

## SEPA Review Opportunities

Type and Point in process	Comment Opportunity	Type of Review and Comment
<p><b>Prethreshold Consultation</b> (early)</p>	<p><b>Early opportunity for agencies to review checklist and advise on threshold determination</b></p> <p><b>7-14 days usual comment period</b></p>	<p><b>Review environmental checklist and any additional material</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identify environmental issues to be analyzed</li> <li>- If insufficient information, request from lead agency.</li> <li>- Provide input on significance of environmental issues for agency to make threshold determination</li> </ul>
<p><b>DNS with Notice of Application as “Optional” Consolidated Process ODNS/NOA</b></p>	<p><b>Likely the only opportunity to comment</b> Agency is giving notice they received an application and preliminarily believes the proposal impacts will be nonsignificant and expects to issue a DNS or MDNS.</p> <p><b>14-day comment period</b></p>	<p><b>Level of review should be same as for DNS</b> Also check to verify if sufficient information is available to review and/or identify impact significance.</p>
<p><b>Determination of Nonsignificance DNS with a comment period</b></p>	<p><b>Last SEPA opportunity to comment</b> Any identified mitigation is not required unless included in a permit or SEPA mitigation is referenced in permit.</p> <p><b>14-30 day comment period</b></p>	<p><b>Review environmental checklist and any additional information. Identify concerns:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- problems with the analysis,</li> <li>- missing/needed information,</li> <li>- concerns about the project,</li> <li>- existing condition,</li> <li>- project impacts, and</li> <li>- possible solutions/mitigation (e.g. BMPs).</li> </ul> <p><b>Explain why your concerns are important</b> <b>Provide input on significance if a DNS appears inappropriate</b></p>
<p><b>Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance MDNS</b></p>	<p><b>Last SEPA opportunity to comment</b> Any identified mitigation in the MDNS is part of the proposal or will be placed upon the project <u>and</u> is necessary to reduce the impacts from a significant level to a nonsignificant level. Mitigation must be listed as conditions to be met for permit.</p> <p><b>14-day comment period</b></p>	<p><b>Level of review should be same as for DNS</b> The lead agency believes this project has/had the potential to result in significant impacts if the identified mitigation or proposal change is not implemented.</p>

<b>EIS Process:</b>		
<b>Scoping notice</b> (early)	<b>First opportunity to comment</b> Second opportunity will be DEIS  <b>14-30 day comment period</b>	<b>Review notice and additional information; comment on:</b> - proposal description - purpose and need (if identified) - existing conditions - important environmental issues - range of alternatives with reduced environmental consequences
<b>Draft EIS DEIS</b>	<b>Only opportunity to comment on SEPA analysis.</b>  <b>30-45 day comment period</b>	<b>Provide feedback on completeness and accuracy of:</b> - environmental impact analysis of a reasonable range of alternatives and no action alternative - mitigation and its effectiveness - preferred alternative - alternatives to add
<b>Final EIS FEIS</b>	<b>Final review</b> No formal comment period; 7 day waiting period prior to agency decision	<b>Additional comment may be appropriate.</b> - If your comments on the DEIS were inadequately addressed - If there are new discussions, alternatives, impacts, that weren't discussed in the DEIS.
<b>Planned Action</b> (early)	<b>Most likely will be the only time to comment on any projects that would qualify as the described planned action</b>  <b>30-45 day comment period –Draft EIS</b>	<b>Ensure the environmental issues have been addressed with enough detail to be sufficient for project level review:</b> - existing environmental issues for project area. - environmental issues for types of uses that would be allowed. - alternatives and mitigation that would be needed.
<b>Other</b>		
<b>Agency internal review documents</b> (early)	<b>Only time to comment on your agency's SEPA document</b> Prior to formal (external) SEPA review. Application has probably been received. Ecology is developing a proposal.	<b>Provide input to make the document accurate and complete before it is released as a SEPA document</b> Use your expertise to assist with understanding proposal, existing environment, project impacts (including but not limited to meeting regulatory standards), mitigation, threshold determination.
<b>NEPA documents</b> Scoping DEIS(early) NEPA DEIS EA	<b>May be only opportunity to comment</b> The NEPA EA or EIS may be adopted under SEPA without a comment period.	<b>Review as if it is a DEIS</b> Except there may be no significant impacts in an EA. <b>Identify any potential shortcomings for meeting SEPA requirements</b>
<b>Notice of Application</b> (early)	<b>Not a SEPA review</b>	<b>Early opportunity to shape a proposal</b> Identify problems and potential solutions <b>Opportunity to identify significant impacts</b>