



Planning & Development Services

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Notice of Availability

including written comment period and public hearing

Information

Publish date:	October 3, 2024
Proposal name:	Post Adoption Hearing Regarding Interim Ordinance Declaring an Emergency and Adopting a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Permit Applications for Major Utility Development Projects Involving Electrical Energy Generation or Storage on Skagit County Agricultural (Ag-NRL) Lands
Documents available:	https://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/PlanningAndPermit/2024AgNRLZone.htm
Lead Agency:	Skagit County Planning & Development Services
Contact Person:	Tara Satushek, Senior Planner
Public hearing body:	Skagit County Board of County Commissioners
Public hearing date:	October 21, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.
Written comment deadline:	October 23, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.

Description

The Skagit Board of County Commissioners (Board) adopted an interim ordinance temporarily prohibiting the acceptance of permit or processing of applications for major utility development projects involving electrical energy generation or storage on Skagit County Agricultural (Ag-NRL) Lands. The interim ordinance, Ordinance #O20240007, took effect September 23, 2024. The ordinance does not apply to any application vested before the date of this ordinance. The moratorium created by this ordinance shall be effective for six (6) months. The ordinance and the moratorium may be renewed for one or more six (6) month periods if a subsequent public hearing(s) is held and finding of facts are made prior to each renewal.

The Skagit County Planning Commission is currently considering a proposed new ordinance regarding electrical energy generation and storage facilities on lands zoned Ag-NRL, and the Board is concerned the prospect of new regulation could cause a rush of new permit applications. More information on the proposed ordinance before the Planning Commission can be found on the project webpage listed above.

How to Comment

Option 1: Email comments are preferred and must be sent to pdscomments@co.skagit.wa.us with the proposal name (“Post Adoption Hearing Regarding Interim Ordinance Declaring an Emergency and Adopting a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Permit Applications for Major Utility Development Projects Involving Electrical Energy Generation or Storage on Skagit County Agricultural (Ag-NRL) Lands”) 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 “Post Adoption Hearing Regarding Interim Ordinance Declaring an
Emergency and Adopting a Moratorium on the Acceptance of Permit Applications for
Major Utility Development Projects Involving Electrical Energy Generation or Storage on
Skagit County Agricultural (Ag-NRL) Lands”
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon WA 98273

All comments must be received 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 Board of County Commissioners 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. Publichearing 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: October 1, 2024

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