

**FREELAND WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT
DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)**

Application Type: This DNS applies to the implementation of the Preliminary Engineering Report and amendment to the Comprehensive Sewer Plan and is a Nonproject action.	Applicant: FREELAND WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT
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Location: The project site is located in Island County in the unincorporated city of Freeland (designated Non-Municipal Urban Growth Area); located on the southern end of Whidbey Island.
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Sewer Collection and Treatment System Project

Description of Proposal: The District is proposing to design and construct a new sewage collection, conveyance, treatment, and reclamation system to serve the community of Freeland. Due to its population growth and urban characteristics, Island County designated Freeland as a Non-Municipal Urban Growth Area (NMUGA) in 2007. The residences and businesses in the Freeland NMUGA are currently largely served by on-site septic systems (the Holmes Harbor Sewer District and the Main Street Sewer District serve a portion of the NMUGA). With the NMUGA designation, county population growth must be managed to meet the requirements of the Growth Management Act, providing urban-level services to urban growth areas.

The project proposes to implement wastewater collection and treatment services in conformance with the approved *Freeland Comprehensive Sewer Plan and Engineering Report/Facility Plan* (Tetra Tech, 2005) and the *Freeland Sub Area Plan* (Island County 2007). The *Preliminary Engineering Report* being prepared for the project (Tetra Tech, July 2010) will amend the currently adopted Comprehensive Sewer Plan. The *Preliminary Engineering Report* provides refinement of the preferred alternative adopted as part of the *Comprehensive Sewer Plan*; general plan elements remain unchanged. The project complies with the Growth Management Act by providing the infrastructure necessary to sustain the urban levels of growth within the Freeland NMUGA concurrent with the development.

The future project components include:

1. Wastewater Collection System: developing a STEP pressurized sewer system.
2. Effluent Reuse: land application and groundwater recharge by surface percolation and application to vegetation through sprinklers or an equivalent technology.
3. Wastewater Treatment: Membrane bioreactor (MBR) system (produces reliable Class A reclaimed water).
4. Disinfection: Ultraviolet (UV) with chlorine addition.

Solids Handling and Reuse: Solids will be decanted and/or temporarily stored on-site. Solids and/or decanted solids will be hauled off-site for treatment and re-use.

Lead Agency: Freeland Water and Sewer District

Threshold Determination: Determination of Non-Significance. (Non-project Action)	
Date of Issuance:	July 14, 2010
Comment Deadline:	July 28, 2010

These conclusions were made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information as referenced in the SEPA checklist.

- There is no comment period for this DNS.
- This DNS is issued under 197-11-350 RCW and the SEPA Procedures adopted by the Freeland Water and Sewer District; the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date shown below. Comments must be submitted by **5 P.M. July 28, 2010**.

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it will not have a probable significant adverse impact (including cumulative impacts) on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.020(2)(c).

The decision will become final at the expiration of the comment period. Pursuant to the procedures adopted by the Freeland Water and Sewer District, no administrative appeal of the SEPA threshold determination is provided. The SEPA threshold determination may be appealed to the Island County Superior Court under RCW 43.21.C.075. Comments should be addressed to the Freeland Water and Sewer District – Attention Responsible Official and at P.O. Box 222/ 5492 S. Harbor Ave., Freeland, WA 98249, within 14 days of issuance of the SEPA determination – **July 14, 2010**.