DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

UPDATED 2014

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: [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.

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: [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.

A. Background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

   Reporting of Emissions of Greenhouse Gases rule update

2. Name of applicant:

   Washington State Department of Ecology

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

   Air Quality Program
   Department of Ecology
   300 Desmond Drive SE
   PO Box 47600
   Lacey, WA 98504-7600

   Stacey Callaway
   360-407-7528

4. Date checklist prepared:

   August 2014

5. Agency requesting checklist:

   Washington State Department of Ecology

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

July 31, 2014	File CR-101
August 28, 2014	Stakeholder meeting
October 2014	File CR-102
December 2014	Public hearing
February 2015	File CR-103
March 2015	Rule effective

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

   Ecology is required by statute to periodically update Chapter 173-441 WAC to maintain consistency with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reporting Program. EPA's GHG Reporting Program has been amended multiple times since Chapter 173-441 WAC was adopted in 2010 and will likely be revised in the future. As EPA adopts final reporting rules after Ecology adopts WAC 173-441, then Ecology will amend its rule as necessary to maintain consistency and comply with Chapter 70.94.151 RCW.

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

   Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site. Once an application is made for a site-specific project that is subject to this rule, the project will receive public notice and SEPA review.

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

Not applicable.

11. Give a 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.)

The intent of this proposal is to revise a rule that establishes a reporting requirement for emissions of greenhouse gases from certain facilities and suppliers. This proposal is not site specific. The rule applies to facilities and suppliers that meet the emissions reporting threshold. The proposed amendments do not significantly change how the program is currently implemented.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site, it applies statewide.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site:

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

2. Air

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.

The proposed rule revision requires persons operating certain emissions sources meeting the reporting thresholds to report their emissions of greenhouse gases. The proposed rule revision will not cause an increase or a reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site. This is a reporting program, not an emissions reduction program.

3. **Water**

a. Surface Water

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (includingyear-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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the describedwaters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removedfrom surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected.Indicate the source of fill material.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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 thefollowing chemicals; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, thenumber 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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

c. Water Runoff (Including Stormwater)

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collectionand disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

4. **Plants**

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

5. **Animals**

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

6. **Energy and Natural Resources**

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

7. **Environmental Health**

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Not applicable. This rule does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

b. **Noise**

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

8. **Land and shoreline use**

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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?

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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:

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

9. **Housing**

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

10. **Aesthetics**

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. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

11. **Light and glare**

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

12. **Recreation**

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

14. Transportation

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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?

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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).

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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?

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

15. **Public services**

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

16. **Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:

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

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

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.

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision does not apply to a particular site.

C. Signature

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.

Signature: Stacey Callaway

Name of signee Stacey Callaway

Position and Agency/Organization Department of Ecology

Date Submitted: October 1, 2014

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions

(**IT IS NOT NECESSARY** to use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

   The proposed rule revision will not increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise.

   The proposed rule revision will make minor changes to requirements for persons operating emissions sources meeting the reporting thresholds that are required to report their emissions of greenhouse gases. The proposed rule revision maintains current practices and will not cause those emissions to increase or decrease.

   Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

   Not applicable. The proposed rule revision will not cause an increase.

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

   The proposed rule revision will not affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life.

   Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

   Not applicable. The proposed rule revision will not affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

   The implementation of the rule will not deplete energy or natural resources.

   Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

   The proposed rule revision does not have measures to reduce energy use.

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

   Not applicable. The proposed rule revision will not affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for governmental protection.

   Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

   Not applicable. The proposed rule revision will not affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for governmental protection.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision will not affect land and shoreline use.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision will not affect land and shoreline use.

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision will not increase demands on transportation or public services.

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

Not applicable. The proposed rule revision will not increase demands on transportation or public services.

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

No conflicts with current local, state, or federal rules, regulations, laws or statutes are expected. Ecology is required by statute to periodically update Chapter 173-441 WAC to maintain consistency with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reporting Program. EPA's GHG Reporting Program has been amended multiple times since Chapter 173-441 WAC was adopted in 2010 and is likely to continue to be revised in the future. As EPA adopts final reporting rules after Ecology adopts WAC 173-441, then Ecology will amend its rule as necessary to maintain consistency and comply with Chapter 70.94.151 RCW.