



DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE AND ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

Description of current proposal: A resolution approving and authorizing the execution of a Development Agreement between the City of La Center and the Cowlitz Indian Tribe for the funding, extension and provision of sanitary sewer service to the Cowlitz Reservation adjacent to the current city limits and approving project permits (a side sewer permit and permit for extraterritorial extension of sewer service).

Proponent: City of La Center

Location of current proposal: Sections 3-5, 8-10, Township 4N, Range 1E, WM.

Title of documents being adopted: *Final Environmental Impact Statement, La Center Comprehensive Plan Amendment (2006)*, Smedes & Associates; *Final Environmental Impact Statement, Cowlitz Indian Tribe Trust Acquisition and Casino Project (2008)*, Analytical Environmental Services.

Agency that prepared documents being adopted: City of La Center; U.S. Dept. of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Date adopted documents were prepared: December 19, 2006; May 29, 2008.

Description of documents (or portion) being adopted: The City's 2006 SEPA EIS analyzes the impacts of amendment of the City's Comprehensive Plan and expansion of the City's Urban Growth Area to extend the City limits to the I-5 Junction, including the impacts of extending sewer and other urban services to the annexed area. The U.S. Department of Interior's 2008 NEPA Final EIS analyzes the impacts of development of the proposed Cowlitz Indian Tribe reservation, including a casino project on land addressed and included in the City's 2006 SEPA EIS.

If the documents being adopted have been challenged (WAC 197-11-630), please describe: The City's 2006 SEPA EIS was not challenged, and it is now beyond appeal and final. The federal NEPA Final EIS for the Cowlitz fee-to-trust decision and reservation development was challenged by two lawsuits filed in United States District Court for the District of Columbia, and both appeals are still pending. See *Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde Community of Oregon v. Salazar, et al*, Case No. 1:11-cv-00284 and *Clark County Washington, et al v. U.S. Dept of Interior, et al*, Case No. 1:11-cv-00278-RWR.

The document is available to be read at (place/time): Copies of both adopted documents may be inspected and reviewed at La Center City Hall (214 East 4th Street in La Center) during regular business hours. Copies may be obtained for a reasonable cost. Electronic copies are available at: http://www.ci.lacenter.wa.us/pdfs/DS_EIS_Cowlitz.pdf and http://www.cowlitzeis.com/documents/final_eis/report.htm

EIS REQUIRED. The lead agency has determined this proposal is likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment. To meet the requirements of RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c), the lead agency is adopting the documents described above. Under WAC 197-11-360, there will be no scoping process for this EIS.


We have identified and adopted these documents as being appropriate for this proposal after independent review. The documents meet our environmental review needs for the current proposal and will accompany the proposal to the decision-maker.

Name of agency adopting document: City of La Center

Contact person: Dale Miller, City Planner, (360) 263-2484

Responsible official: James T. Irish, Mayor, (360) 263-2782

Address: 214 E 4th Street, La Center, WA 98629

Signature:  _____ **Date:** 11/30/2011