

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 84-19-031, filed 9/14/84)

**WAC 463-47-050 Designation of decision maker.** Within the energy facility site evaluation council, the decision maker is the council.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 92-09-013, filed 4/2/92, effective 5/3/92)

**WAC 463-47-051 Designation of responsible official.** Within the energy facility site evaluation council, the responsible official is the council (~~(manager)~~) director.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 84-19-031, filed 9/14/84)

**WAC 463-47-080 Mitigated DNS.** (1) An applicant may ask the council whether issuance of a DS is likely for a proposal. This request for early notice must:

- (a) Be written;
- (b) Follow submission of an application and environmental checklist for a nonexempt proposal for which the council is lead agency; and
- (c) Precede the council's actual threshold determination for the proposal.

(2) The council shall respond to the request within (~~(ten)~~) 10 working days of receipt of the letter; the response shall:

- (a) Be written;
- (b) State whether the council is considering issuance of a DS;
- (c) Indicate the general or specific area(s) of concern that led the council to consider a DS; and
- (d) State that the applicant may change or clarify the proposal to mitigate the impacts indicated in the letter, revising the environmental checklist as necessary to reflect the changes or clarifications.

(3) The council shall not continue with the threshold determination until after receiving a written response from the applicant changing or clarifying the proposal or asking that the threshold determination be based on the original proposal.

(4) If the applicant submits a changed or clarified proposal, along with a revised environmental checklist, the council will make its threshold determination based on the changed or clarified proposal.

(a) If the council's response to the request for early notice indicated specific mitigation measures that would remove all probable significant adverse environmental impacts, and the applicant changes or clarifies the proposal to include all of those specific mitigation measures, the council shall issue a determination of nonsignificance and circulate the DNS for comments as in WAC (~~(197-11-350)~~) 197-11-340(2).

(b) If the council indicated general or specific areas of concern(~~(r)~~) but did not indicate specific mitigation measures that would

allow it to issue a DNS, the council shall determine if the changed or clarified proposal may have a probable significant environmental impact, issuing a DNS or DS as appropriate.

(5) The council may specify mitigation measures that would allow it to issue a DNS without a request for early notice from an applicant. If it does so, and the applicant changes or clarifies the proposal to include those measures, the council shall issue a DNS and circulate it for review (~~under~~) as in WAC (~~(197-11-350)~~) 197-11-340(2).

(6) When an applicant changes or clarifies the proposal, the clarifications or changes may be included in written attachments to the documents already submitted. If the environmental checklist and supporting documents would be difficult to read and/or understand because of the need to read them in conjunction with the attachment(s), the council may require the applicant to submit a new checklist.

(7) The council may change or clarify features of its own proposals before making the threshold determination.

(8) The council's written response under subsection (2) of this section shall not be construed as a determination of significance. In addition, preliminary discussion of clarification of or changes to a proposal, as opposed to a written request for early notice, shall not bind the council to consider the clarifications or changes in its threshold determination.

(9) When an applicant submits a changed or clarified proposal pursuant to this section, it shall be considered part of the applicant's application for a permit or other approval for all purposes, including enforcement of the permit or other approval. Unless the council's decision expressly states otherwise, when a mitigated DNS is issued for a proposal, any decision approving the proposal shall be based on the proposal as changed or clarified pursuant to this section.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 07-21-035, filed 10/9/07, effective 11/9/07)

**WAC 463-47-090 EIS preparation.** (1) Preparation of draft and final EISs, supplemental EISs (SEISs), or addenda is the responsibility of the council. The responsible official shall be satisfied that these documents comply with these rules and chapter 197-11 WAC prior to issuance.

(2) The council has the following options for draft and final EISs, SEISs, or addenda preparation:

(a) The council prepares its own documents.

(b) The council's independent consultant prepares any or all of the documents under the supervision of the responsible official.

(c) The council requires the applicant to prepare the documents with oversight from the responsible official.

(3) If the council prepares its own draft and final EISs, SEISs, or addenda, or its independent consultant prepares them, the council can require an applicant to provide information that the council or independent consultant does not possess, including specific investigations.

(4) The applicant shall bear the expense of the draft and final EISSs, SEISSs, or addenda preparation, but the consultant will work directly for the council.

(5) Normally, the council will have the documents printed and distributed.

(6) Whenever someone other than the council prepares a draft or final EISSs, SEISSs, or addenda, the responsible official:

(a) May direct the areas of research and examination to be undertaken and the content and organization of the document.

(b) Shall initiate and coordinate scoping, ensuring that the individuals preparing the documents receive all substantive information submitted by any agency or person.

(c) Shall assist in obtaining information on file with other agencies that is needed by the persons preparing the document.

(d) Shall allow the person preparing the document access to council records relating to the document (under chapter (~~42.17~~) 42.56 RCW—Public (~~disclosure and public~~) Records (law) Act).

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 84-19-031, filed 9/14/84)

**WAC 463-47-100 Public notice requirements.** (1) The council shall give public notice when issuing a DNS under WAC (~~197-11-350(2)~~) 197-11-340, a scoping notice under WAC (~~173-802-090~~) 197-11-360, or a draft EIS under WAC 197-11-455.

(2) Whenever possible, the council shall integrate the public notice required under this section with existing notice procedures for the council's review of an application.

(a) When more than one permit required from the council has public notice requirements, the notice procedures that would reach the widest audience should be used, if possible.

(b) If the public notice requirements for the permit or certification must be completed at a specific time in the permitting process and that timing does not coincide with the timing requirements for SE-PA public notice, the council must use one or more public notice methods in subsection (4) of this section.

(c) If there are no public notice requirements for any of the permits required for a proposal, the council must use one or more public notice methods in subsection (4) of this section.

(3) The council may require an applicant to perform the public notice requirement at his or her expense.

(4) The council shall use one or more of the following methods of public notice, taking into consideration the geographic area affected by the proposal, the size and complexity of the proposal, the public notice requirements for the permit or certification required from the council and, public interest expressed in the proposal:

(a) Mailing to persons or groups who have expressed interest in the proposal, that type of proposal, or proposals in the geographic area in which the proposal will be located, constructed and operated if approved;

(b) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the area in which the proposal will be located, constructed, and operated; and/or

(c) Posting the property, for site specific proposals.

**WAC 463-47-110 Policies and procedures for conditioning or denying permits or other approvals.** (1)(a) The overriding policy of the council is to avoid or mitigate adverse environmental impacts which may result from the council's decisions.

(b) The council shall use all practicable means, consistent with other essential considerations of state policy, to improve and coordinate plans, functions, programs, and resources to the end that the state and its citizens may:

(i) Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;

(ii) Assure for all people of Washington safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;

(iii) Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences;

(iv) Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage;

(v) Maintain, wherever possible, an environment which supports diversity and variety of individual choice;

(vi) Achieve a balance between population and resource use which will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; and

(vii) Enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

(c) The council recognizes that each person has a fundamental and inalienable right to a healthful environment and that each person has a responsibility to contribute to the preservation and enhancement of the environment.

(d) The council shall ensure that presently unquantified environmental amenities and values will be given appropriate consideration in decision making along with economic and technical considerations.

(2)(a) When the environmental document for a proposal shows it will cause significant adverse impacts that the proponent does not plan to mitigate, the council shall consider whether:

(i) The environmental document identified mitigation measures that are reasonable and capable of being accomplished;

(ii) Other local, state, or federal requirements and enforcement would mitigate the significant adverse environmental impacts; and

(iii) Reasonable mitigation measures are sufficient to mitigate the significant adverse impacts.

(b) The council may:

(i) Condition the approval or recommendation for approval for a proposal if mitigation measures are reasonable and capable of being accomplished and the proposal is inconsistent with the policies in subsection (1) of this section.

(ii) Reject or recommend rejection of the application if reasonable mitigation measures are insufficient to mitigate significant adverse environmental impacts and the proposal is inconsistent with the policies in subsection (1) of this section.

(c) The procedures in WAC 197-11-660 must also be followed when conditioning, denying or recommending permits, or rejecting applications.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 07-21-035, filed 10/9/07, effective 11/9/07)

**WAC 463-47-140 Responsibilities of the council's responsible official.** The EFSEC (~~manager~~) director shall be responsible for the following:

(1) Coordinating activities to comply with SEPA and encouraging consistency in SEPA compliance.

(2) Providing information and guidance on SEPA and the SEPA rules to council, council staff, groups, and citizens.

(3) Reviewing SEPA documents falling under council interests and providing the department of ecology with comments.

(4) Maintaining the files for EISs, DNSs, (~~and~~) scoping notices, and related SEPA matters.

(5) Writing and/or coordinating EIS preparation, including scoping and the scoping notice, making sure to work with interested agencies.

(6) Publishing and distributing its SEPA rules and amending its SEPA rules, as necessary.

(7) Fulfilling the council's other general responsibilities under SEPA and the SEPA rules.