

Planning & Development Services

1800 Continental Place • Mount Vernon, Washington 98273 office 360-416-1320 • pds@co.skagit.wa.us • www.skagitcounty.net/planning

Notice of Availability

Including notice of SEPA threshold determination, written comment period and public hearing.

Information

Publish date: September 12, 2024

Proposal name: Amendment to exclude electrical generation and/or storage as a Major

Electrical Utility Developments on Ag-NRL Zone Land

Documents available: https://www.skagitcounty.net/PlanningAndPermit/2024AgNRLZone.htm

Lead Agency: Skagit County Planning & Development Services

Contact Person: Tara Satushek, Senior Planner

Public hearing body: Skagit County Planning Commission

Public hearing date: October 8, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Written comment

deadline: October 4, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.

Description

The proposal would amend SCC 14.16.400(4)(h) to exclude on Ag-NRL zoned land electrical generation and/or storage facilities from the major utility developments permitted with a hearing examiner special use permit. Skagit County has long maintained a strong policy of protecting agricultural land for agricultural uses, and this proposal furthers that policy by not allowing major utility developments for the generation and/or storage of electrical power on agricultural land.

More information is available at the website above.

SEPA Threshold Determination

Skagit County has determined that this proposal does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement is not required under the State Environmental Policy Act, RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This determination was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency and is available upon request and at the above listed website.

This determination is issued pursuant to WAC 197-11-340(2). Skagit County will not act on this proposal for at least 14 days from the publish date indicated in the table above. Written comments regarding this Determination of Nonsignificance must be submitted by the written comment deadline (above) and in

the same manner as other comments. Pursuant to SCC 16.12.210, no administrative appeal process is available for this legislative action.

SEPA Responsible Official: Jack Moore, Director/Administrative Official,

Skagit County Planning & Development Services

Date of Decision: September 12, 2024

How to Comment

Option 1: Email comments are preferred and must be sent to pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name ("Amendment to exclude electrical generation and/or storage as a Major Electrical Utility Developments on Ag-NRL Zone Land") in the subject line. Include your comments in the body of your email message rather than as attachments.

Option 2: Paper comments must be printed on 8½x11 paper and mailed or delivered to:

Planning and Development Services
Comments on "Amendment to exclude electrical generation and/or storage as a Major
Electrical Utility Developments on Ag-NRL Zone Land"
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon WA 98273

All comments must be <u>received</u> by the deadline referenced above and include your full name and mailing address. Comments not meeting these requirements will not be considered.

Option 3: You may also comment in person. The Skagit County Planning Commission is hosting meetings in the Skagit County Commissioners' Hearing Room at 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, WA 98273. If you wish to provide online testimony, please send an email to pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us, with your name, phone number, and include a request to be added to the speakers list in the body of the email. Public hearing testimony is usually limited to three minutes, so written comments are preferred.

Anyone who plans to attend the public hearing and has special needs or disabilities should contact Planning and Development Services at (360) 416-1320 at least 96 hours before the hearing to discuss and arrange any special accommodations.

Transmitted to Skagit Herald: September 10, 2024 Date Published in Skagit Herald: September 12, 2024