, the site will be mined to direct stormwater and any potential erosion toward the incised mine floors of each segment.

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

None.

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

Mining activity will take place such that any potential erosion from disturbance of native materials will be directed back into the active mining area and infiltrated. Stockpiles of topsoil and overburden will be located in designated storage areas. These stockpiles will be seeded with an erosion control mix to stabilize the piles and prevent erosion.

### 2. Air

Find help answering air questions<sup>4</sup>

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.

Emissions from equipment associated with mining operations; dust as a result of blasting, crushing and general operations.

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

No.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-Air

Mobile equipment will utilize requisite emission control devices. Processing equipment will use best management practices to reduce fugitive dust in accordance with state standards, such as using fog nozzles to wet the crushed rock during crushing and stockpiling. Access roads will be wetted as needed using a water truck.

### 3. Water

Find help answering water questions<sup>5</sup>

a. Surface:

Find help answering surface water questions<sup>6</sup>

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.

Two Type U streams are mapped offsite to the northwest and east, flowing northeast through Long Tom Canyon and Shushuskin Canyon, respectively. Wetlands are also mapped along the stream channel east of Umptanum Road in Shushuskin Canyon. The Long Tom drainage is blocked in several places by historical fill and thus has limited flow into the irrigation canal to the north (West Side Canal). The Shushuskin drainage flows into an irrigation ditch further north (Fogarty Ditch).

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.

No.

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.

None.

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

No.

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

No.

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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Surface-water

No.

#### b. Ground:

Find help answering ground water questions<sup>7</sup>

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 a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

Yes, less than 1,000 gallons per day will be drawn from the well for site activities including dust abatement. Stormwater from precipitation and seasonal snowmelt will be directed to the mine floor for each mine segment for infiltration. Volumes will be similar to what currently falls and infiltrates into the site subsurface.

2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (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 will be limited to stormwater from precipitation and seasonal snowmelt that will be collected from disturbed areas and contained on site. It will be directed to the mine floor for each mine segment where stormwater will readily infiltrate into the underlying fractured basalt.

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

There will be no waste materials on site. Any potential sediment from runoff will be contained on site.

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:

Segmental mining/reclamation and best management practices such as onsite infiltration, ditching, check dams, and topsoil replacement for revegetation will be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Groundwater

incorporated to control surface runoff. Runoff from undisturbed areas will be redirected around active mining areas where practical.

#### 4. Plants

a

Find help answering plants questions

	Check the types of vegetation found on the site:	within the Section. The Section is listed as containing Ponderosa pine and steppe vegetation zones (comments by Nicole Damer, DNR 02/26/2024).	
	$\square$ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other		
	$\square$ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other		
	⊠ shrubs		
	⊠ grass		
	□ pasture		
	$\square$ crop or grain		
	$\hfill \Box$ orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops.	soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other er plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other	
	$\square$ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage,		
	$\square$ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other		
	$\square$ other types of vegetation		
•	What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?		

As mining proceeds, approximately 32.1 acres of vegetation (sparse shrubs and grasses) will be removed and subsequently restored according to the reclamation plan.

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

None are known.

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

The proposed mining is focused on discrete segments, leaving most of the site undisturbed and vegetated. Native grasses will be established on the reclaimed mine floors except where residential building pads may be established for post-mining use. Final slopes will generally be left as graded, rocky slopes due to the naturally short supply of topsoil and exposed rock being a natural feature of the area.

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

None are known.

### 5. Animals

Find help answering animal questions<sup>8</sup>

4. DNR special concerns report does

not list any T&E plant species

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklistguidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-5-Animals

a. List any birds and other animals that 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: crows, jays, vultures

• Mammals: <u>deer</u>, bear, elk, beaver, other: <u>rodents</u>

• Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

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

None are known.

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

Yes - Pacific flyway (along with all of State of Washington).

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

The proposed mining is focused on discrete segments, leaving most of the site undisturbed and available for wildlife habitat. Native grasses will be established on most of the reclaimed mine floors to provide additional habitat. Final slopes will generally be left as graded, rocky slopes due to the naturally short supply of topsoil and exposed rock being a natural feature of the area, which will provide additional habitat for rocky slope-dwelling wildlife.

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

None are known.

## 6. Energy and natural resources

Find help answering energy and natural resource questions<sup>9</sup>

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 products (diesel and gasoline) will power excavation and hauling equipment and a portable crusher.

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

No.

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.

Not applicable.

SEPA Environmental checklist (WAC 197-11-960)

5. DNR special

concerns report

does not list any T&E animal

species within the

containing bighorn sheep, elk, mule deer, sagebrush

Section. The Section is listed as

vole, and ring-

(comment by ND, DNR 02/26/2024).

necked snake

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-6-Energy-natural-resou

### 7. Environmental health

Health Find help with answering environmental health questions<sup>10</sup>

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur because of this proposal? If so, describe.

Petroleum products will be used for mobile equipment and a portable crusher. Accidental fuel or oil spills are possible, but a Spill Control Plan (SCP) will be followed and revised as necessary throughout the life of the project.

1. Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

None are 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 are known.

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.

Fuel and oil for mining equipment will be used on the site. Mining equipment will require occasional refueling and maintenance.

4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None.

5. Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.

Best management practices (BMPs) described in the SCP will be employed to reduce the potential for accidental fuel or oil spills during equipment refueling. BMPs will also be used to quickly and completely clean up any spills and remove any spillcontaminated materials to an approved disposal site.

#### b. Noise

1. What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

None.

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)?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-7-Environmental-health

Sporadic noise will be generated by mining equipment and haul trucks during operating hours (6 am to 7 pm). As needed and based on the degree of bedrock fracturing, blasting will generate short-term noise during daylight hours.

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

Appropriate mufflers will be used on all mining equipment and truck traffic.

### 8. Land and shoreline use

Find help answering land and shoreline use questions<sup>11</sup>

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 undeveloped. Two rural residential lots have been graded on the north side under a Kittitas County grading permit. Adjacent properties are undeveloped and used for rural rangeland to the south, west, and north. A small bedrock mine is located further to the west, and two basalt aggregate mines are located further to the south and southeast. Agricultural fields are located further north. Rural residences are located to the northeast, east, and southeast including the ridge east of the site. The proposed project will be similar in character to surrounding land use.

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 because 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.

None.

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

Not applicable.

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

Forest and Range.

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

Rural Working.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-8-Land-shoreline-use

- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
  Not applicable.
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

Steep slopes are mapped along the southeast margin of the site along Shushuskin Canyon and Umptanum Road. These slopes do not show signs of past landsliding and will be avoided by the proposed mining limits. The site along with much of Manastash Ridge is mapped as mule deer winter range. The northeast site access and adjacent rural residence are mapped as Shushuskin elk winter range. The northern portion of the site is mapped by Kittitas County as a critical aquifer recharge area (CARA) adjoining the flat agricultural area to the north. However, the proposed mine site is underlain by basalt bedrock, not unconsolidated deposits, and thus should not be mapped as a CARA under Kittitas County Code (KCC) 17A.03.020(1). The proposed mining would be located more than 250 feet from mapped wetlands and Type U streams located offsite to the east and northwest, which is the maximum buffer cited in KCC Table 17A.07.030.

- Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
   Three to five employees will work on the site.
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? None.
- Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any.
   Not applicable.
- I. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any.

The proposed project and anticipated post-mining use are compatible with surrounding land use and zoning.

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

None.

## 9. Housing

Find help answering housing questions<sup>12</sup>

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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-9-Housing

None.

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

Not applicable.

### 10. Aesthetics

Find help answering aesthetics questions<sup>13</sup>

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

Not applicable.

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

None.

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

None.

### 11. Light and glare

Find help answering light and glare questions<sup>14</sup>

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

Excavation and hauling will generally take place during daylight hours. Therefore, lighting will not normally be required. Occasional maintenance or seasonal work may require work after daylight hours. Overhead lighting and head lights will be utilized on haul trucks and loading equipment as needed.

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?
None.

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

All temporary sources of overhead lighting, as needed, will be hooded and directed at the specific work area to avoid the escape of glare.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-10-Aesthetics
<sup>14</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-11-Light-glare

### 12. Recreation

Find help answering recreation questions

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

Hunting and fishing are likely available within a half-mile of the site.

**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:

No mining activities will affect existing recreational opportunities.

### 13. Historic and cultural preservation

Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions<sup>15</sup>

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? If so, specifically describe.

None known.

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.

None known or observed. There is very little soil on the site to facilitate these uses.

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.

No evidence of pre-contact human use or disturbance is apparent from site observations and review of lidar-derived hillshade maps.

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 resources are encountered during soil disturbance, site activities will be immediately suspended in the vicinity of the discovery; and the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historical Preservation will be contacted for guidance in compliance with regulations.

13. DNR special concerns report lists archaeological and historic register sites within 5,280 feet of the Section and DAHPhistoric properties within the Section (comment by ND, DNR 02/26/2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-13-Historic-cultural-p

### 14. Transportation

Find help with answering transportation questions<sup>16</sup>

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 site is served by a gravel access road off of Umptanum Road.

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?

No. The nearest transit stop (Central Transit) is near the corner of Umptanum Road and Ruby Road, 3 miles northeast of the site in Ellensburg city limits.

c. 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.

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

No.

e. 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?

The proposed mine (not the completed project) would generate approximately 30 truck trips per day.

f. 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.

None are anticipated.

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

None.

### 15. Public services

Find help answering public service questions<sup>17</sup>

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.

https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-14-Transportation
 https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-15-public-services

No.

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

None

### 16. Utilities

Find help answering utilities questions<sup>18</sup>

- 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.

None.

## C.Signature

Find help about who should sign 19

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Type name of signee: Alan Fife

Position and agency/organization: Facilities Manager

× All 7/ Facilities 11/ga

Date submitted: December 17, 2023

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-16-utilities

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> https://ccology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-C-Signature