

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

A. Background [\[HELP\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: **Hutchinson Pit 70-010239**
2. Name of applicant: **Ellensburg Cement Products**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: **P.O. Box 938 Ellensburg WA, 98926 Lenny Morrison**

4. Date checklist prepared: **10/25/2019**

5. Agency requesting checklist: **Department of Natural Resource**

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **On going**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. **Unknown at this time**

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. **None**

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain. **No**

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. **SM-6, SM-8A, DOE Sand and Gravel Permit**

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.) **The SEPA is being written for a total of 278.9 Acres an increase from 225.75 acres. The expansion is 58 acres total with a mining depth of 90 feet. The Expansion will be used for the continuing supply of Concrete grade aggregates and sand and gravel products for the surrounding area. There will be no changes in the processes and procedures that are ongoing at the current site.**

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist. **Site access is 2121 Highway 97 Ellensburg WA. Legal Description, Site Plans and mapping are all attached** Sections 28, 29, T18N, R18E, Kittitas County

8. A critical area report and a groundwater impact report and statement were submitted with the application; both documents are on file with DNR

(comment by Nicole Damer, DNR 07/23/2020)

11. The project would expand an existing DNR Surface Mine Reclamation Permit

(#70-010239) by 58 acres, from 225.75 acres to 283.75 acres, and increase the permitted mining depth to 90 feet to an elevation of 1470 feet msl.

(comment by ND, DNR 07/23/2020)

B. Environmental Elements [\[HELP\]](#)

1. Earth [\[help\]](#)

a. General description of the site:

(circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? **The sloping of the expansion area is less than 1%. The existing mine is sloped in some areas at the pre 1971 standard and will be left alone. Other areas that have been sloped are the required 2:1 and 3:1**

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils. **Mainly Topsoil/Subsoil and Sand and Gravel**

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. **No**

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Purpose of fill areas is to level areas for the subsequent use of the property that are listed in the SM-8A. Type of fill is overburden from the mine area as well as imported fill which is Monitored daily. The affected areas are shown on the attached map. Excavation area is included with the SM-8A, Backfill areas are some areas where mining had taken place in years gone by, that is away from the main footprint of the mine

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. **No**

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? **That is unknown at this time the subsequent use points to many types of projects such as wildlife enhancement.**

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: **An Erosion Control Plan is in practice, Planted grass and other natural vegetation is left in place until area is prepped for mining**

2. Air [\[help\]](#)

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. **Emissions will be consistent with sand and gravel activities. After completion the area will be seeded with Pasture grass this will deter the escaping of dust.**

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. **No not at this time**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: **ECP WILL USE BMP'S TO MINIMIZE EMISSIONS. IT IS COMMON PRACTICE TO USE THE WATER TRUCK TO KEEP DUSTING TO A MINIMUM.**

3. Water [\[help\]](#)

a. Surface Water: [\[help\]](#)

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

There is a seasonal ditch known as Mill Ditch that runs through a small portion of the permitted site. The site in its DOE General Permit is allowed to dewater at times of high water flow.

The reclaimed area of Hutchinson pit is a pond.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans. **No**

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material. **It is not planned or is it typical procedure at this site to dredge material**

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **Not at completion but The site has a surface water right that is metered and reported to DOE. The existing site has an aggregate wash plant and also uses a water truck for road dust abatement.**

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No

b. Ground Water: [help](#)

1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **No**

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the

number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve. **No discharge of this kind**

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe. **Water from around the existing site and expansion are directed to the main body of the mine by internal ditching. The main area of the existing site is a lake**

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No

3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

No

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any: Ditching will move stormwater around the perimeter of the site then into the existing site. Any stormwater on site will flow to the existing site with internal ditching.

4. Plants [\[help\]](#)

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

4. DNR Special Concerns Report lists the area as Steppe and Ponderosa Pine vegetation zone. No T&E species are listed (comment by ND, DNR 07/23/2020)

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Pasture grass

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

None known

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: **Pasture grass will be planted during the fall of the year**

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

Knapweed, Thistle, Kochia. These and others are sprayed for each year and the practice will carry forward.

5. **Animals** [\[help\]](#)

a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

None known

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

Maybe Canada Geese

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: **Shorelines in some areas will be gently sloped for an escape route for any wildlife or grazing cattle**

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

None known

6. **Energy and Natural Resources** [\[help\]](#)

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc. **No energy needed at completion**

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. **No**

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal?

List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: **All equipment used on site meets manufactures and EPA requirements at time it was Manufactured.**

5. DNR Special Concerns Report lists two Osprey nests within the permit existing permit boundary. Per applicant, the nesting poles are within the PSE right-of-way power line easement and PSE maintains the nesting poles. This area will not be disturbed by mining related activities. (comment by ND, DNR 07/23/2020)

7. Environmental Health [\[help\]](#)

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe. **No**

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
A possible small fuel spill may happen but highly unlikely.
- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity. **None exist**
- 3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project. **Deisel fuel and oil for the operation of equipment would be the only stored or used. Nothing but Sand and Gravel will be produced.**
- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.
The site does not need any special emergency services other then those that are available.
- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: **A safety plan and spill plan are in practice**

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? **None**
- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site. **The expansion will not create any extra noise, traffic or operations that do not currently exist**
- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: **All equipment is equipped with the manufacuterers exhaust and mufflers.**

8. Land and Shoreline Use [\[help\]](#)

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe. **Current use of the expansion is temporary hay storage that is leased from Hutchinson Properties Adjacent properties are the existing operation Hutchinson pit. This proposal will not affect in a negative the adjacent property.**

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use? **The 58 acre expansion was used in the past as grazing ground. It was abandoned ground and not a working farm.**

1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how: No

c. Describe any structures on the site. **No structures on the expanded site**

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? **no**

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? **Forest and Range,**

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? **Urban**

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

N/A

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

No

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

Unknown, depending on the use of the site post reclamation.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

NONE

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: **Proposed is compatible with plans**

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any: **None**

9. Housing [\[help\]](#)

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. **Unknown**

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. **None**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: **None**

10. Aesthetics [\[help\]](#)

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? **No buildings are planned at this time.**

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? **None**

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: **Areas of mine will be cleared of any excess material, areas around the lake will be seeded with pasture grass.**

11. Light and Glare [\[help\]](#)

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? **Some glare off of the water may occur.**

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?
No

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?
None

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: **None needed**

12. Recreation [\[help\]](#)

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?
None

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: **None needed**

13. Historic and cultural preservation [\[help\]](#)

a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers ? If so, specifically describe.

No

b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

There are no landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific or cultural importance on or next to the site.

c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

None of these have been deemed necessary,

d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

There are no landmarks or any other features or evidence on the site. No measures are proposed

14. Transportation [\[help\]](#)

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

This site is and has been accessed by Highway 97 and is on the site plan

b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No public transport at this site. The closest Public transit 1 mile to the south

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

The only parking at the site is for the personnel while the site is active.

d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). **Not at this time**

13. DNR Special Concerns Report lists one historic property within the permit boundary (Resource ID # 525324). Per the applicant, the only structure on site burned down several years ago. Per DAHP no structure photos in file and no structure shown in database. (comment by ND, DNR 08/05/2020)

- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. **No**
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

There will be no increase in the current traffic

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

Roads are maintained and swept periodically to control track out.

15. Public Services [\[help\]](#)

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None

16. Utilities [\[help\]](#)

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:

electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other _____

- c. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

- d. **No new utilities are proposed for the expansion**

C. Signature [\[HELP\]](#)

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: _____

Name of signee _____

Position and Agency/Organization _____

Lenny Morrison

Lenny Morrison

Permit Manager

Date Submitted: _____

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [\[HELP\]](#)

(IT IS NOT NECESSARY to use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.