



CITY OF SUMNER
1104 Maple Street, Suite 250
Sumner, Washington 98390-1423
253.299.5523 • Fax: 253.299.5539

Community Development Department

October 27, 2009

RE: REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT & ISSUANCE OF A DNS

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Enclosed is a copy of an annotated environmental checklist associated with the following project:

Description of proposal: Water System Plan for the City of Sumner that recommends capital improvements, hydro-geologic studies, operation and maintenance projects, and operation and maintenance program implementation necessary to provide clean, safe, and reliable water supply to City residents and water service area customers.

Site Location: City of Sumner – Sumner, WA 98390

Proponent: Bill Pugh
City of Sumner
1104 Maple Street
Sumner, WA 98390

SEPA: DNS issued

For checklist and other documentation go to:
http://www.ci.sumner.wa.us/Government/SEPA_Plans.htm

Please review and provide comments on the project by November 12, 2009.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at 253.299.5526 or ericm@ci.sumner.wa.us. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Eric Mendenhall
Associate Planner

Cc: File No. PLN 2009-00051



CITY OF SUMNER
1104 Maple Street, Suite 250
Sumner, Washington 98390-1423
253.299.5530 • Fax: 253.299.5509

Community Development Department

DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal: Water System Plan for the City of Sumner that recommends capital improvements, hydro-geologic studies, operation and maintenance projects, and operation and maintenance program implementation necessary to provide clean, safe, and reliable water supply to City residents and water service area customers.

Proponent: Bill Pugh
City of Sumner
1104 Maple Street
Sumner, WA 98390

Project Number: PLN 2009-00051

Location of Proposal: Sumner, WA 98390

Lead Agency: City of Sumner

For checklist and other documentation go to: http://www.ci.sumner.wa.us/Government/SEPA_Plans.htm

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

There is no comment period for this DNS.

This DNS is issued after using the optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355. There is no further comment period on the DNS.

This DNS is issued under 197-11-340 (2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below.

Responsible Official: Paul Rogerson

Position/Title: Community Development Director

Phone: (253) 299-5520

Address: 1104 Maple Street Suite 250, Sumner, WA 98390

Date: October 27, 2009

Signature: 
Paul Rogerson

Published: October 29, 2009

**SEPA
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

City of Sumner Water System Plan

2. Name of applicant:

City of Sumner, Public Works Department

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

*Bill Pugh, Public Works Director
City of Sumner
1104 Maple Street
Sumner, WA 98390
Telephone: 253-299-5701*



4. Date checklist prepared:

October 6, 2009

5. Agency requesting checklist:

*Washington State Department of Health
City of Sumner*

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

Adoption by City Council: November 16, 2009

Plan Implementation: Outlined in the 20-Year Capital Improvement Implementation Schedule

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

Yes. Projects will be funded and constructed in accordance with the Water System Plan. Distribution, source, storage, and operations and maintenance improvements are discussed in Chapter 8 of the Water System Plan. Capital improvement and operation and maintenance program/improvement scheduling is shown in Table 8-1 of the Water System Plan. The Water System Plan will be updated in 6 years as required by the Washington State Department of Health.

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

No environmental information has been prepared to date. Environmental information will be developed and compiled during design and construction of each individual project as required by Sumner Municipal Code.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**1. Earth**

- a. General description of the site (circle one): flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other.

The valley floor is flat with slopes ranging from 0 to 5 percent. Hillside slopes to the east and west vary from 20 to 10 percent.

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

Approximately 100 percent on the east and west slopes.

- 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.

The valley floor is primarily made up of Puyallup, Sultan, Puget, Snohomish, and Briscott soil types. These soils are somewhat poorly draining alluvial deposits. These soils are well suited for agriculture.

The hillside(s) and upland soils are predominantly of the Alderwood series. These soils are moderately draining, and are located on slopes ranging from 20 to 70 percent. Everett, Kapowsin, and Kitsap soil types are also present in the upland areas. These soils range from poorly to excessively draining.

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

Evidence of past slides can be seen on the hillsides above East and West Valley Highways. Both the east and west hillsides have a history of unstable soils. There is one project proposed on the west hillside, installation of a 2-million-gallon reservoir west of West Valley Highway, which may be affected by the unsuitable soils.

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

New water lines may be backfilled with either native or imported fill material, depending on the location of the installation (approximately 1 cubic yard per linear foot of pipe installed). The proposed 2-million-gallon reservoir on the west hill will require an undetermined amount of cut and fill during construction.

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

The potential for erosion during the 2-million-gallon reservoir construction on the west hill is high. Requirements related to controlling surface water flows and stabilizing denuded areas would be established during the reservoir design. The potential for erosion from construction projects proposed on the valley floor is minimal due to shallow slopes.

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

An undetermined amount of impervious area would be created during the construction of the 2-million-gallon reservoir on the west hill in the form of access roads, parking areas, an operations building, and the reservoir itself. An undetermined amount of new impervious surface will be created during the improvements to the new and existing wells by construction of new operations buildings.

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

Best management practices described in the stormwater control manual as adopted by the Sumner Municipal Code will be implemented to control erosion and surface water impacts. Migration of silt from construction sites will be prevented by installing silt fencing, phased construction, terracing, and other best management practices. Disturbance of ground will be minimized to minimize erosion potential. Disturbed areas will be stabilized during construction and will be revegetated as soon as possible after construction activities are complete.

2. Air

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

Petroleum fumes and dust from construction equipment will be emitted during construction activities. There will not be any emissions from completed projects.

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

None.

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

Slashing and burning cleared vegetation will be prohibited. Fugitive dust will be controlled by implementing best management practices such as sprinkler trucks, jute matting, and hydroseeding.

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.

Major surface water bodies in the project area include the Puyallup River, the White River, Salmon Creek, Van Ogles Creek, and Milwaukee Ditch. Van Ogles Creek is tributary to the Puyallup River. Salmon Creek and Milwaukee Ditch are tributary to the White River. Wetlands are interspersed throughout the service area.

- 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.

Yes, rivers and creeks will be crossed by proposed conveyance extension projects. A majority of the river and creek crossings will be overhead crossings at existing bridges. One proposed conveyance extension project will require jacking and boring under the White River.

- 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 what would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

There is no anticipated dredging or filling from surface waters. Disturbance to wetlands as a result of improvement construction will be mitigated per the applicable regulations.

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

No surface water withdrawals are anticipated.

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

Some conveyance extension projects lie within the 100-year flood plain. All transitional main river and creek crossings will be constructed above the 100-year flood elevation.

- 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.

None anticipated.

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.

The City of Sumner currently withdraws, on average, approximately 1.4 million gallons per day for domestic water use. Source improvement projects proposed in the Water System Plan will increase the capacity of several existing sources and introduce additional sources. No water will be discharged to groundwater. It is anticipated that minimal dewatering will be required during improvement construction activities.

- 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.

None anticipated.

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.

Stormwater from construction sites will be controlled to prevent erosion and fines migration off site. Runoff from impervious areas created as a result of improvement construction will be controlled as required by the Sumner Municipal Code.

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

Suspended solids may be discharged to surface waters during construction activities.

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

Erosion and sedimentation control best management practices will be implemented and maintained. Erosion and sedimentation control measures will be per the stormwater manual adopted by the Sumner Municipal Code.

4. Plants

- a. Check or 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, mil foil, other
- Other types of vegetation

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

Some clearing of forested areas is anticipated for construction of the 2-million-gallon reservoir proposed on the west hill. Clearing and grubbing of native and second-growth forest, grasslands, and urban landscaping is anticipated for installation of the distribution main.

- c. List threatened or 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.

Deforested areas will be replaced with Douglas fir, cedar, and other native species as allowed per the design. Landscaping vegetation will be replaced in kind. Wetlands will be revegetated with species suitable for Western Washington wetland habitat.

5. Animals

- a. Circle any birds and animals that 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: rodents _____

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

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

Salmon species.

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

The Puyallup and White Rivers are a migration route for Pacific Northwest salmon species.

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

Disturbed areas will be restored to natural state to the extent practical.

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.

Electricity will be used to run well pumps, chlorination facilities, and telemetry equipment at completed projects.

- 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:

Telemetry controls will reduce the operational hours of pumps and other equipment to the number of hours necessary to satisfy potable water demands. Transmission mains will take advantage of gravity rather than relying on mechanical pumping.

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.

Chlorine storage and use on site at each potable water source. Chlorine could pose a health and safety risk if improperly handled or stored.

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

Chlorine spill cleanup may be required. Emergency treatment of the water supply(s) may be required in the event of contamination. Emergency Response and Contingency Plans are provided in an appendix of the Water System Plan.

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

Chlorine facilities will be checked daily. Respirators and protective clothing will be available at each site in case of chlorine spills/leaks.

- b. Noise

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

Construction equipment during improvement construction.

- 2) What types and levels of noise could 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.

Noise levels at the improvement sites will be elevated during construction activities. Construction activities will occur between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on holidays.

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

Construction equipment operational noise will be confined to normal working hours. No long-term noise increases are anticipated at the completed improvement sites.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?
General land-use classifications within the Water Service Area include residential, commercial, industrial, civil/parks, and agricultural.
- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.
Yes, various sites within the Water Service Area are utilized for agricultural purposes, including turf and rhubarb.
- c. Describe any structures on the site.
Various residential, commercial, industrial, and civil buildings exist within the Water Service Area.
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?
None anticipated.
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
Current zoning is described in the Sumner Comprehensive Plan (on file at the City of Sumner Public Works Department and on the City's website [<http://www.ci.sumner.wa.us/>]).
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
Current land use designations within the Water Service Area are described in the Sumner Comprehensive Plan (on file at the City of Sumner Public Works Department and on the City's website [<http://www.ci.sumner.wa.us/>]).
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
Urban, Conservancy, and Natural.
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.
Wetlands, steep slopes, and flood plains are located within the Sumner Water Service Area. These areas are shown and described in the Sumner Comprehensive Plan (on file at the City of Sumner Public Works Department).

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

One to two additional full-time employees will be required to fully implement the ongoing and proposed operation and maintenance programs and to operate the existing and proposed potable water infrastructure in the six-year planning period.

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

None anticipated.

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

Distribution main replacement and extension projects will be completed in existing right-of-way whenever possible. All source improvements will be completed on City-owned property. Wetlands, steep slopes, and flood plains will be minimally disturbed. Natural vegetation will be maintained as much as practicable, and disturbed areas will be revegetated with native species as much as practicable.

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

The Growth Management Act requires concurrence of plans. The Water System Plan was developed to coincide with the recommendations and land-use projections specified in the City of Sumner and Pierce County Comprehensive Plans.

9. Housing

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

None anticipated.

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

None anticipated.

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

Proposed facilities will be located in existing right-of-way or City-owned property as much as possible.

10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas? What is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

The proposed 2-million-gallon reservoir is expected to be no more than 40 feet high. The tank will be constructed of steel or concrete. Control buildings for new and improved well sites are anticipated to be constructed with concrete masonry units. Control buildings are expected to be no more than 20 feet high.

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

None anticipated.

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

New structures will be painted or finished to blend into the surroundings. Landscaping will be installed at each site as required by Sumner Municipal Code.

11. Light and Glare

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

The proposed 2-million-gallon reservoir and well-control buildings are expected to have site lighting to discourage vandalism. Lighting will probably be activated during evening, night, and early morning hours.

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

Not anticipated.

- 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:

Site lighting will be shielded and focused to on-site areas.

12. Recreation

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

Current recreational opportunities are inventoried in the Summer Parks and Recreation Plan. Recreational opportunities include fishing, hunting, golfing, hiking, biking, rafting, canoeing, and playgrounds.

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

None anticipated.

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

None.

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.

There are several historic homes within the Water Service Area.

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

The Muckleshoot and Puyallup Indian Tribes place great cultural significance on the fishery resource provided by the White and Puyallup Rivers, and tributaries thereof.

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

In the event any archeologically significant artifacts are found during construction of the proposed improvements, all work will be suspended until an investigation and evaluation of the site can be completed by archeologists to ensure that artifacts are protected and preserved. Fisheries impacts will be avoided whenever possible.

14. Transportation

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

Major highways located within the Water Service Area include SR 167, SR 410, SR 162, East Valley Highway, and West Valley Highway. Arterials and neighborhood streets are shown on maps presented in the Water System Plan.

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

The City of Sumner is served by Pierce Transit.

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

Parking will be provided for City vehicles at the 2-million-gallon reservoir and new/improved well sites. No additional public parking spaces will be created by the improvement projects. It is not anticipated that public parking spaces will be eliminated by the proposed improvement projects.

- 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).

Access roads to new facilities will be constructed. Installation of improvements within existing right-of-way will likely require that the existing roads within the right-of-way be disturbed. Therefore, existing roads within construction sites will be resurfaced to preconstruction conditions.

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

One proposed distribution main extension project will require that a water main be jacked and bored under the BNSF railroad tracks paralleling East Valley Highway.

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

None anticipated after project completion.

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

None.

15. Public Services

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

Completion of the proposed projects will increase the City water system operation and maintenance responsibilities. Completion of the proposed projects will increase the quality and availability of public services (related to potable water).

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

Appropriate rates and system development charges will be assessed to fund the ongoing maintenance and operation and capital expenditures of the facility improvements.

16. Utilities

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

The Water Service Area encompasses the incorporated Sumner City limits and beyond. All of the above-mentioned utilities are available within the Water Service Area.

- 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.

Electrical for 2-million-gallon reservoir and new/improved well sites. Electrical service will be provided by Puget Sound Energy. Stormwater control facilities will be constructed at each new and improved facility as required by the Sumner Municipal Code. The City of Sumner will manage the stormwater facilities.

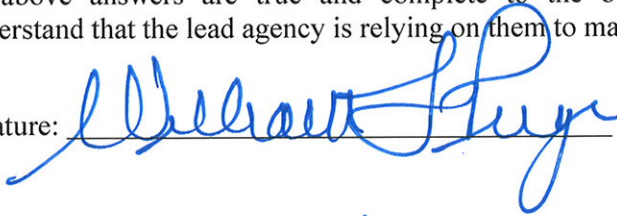
TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR
AGENCY USE ONLY

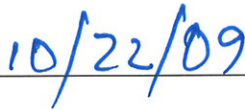
SIGNATURE

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: _____

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William P. [unclear]", written over a horizontal line.

Date Submitted: _____

A handwritten date "10/22/09" in blue ink, written over a horizontal line.

C. 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 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?

The proposed improvements will likely increase dust and petroleum emissions during construction activities. Noise levels at improvement sites will increase during construction. There is a potential for chlorine spills if the chemical is handled or stored incorrectly.

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

Some temporary impacts may occur as a result of construction activities. Construction activities will temporarily remove or displace native vegetation and wildlife.

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

The 2-million-gallon reservoir and new/improved well sites will consume electricity. Existing and proposed wells are or will be completed in a deep, confined aquifer that does not directly provide recharge to surface water bodies. Improvements proposed for the existing spring sources located on the east hill will capture spring water prior to it becoming surface water runoff down the slopes on the east hill.

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?

Environmentally sensitive areas may be temporarily disturbed during construction of facility improvements. Completed improvements will not adversely affect environmentally sensitive areas.

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 Water System Plan is compatible with the Sumner Comprehensive Plan and all City and County zoning ordinances. Construction of the improvements proposed in the Water System Plan will not affect land and shoreline use.

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

Hiring two new full-time employees over the next six years will likely increase ADT counts by four each day. Water and sewer utilities will see an increase commensurate with the addition of two full-time employees.

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

The Water System Plan is compatible with the Sumner Comprehensive Plan, Sumner Sewer System Plan, Sumner Stormwater Plan, and all applicable Sumner ordinances and codes. It is not anticipated that the proposed improvements will conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.