

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:

City of Airway Heights; New Water Rights in Spokane Valley/Rathdrom Prairie Aquifer (SVRA).

2. Name of applicant:

City of Airway Heights

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

1208 S. Lundstrom St.
 Airway Heights, WA 99001
 509-244-5578; Albert Tripp, City Administrator

4. Date checklist prepared:

October 25, 2021

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington State Department of Ecology

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

Report of Examination (ROE) for new water rights complete; November 2021

30 Day Review of ROE

Issue new water right; January 2022

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

Yes; Additional water rights will be applied for in 2025 and in 2029.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

No additional environmental has been been prepared or will be prepared for this pahes of the proposal.

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 other proposals are known that affect this proposal.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

The application for the new water right and the ROE will need to be final and approved by WSDOE prior to the water right being issued.

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.)

This proposal includes new water rights in the amount 1,205.4 Acre Feet per year and 2,500 gpm in the SVRPA issued to the City of Airway Heights.

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.

Water withdrawals from new water rights has not been determined at this time they will be located within the following ¼ sections:

1. Groundwater		NE	20	26N	42E
2. Groundwater		NW	20	26N	42E
3. Groundwater		SE	20	26N	42E
4. Groundwater		SW	20	26N	42E
5. Groundwater		SW	21	26N	42E
6. Groundwater		NW	28	26N	42E

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

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

a. General description of the site:

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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.

The Spokane River is in the vicinity of the proposed water withdrawals that would result from the new water rights being issued.

- 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 work is anticipated within 200 feet of the Spokane River as a result of this proposal.

- 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.

No fill or dredge material is anticipated as a result of this proposal.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

This proposal will not require surface water withdrawals or diversions.

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

This proposal does not lie within the 100 year floodplain.

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

This proposal does not involve any discharge of waste to the surface waters.

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.

Subsequent proposals will result in withdrawal of groundwater for drinking water purposes. The new well will be drilled into the SVRPA and will withdraw water at approximately 2,500 gpm and 1,205.4 acre feet of water per year. The water withdrawn will be used for drinking water by customers of the City of Airway Heights. No water will be discharged to groundwater.

- 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 waste material will be discharged into the ground as a result of this proposal. The groundwater withdrawn will serve approximately 8,500 people.

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.

Stormwater from subsequent proposals will be handled through bio-filtration swales. Treated stormwater will flow to ground. Stormwater will be managed on site and will not flow to other waters.

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

No waste materials will enter ground or surface waters as a result of this proposal.

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

This proposal will not alter or affect drainage patterns.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

Measures are not required to reduce or control runoff as a result of this proposal.

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

For subsequent proposals.

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

No vegetation will be removed or altered as a result of this proposal, subsequent proposals will result in areas where vegetation is removed and restored.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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 _____

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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.

Subsequent proposals will require electric power to run pumps at a well and booster station.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

This proposal will not affect use of solar power by adjacent properties.

- b. 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:

Subsequent proposals will use energy efficient equipment when available.

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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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?

Subsequent proposals will include a well hose and booster station building.

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- f. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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 proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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).

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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?

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- 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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:

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

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

- b. 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.

This proposal does not include any construction on a specific site, a separate SEPA will be prepared for any construction resulting from the new water rights.

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: Dennis D. Fuller, P.E.

Position and Agency/Organization On-Call Consulting Engineer, City of Airway Heights.

Date Submitted: Nov.1, 2021