

Date: 7/12/2023

Proponent: Cedar Grove Composting

Project, Brief Title: NOC- Permit Modification Request

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

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.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." in addition, complete the supplemental sheet for nonproject actions (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. Background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Cedar Grove Composting, Inc.

Maple Valley Facility

2. Name of applicant:

Cedar Grove Composting, Inc.

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

Cedar Grove Composting, Inc.

Ron Westmoreland, Director of Compliance

7343 East Marginal Way South

Seattle, WA 98108

Phone: 206-832-3000 Fax: 206-832-3030

4. Date checklist prepared:

7/12/2023 Revised

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Puget Sound Clean Air Agency

Public Health Seattle-King County

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

Facility could implement after permit issue within 3 months.

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

No

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

See Attachment

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.

Public Health Solid Waste Permit and Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Permit

Anaerobic Digester-Pending

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

Notice of Construction Application Approval, Form P from Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
Permit Modification Request

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.)

Cedar Grove Composting, Inc. currently operates this composting facility located at 17825 Cedar Grove Rd. SE, Maple Valley, WA 98038. Modify Existing permit requirements regarding Building Ventilation System Evaluation and Smoke Test Procedures and frequency of testing.

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.

17825 Cedar Grove Rd. SE

Maple Valley, WA 98030

Assessors parcel number 282306-9009-07

King County

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

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

.....

Flat

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

2%

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)?

Glacial till.

If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

No farmland.

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

No. In twenty years of operations at this location no unusual ground shifting has been noted in the area of the impervious surface that underlies the compost facility. There have been no indications of unstable soils during the last twenty years.

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

N/A -No grading required.

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

N/A -No grading required.

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

There will be no change in the location or amount of impervious surfaces covered as a result of this project.

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

No soil construction will occur.

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 no increase in emissions of criteria, toxic, or hazardous air pollutants due to the proposed modifications. The proposed project should result in a decrease in odor emissions from the Tipping building.

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

No off-site sources of emissions or odor should affect the proposal. There are other odor sources in the vicinity, however, including:

Cedar Hills Landfill- located to the north.

Sunset Materials- located to the west/northwest.

Pacific Topsoil- located to the south.

Pacific Pipeline- located to the east.

Residents in the area also produce a variety of odors from hobby farms, home compost piles and septic systems.

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

As indicated in Section 2a above, this project is expected to result in a net decrease in odor potential from the existing Tipping building. Installation of the proposed curtain misting system at the entrance doors to the tipping and receiving building including the use of approved surfactant have demonstrated odor reduction capabilities. These type of systems have been used industry wide for the control of odors and air at surface openings where access must be maintained to the structure or device.

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.**

Storm overflow not handled by the existing retention pond system and permitted discharges into the Metro/King County treatment system, is permitted under NPDS Industrial Stormwater Permit.

- 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 construction will occur.

- 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.**

N/A

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

No

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

No

- 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.**

No

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.
No changes.
- 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 changes.

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.

Onsite stormwater retention ponds see NPDES Stormwater Permit and Metro King County Discharge permit. No changes.

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

No, the surface is impervious and drains to onsite retention ponds.

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

See NPDES Stormwater Permit

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, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

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

None

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

None

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

None

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:

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

None.

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

No.

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

None

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.

This project will not change or increase electricity demand for the site.

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:

None

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.**

None

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None

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

None

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

Traffic and equipment operations.

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.

Existing Noise:

7:00 am to 10:00 pm- Feedstock and Compost handling machinery

Air handling and biofilters equipment (fans) run continuously.

While managing the digester system won't necessarily occur 7 days a week, the digester will operate on an automated system 24 hours a day, 7 days per week, similar to the existing Gore fan system.

Traffic 7:00 am to 7:00 pm

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

Since the noise assessment study completed in 1990 the following equipment has been added that has reduced noise from the facility:

Belted conveying systems reduce onsite material movement noise replacing the use of material handling vehicles.

Sound enclosures for all air handling equipment.

Noise survey 2015 continues to show the facility is within the rural standard.

Grinding and mixing is primarily performed indoors at the Tipping and Grinding buildings.

The proposed Curtain misting system located at the main entrance doors of the Tipping building will have no impact to historical noise levels and may even provide some degree of reduction due to water

barrier. Because doors are typically open during operations for both receiving material and mixing/grinding activities with no noise barrier or suppression, no impact to noise is anticipated.

8. Land and Shoreline use

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

North- Landfill

South- Gravel quarry (mineral resource)

East- R-5

West- Forestry

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

Hog farm was one of the past uses and was outlined in the original environmental checklist submitted to King County.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Office buildings, air emission control buildings, finished product storage, bagging operations.

Three portable tanks and portable CHP housing will be added.

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

No

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

Mineral Resources (Quarry-Mining)

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

Mineral resources.

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

N/A

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

No

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

35, same as now.

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

None

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

N/A

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

No changes in plan of operations.

9. Housing

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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?

N/A

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

None

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

N/A

11. Light and glare

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

The existing facility operates between 7:00 am and 10:00 pm. Environmental control systems run continuously. Portable lights are used where required for these activities which are screened by surrounding forests from the surrounding communities. This project has no effect on the hours of operation, nor will additional lighting be used.

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

Light and glare will not change based upon the zone modification.

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:

N/A

12. Recreation

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

None

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

No

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

N/A

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.

None

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

None

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

N/A

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.

Public Street is Cedar Grove Road.

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

No. 2 miles to nearest public transit.

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

30 spaces, no spaces eliminated.

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).**

No

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

No

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

No changes.

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

Road to the site was paved in 1999.

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.**

No

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

None

16. Utilities

a. **Indicate utilities currently available at the site:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	electricity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	telephone
<input type="checkbox"/>	natural gas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	sanitary sewer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	septic system
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	refuse service	<input type="checkbox"/>	other (specify):

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.**

No additions.

C. 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: *R.E. Westmoreland*

Date Submitted: 7/12/2023