

Ad Hoc Subcommittee – Exceptions
 Meeting notes from August 22 2012 conference call
 Facilitator: Neil Aaland
 Note Taker: Fran Sant

Agenda:

- What are the issues related to streamlining for this topic?
- What are some examples of how this can be a problem with streamlining? (specific examples would be very helpful to inform the conversation)
- What are your ideas for addressing this topic?
- Any specific recommendations for Advisory Committee?

Attendees	Ecology staff present:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Moore • Clay White • Carol Lee Roalkvam • Jeff Wilson • Harry Reinert • Mary Rossi • Brandon Houskeeper • Dick Settle • Ann Aagaard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom Clingman • Annie Szvetecz • Fran Sant

Discussion:

Business

- Concerned with a relatively minor air permit required for demolition in an in-fill development area triggering SEPA when otherwise the project would be exempt from SEPA.
- Look at the big picture and follow the intent of the legislation.
- Rezone language is out dated.

Local Government

- Believe that “lands covered by water” is no longer necessary. For example a single family house that would otherwise be exempt from SEPA is triggering SEPA because the driveway to the property is crossing a stream.
- Already have protections under the CAO or Shoreline permit.
- Suggested Idea – Narrow the exception to affect only the part of the project that is impacting the lands covered by water.
- If a rezone is already considered by SEPA in the comp plan – no longer needed as an exception.

State Agencies

- State agencies are concerned about removal of “lands covered by water” as an exception.
- Not all critical area ordinances are equally good or up to date.
- WSDOT looks at projects with illicit discharges and proposals for dealing with stormwater.
- Culverts are a problem for fish passage. Corrections should be exempt from SEPA.
- Seems like rezones are also included in the “minor land use decisions” in 197-11-800(6). In second round will need to examine this section for consistency with round one changes.

Cultural Resources

- Concerned about early notification and the opportunity to provide comment.
- Example: A notice of Intent that went to the times for a replacement of a culvert on a road project.

There was no specific recommendation made from by Ad Hoc committee on Exceptions to carry forward to the larger SEPA Rule Making Advisory Committee.

Follow up items:

- Ecology to seek input from program staff in Air Quality and Water Quality staff about their perspective on the air and water discharge permits.
- Ecology look into demolition permits and if they require SEPA.
- Ecology to provide group with AG letter on lands covered by water provision.
- Mail notes out in PDF format as well as word.