SPOKANE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

SPOKANE REGIONAL SOLID WASTE SYSTEM

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. BACKGROUND

1. **Name of proposed project, if applicable:**

   Spokane County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Update 2007

2. **Name of applicant:**

   Spokane Regional Solid Waste System

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

   Russell Menke, P.E.
   Director
   Spokane Regional Solid Waste System
   221 North Wall Street, Suite 410
   Spokane, WA 99201
   (509) 625-6580

4. **Date checklist prepared:**

   June 20, 2007

5. **Agency requesting checklist:**

   Spokane Regional Solid Waste System

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

   2007-2012

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

   Plan will be reviewed and updated, if necessary, in 5 years.

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

   Environmental review will occur on a per-project basis.

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.

There are no specific properties or projects covered in the Plan update.

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

Approvals are required from the Spokane County Board of Commissioners, the City of Spokane, participating jurisdictions in the County and Washington State Department of Ecology. All facilities (solid waste and moderate risk waste) require a permit from the Spokane Health Department)

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 2007 Spokane County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (2007 Plan) documents existing waste management policies and handling methods. It establishes a waste management framework that will guide Spokane County in the years ahead. The 2007 Plan is the result of an extensive public process conducted during 2005, 2006, and 2007. The 2007 Plan updates the County's previous plan, the 1998 Spokane County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

In compliance with the Washington State solid waste management priorities the strategies recommended for waste collection, handling, and management priorities are to be implemented in the following order: Waste Reduction; Recycling; Energy recovery/incineration or landfill disposal of separated and mixed wastes, respectively.

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.

The plan includes all incorporated and unincorporated areas of Spokane County and Fairchild Air Force Base.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one): mountainous, other:

Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes,

The geographic area of Spokane County covers approximately 1,765 square miles

and lies at the northeast corner of the Columbia Plateau. Spokane County borders the State of Idaho on the east and is situated midway between Canada to the north and the State of Oregon to the south.

The topography of Spokane County ranges from its lowest elevation of 1,534 feet above sea level along the Spokane River to Mount Spokane at 5,878 feet above sea level. The Spokane River, which originates at Lake Coeur d'Alene in Idaho, flows primarily east to west through Spokane County and occupies the wide depression of land that forms the Spokane Valley. A drop of 134 feet in the river, known as the Spokane Falls, marks the beginning of a shift in the river's flow to a northwesterly direction. Another drop of 240 feet occurs at the confluence with the Little Spokane River, where the topography changes to a deep gorge-like valley bordered by prominent cliffs and terraces.

To the north and west of the Valley, there are several mesas that rise 400 to 500 feet above surrounding lands. These mesas range between 2,300 and 2,450 feet above sea level. The northeastern portion of Spokane County is a bedrock highland that includes Mount Spokane and surrounding peaks.

Much of the topography of the southwestern part of Spokane County consists of southwest-trending channels eroded into the basalt plateau, known as the channeled scablands. Topography in the south and southeast consists of relatively flat basalt plateaus. However, various peaks are found in this area, with Mica Peak rising to 5,205 feet above sea level.

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

Does not apply

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 prime farmland.

Does not apply. A soil map of Spokane County is included in Figure3 of the 1992 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

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

Does not apply.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial, wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known

There will be some emissions to the air from existing landfills, transfer stations, the WTE facility, and from motor vehicles transporting solid waste. These sources are expected to be only a small percentage of total air emissions generated in the county. The primary source of carbon monoxide (CO) in the atmosphere is gasoline-powered motor vehicles. Other sources include heating and power generation from natural gas and wood heat for residential, commercial, or industrial uses.

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

Unknown.

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

Emissions from the existing landfills and WTE are controlled and regulated. The closed portion of the North side Landfill has a Landfill gas collection and treatment (system construction completed November 1992). The active portion of the Northside Landfill has an existing Air Operating Permit. WTE facility emissions, including those from the boiler units and fugitive emissions, are regulated through the facility's Title V Air Operating permit, Notice of Construction (NOC) permit issued by the Spokane County Air Pollution Control Authority (SCAPCA), and the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit issued by Ecology. The permits require continuous emission monitors, monthly reporting, and annual stack tests. The monitors provide data on oxygen (O_2), carbon dioxide (CO_2), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulfur dioxides (SO_2), temperature, and opacity every 15 seconds. These data are compiled into the monthly report. Testing is performed to demonstrate compliance with the System's Title V Air Operating permit and NOC permit. The facility is in compliance with all permits.

The Spokane City Center, where there is increased traffic volume and the associated emissions, was within a CO non-attainment area. However, attainment status was achieved in July 2005, primarily as a result of improved air emission controls on

vehicles and the replacement of older vehicles that operated without pollution prevention controls with newer, improved vehicles.

Furthermore, portions of Spokane County have been designated as non-attainment areas for particulates less than 10 microns in diameter (PM_{10}). Spokane County and the cities of Spokane and Spokane Valley have changed their snow removal programs to reduce the amount of traction sand placed on the roads in the winter by increasing the use of liquid de-icers, and sweeping and flushing high traffic areas more often (Edgar, 2006). The City of Spokane made significant changes to its sweeping program. The downtown area is swept and flushed once per week as a result of changes made in 1993. Since implementation of this program, Spokane has only exceeded the Federal Air Quality PM10 Standard twice

3. Water

a. Surface:

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 surface waters of Spokane County include the Spokane River and its tributaries, in addition to smaller streams and lakes. These lakes are located in the southwestern and central eastern portions of Spokane County. Popular recreational area lakes include Medical Lake in the southwest quadrant of the county, Newman Lake and Liberty Lake, located near the east central section of Spokane County, and Eloika Lake along the northern border. In all, lakes cover approximately 5,646 acres of Spokane County.

2) Will the project require any <u>work</u> over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

All existing solid waste facilities are located 200 feet or more from described surface waters.

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.

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

b. Ground:

1) **Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

Does not apply.

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.**

The Southside Landfill has 750 gal septic tank to serve an on-site residential trailer. The Northside Landfill has a 1000 gal septic tank to serve a scale house and two maintenance buildings. The Northside and Valley transfer stations each have a 1000 gal septic tank to serve the administration buildings.

c. Water Runoff (including storm water):

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.**

The existing solid waste facilities have runoff control and stormwater management programs in place.

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

No.

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

Control systems are in place to prevent waste materials from impacting surface, ground or runoff water at closed and operating landfills in the County. The Graham Road landfill disposal cells are constructed with a composite liner system consisting

of 2 feet of clay, 60 mil HDPE, 1 foot of leachate collection gravel, a geotextile filter fabric, and 1 foot of operations layer. The Northside Landfill MSW cell has a liner, leachate collection system, and leak detection system. The bottom liner consists of 2 feet of soil-bentonite clay with permeability no greater than 1 x 10^{-6} cm/ second covered by a 60-mil HDPE geomembrane. The geomembrane is covered by 3 feet of sand to protect the liner and to provide for leachate drainage. To enhance leachate drainage, strip drains are placed on top of the geomembrane to convey leachate to collection pipes located in the center of the cell and along the base of the side slopes. Leachate collector pipes are provided with clean-outs located at the top of the cell sideslopes for periodic maintenance by flushing or jetting. The leachate collectors join at the west end of the MSW cell where leachate is conveyed through a completely enclosed flow measurement element in a leachate manhole and on into an adjacent sanitary sewer for disposal and treatment at the City of Spokane's Riverside Park Water Reclamation Facility.

4. Plants

a. Circle 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; wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other; water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other types of vegetation:

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

5. Animals

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site: birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds; other mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other; fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

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.

Does not apply.

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 feature are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

The WTE facility conserves energy by using solid waste as a fuel to generate electricity, reducing the use of other sources of energy.

7. Environmental Health

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 update to the Spokane County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan includes an update to the 1991 Spokane County Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan, and the used oil recycling element. The MRW Plan proposes a comprehensive program for household and business education and technical assistance, MRW collection, and disposal compliance. The System's three fixed facilities receive all types of HHW. Radioactive wastes (except smoke detectors) are excluded, along with explosives and critically unstable materials.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Trained staff operates the collection program. Emergency alarm systems are present at the facilities. If necessary, County fire and emergency services are available.

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

The facilities have Spill Prevention and control plans emergency response plans and health and safety programs.

b. Noise

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

Does not apply.

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.

Does not apply. Existing facilities comply with noise regulations.

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

Does not apply.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

Does not apply.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

Does not apply.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

9. Housing

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structures(s) not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

11. Lights and Glare

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

12. Recreation

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

Does not apply.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

14. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plan, if any.

Does not apply.

b. Is the site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

Does not apply.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

Does not apply.

d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If know, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

15. Public Services

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

16. Utilities

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

Does not apply.

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.

Does not apply.

C. SIGNATURE

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

Signature: _____

Print Name: Russell Menke

Director, Spokane Regional Solid Waste System

Date Submitted: _____

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NON PROJECT ACTIONS

(do not 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?**

   Implementation of the proposed plan will result in measures that will decrease discharges to the environment from solid waste activities. Refer to Table 14-1 in the Plan for a summary of the measures included in the Plan.

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

   Implementation of the Plan may result in improved quality of habitat for plants and animals in the county by reducing the potential for pollution to surface and ground water as a result of the proper management of solid waste.

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

   The Plan will result in energy generation and conservation of natural resources through the use of solid waste as a fuel in the WTE facility..

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, flood plains, or prime farmlands?**

   Implementation of the Plan will protect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for protection through measures that properly manage and dispose of solid waste.

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?**

   The Plan will not result in land and shoreline use that is incompatible with existing plans.

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

   No impacts anticipated.

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

The Spokane County Solid Waste Management Plan has been prepared in compliance with local and state laws and regulations governing solid waste management.