



PW00002001



Snohomish County

Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan



PREPARED BY

— SNOHOMISH COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS —
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

REVISED JANUARY 2004

Introduction to the 2004 Edition

This Plan was originally published in 2001. In 2002 it was reissued, the only changes being editorial in nature. This 2003 version includes editorial changes, and adds a short section on closed landfills. It also brings the Plan up to date. It does not include any changes in direction- it is not a "major revision " as defined in section - of the Plan.

Several significant changes have occurred since 2001. At that time there was uncertainty regarding solid waste facilities. Both the Everett and Southwest Recycling and Transfer Stations were old and technologically obsolescent, and needed to be replaced. In addition, there was uncertainty regarding the long-term relationship between the City of Everett and the County solid waste system. There had been conflicts between the City and the system, and it was unclear whether the City would remain part of the system after 2013. The 2001 Plan discussed these uncertainties, and associated options, in detail.

Since 2001 both of these issues have been resolved. The Everett Recycling and Transfer Station has been replaced by the Airport Road Recycling and Transfer Station. The old transfer station will be demolished by the end of 2004, and the land returned to the City of Everett for development as it sees fit. The Southwest Recycling and Transfer Station is currently being completely rebuilt as state-of-the art facility. With the completion of these two stations the system has enough waste handling capacity for the next 20 years, although rapid population growth in east county requires an analysis of how to best service that area.

Equally important, conflicts between the City of Everett and the system have been addressed. The County and all of the cities and towns, including Everett, are currently adopting new Interlocal Agreements defining the relationship between the parties regarding solid waste management. These Agreements will maintain the unity and coherency of the County solid waste management system through 2023. The effectiveness and efficiency of system operation can be maintained by having a single system rather than two competing systems.

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What This Plan Covers

This Plan is intended to help protect and preserve human health, environmental quality, and natural resources by guiding solid and moderate risk waste efforts and decisions in Snohomish County between 1999 and 2005, and influencing them further into the future. The Plan does not detail the solid waste related activities which will be undertaken by local government, but instead discusses the types of activities necessary if solid waste generated within the county is to be managed in a safe and economical manner. This document is divided into four sections:

Section

- 1** Introduction
- 2** Six-Year Plan which describes what is to be accomplished between 1999 and 2005
- 3** Twenty-Year Plan which presents the mission and goals for solid waste management within the county
- 4** Background section

Throughout this Plan the term “the system” is used to denote the Snohomish County Solid Waste Management System. The system refers to a number of integrated solid waste management facilities and activities undertaken by the Snohomish County Public Works Department, Solid Waste Management Division, and financed by a self-supporting enterprise fund. The facilities are operated and activities undertaken in order to fulfill the responsibilities delegated to Snohomish County under Washington law, the mutual responsibilities assumed by the County and its 19 cities and towns under the terms of their interlocal agreements, and the responsibilities arising from this Plan.

Things Change

The first section of this document discusses why governmental solid waste management has changed considerably in the last decade, particularly in Snohomish County. Such changes demand flexibility on the part of this Plan and the system, particularly in relation to:

- funding—the system must be concerned with the long-term financial stability of its solid waste management operations;
- increased regional and interagency cooperation—solutions to solid waste related problems are often more effective, and sometimes only effective, if implemented on a regional, multi-county basis, or multi-agency basis;

- recognition of the role of the private sector—those system functions which are uniquely governmental responsibilities need to be defined, and other programs may, in certain circumstances, be advantageously delegated to the private sector;
- regulatory environment—programs must be designed and managed with consideration of how the economic system will respond, and take into account that voluntary self compliance on the part of business people will often be in their own self-interest;
- functions and organizational structure of the system—these have changed over time, and are likely to do so in the future.

System waste management activities are currently organized around two separate plans: the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, and the Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan (MRW Plan). The MRW Plan covers household hazardous waste as well as hazardous waste generated in small quantities by businesses. This Comprehensive Plan is intended to begin the consolidation of the two plans. As with the case of earlier comprehensive plan updates, this Plan is meant to update the 1993 MRW Plan, but not to replace it.

Mission Statement

A mission for solid waste management activities in Snohomish county was developed early in the development of this update. This mission is:

To protect people, the environment, and natural resources by preventing, reducing, and solving problems associated with Snohomish county solid and moderate risk wastes.

Goals

Based on this mission, the following goals were developed:

- 1** To reduce, or prevent where possible, the generation of solid and moderate risk wastes and their associated problems through service-oriented, cost-effective actions where prevention or reduction will protect human health, safety and environmental quality.
- 2** To solve problems related to solid and moderate risk waste through service-oriented actions that protect human health and safety, and environmental quality.
- 3** To provide necessary support for the other two goals using service-oriented, cost-effective actions.

Plan Organization

The Twenty-Year Plan, presented in the third section of this document, is a compilation of the tasks necessary to accomplish these three goals. The Six-Year Plan, presented in the second section, are those tasks which must be accomplished relatively quickly. The reason they must be accomplished more quickly is because they will help resolve an existing significant issue confronting the system.

Six-Year Plan

Early in the planning process, a considerable amount of time was spent identifying these significant issues. These issues and the tasks designed to resolve them are summarized below. All of these tasks will be undertaken within the first six years of this Plan's implementation.

- financial integrity of the system—the system has certain solid waste related obligations which must be fulfilled regardless of the amount of waste which comes to system facilities, or even if the existing system disappears or is fundamentally altered. To address this issue, the system will continue to strive for economic efficiency in its operations, and to formally assess long term financial obligations, issues, and possible solutions. The results of this assessment will be presented to SWAC and the County Council for their consideration.
- ongoing planning/public policy decision-making mechanism—this Plan must be kept current, which requires future decisions to be made in an intelligent and timely manner. An important component of this update was the development of a plan modification and revision mechanism. The mechanism permits deviating from the Six-Year Plan by dropping activities, or by undertaking activities from the Twenty-Year Plan after notification to SWAC, all cities and towns, and DOE, followed by a County Council vote.
- moderate risk wastes—the Snohomish County Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan left a number of important issues unresolved. Progress made in resolving these is discussed in this Plan and, where possible, future directions are outlined and future activities are described. In particular, the Six-Year Plan calls for the system and the Snohomish Health District to continue their cooperative efforts in education regarding pollution prevention and safe disposal. It intends for the District to continue its compliance activities, and for the system to continue its efforts to make it convenient and economical for residents and small quantity generators to dispose of moderate risk wastes.
- waste prevention—while the wisdom of recycling is generally accepted, it would be even more advantageous to, where practical, avoid producing waste in the first place. This Plan calls for continuing to develop and implement programs designed to prevent waste and pollution, largely in coordination with recycling and other programs.

- recycling—This Plan calls for a re-examination of the current 50 % recycling goal, but until that reexamination is complete, for the goal to remain at 50 % . In terms of programs necessary to meet the goal, several years ago the system undertook the Recycling Potential Assessment, which resulted in the design of a number of recycling programs and projects. There are two main thrusts to these programs: a continuation of system's existing educational efforts, and a series of coordinated programs designed to optimize private sector recycling efforts. The precise mix of programs and projects, which will be undertaken, will depend on the re-evaluation of the recycling goal.
- solid waste system capacity—When the 2001 edition of this Plan was published, there was considerable uncertainty concerning what future facilities would exist, and where they would be located. That edition contained extensive discussion and analysis on shortfalls in system capacity, and options to deal with this shortfall. Since 2001 the Airport Road Recycling and Transfer Station has been built to replace the Everett Recycling and Transfer Station, and the Southwest Station is in the process of being rebuilt, with opening scheduled for fall 2004. Each of these stations has far more capacity than the stations they replaced, and as a result the system is expected to have enough capacity for the next 20 years.

One question which still needs to be addressed is the status of the Temporary Transfer and Recycling Station. That station has served as a temporary replacement while other facilities are closed temporarily. While serving in this capacity minimal external impacts have been observed.

The eastern portion of the County has and is expected to continue to see relatively rapid population growth. While the two new stations provide enough capacity to serve this population, the inconvenience and cost of having to travel to those facilities could be significant. As a result, the system will have to decide how to best serve this area, and the permanent use of TRTS will be one option examined. Proper permits would be acquired and extensive public involvement and input sought prior to any change in the present status of TRTS, or any construction of new facilities.

While not encouraging the privatization of new or existing facilities, this Plan recognizes that privatization may occur, and if in furtherance of system goals, may even be desirable. As a result, the Plan contains a policy regarding private solid waste handling facilities. The Plan presents the general purposes of the policy, and requires that a private facility be designed to further these goals before it is permitted. In addition, before a facility is permitted the owner and/or operator of the facility must negotiate a contract, and the required elements of this contract are described in the Plan.

The Plan recognizes that additional MRW, recyclable, and solid waste transfer capabilities will be necessary. The Plan commits the system to develop and implement planning processes to address these needs, and further commits that these processes will include public involvement and environmental assessment elements, and consideration of the proposed facility's impact upon waste prevention and recycling activities.

- illegal dumping/other enforcement issues—the questions of how much regulation there should be, who will adopt the regulations, and who will enforce the regulations, need to be addressed. This Plan represents a departure from prior plans in that the system commits to working with other agencies and jurisdictions to address the illegal dumping issue, possibly in a leadership role, by initially working together to assess roles and responsibilities.

This Plan identifies several issues, which do not have “stand alone” solutions, but rather will be solved by activities associated with other issues identified in this Plan. For instance, when the system assesses waste generation patterns to plan for additional solid waste handling capacity, it should also examine the need for and ability to site related waste and recyclable facilities. The following are the issues, which lack “stand alone” solutions:

- identifying the need for and siting disposal/recycling facilities—as with the case of many essential public facilities, some means of ensuring that necessary facilities can be built is essential.
- special wastes—opportunities for disposing wastes which require special handling and/or disposal, because of their hazardous nature, or their physical qualities, must be available.
- content of disposed material—there are still things being disposed of with solid waste which shouldn't, such as household and small quantity generator moderate risk wastes, and recyclables.
- waste import/ regional implications—the current County law which prohibits out-of-county waste from being disposed of at system facilities needs reexamination in light of increased need for regionwide cooperation and planning.

Finally, in addition to the activities designed to resolve a particular issue, some activities called for in the Six-Year Plan support the resolution of all issues, or are basic to accomplishing the mission of the system. These activities include compliance and environmental protection activities undertaken by the Snohomish Health District as well as by the system, communicating and coordination with appropriate parties, collecting and analyzing necessary data, and evaluating the system's activities in order to improve them.

Plan Sections

Section 1 Introduction

Section 2 Planning Issues

Section 3 The Twenty-Year Plan

Section 4 Planning Background

Appendices

A. SEPA Compliance

B. Pertinent Planning Materials
1989 Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan
1993 MRW Plan

C. Snohomish County Code;
Pertinent Sections

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Introduction



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The Plan's Purpose

This Plan is intended to help protect and preserve human health, environmental quality, and natural resources. It is expected to do this by guiding the system's solid and moderate risk waste efforts and decisions between 1999 and 2005, and influence them further into the future. In addition, the Plan serves to communicate with those who are interested and concerned with such efforts and decisions. Finally, this Plan can be used by the county's solid waste private sector in planning its own activities.

Unlike many municipal solid waste management plans, this one does not detail the solid waste related activities which will be undertaken by local government. Where detailed programs are provided such descriptions are illustrative of the types of activities which will be undertaken in pursuit of the plan's mission, goals, and objectives.

Instead of describing programs in detail, this Plan discusses the types of activities necessary if solid waste generated within the county is to be managed in a safe and economical manner. Some of these activities will be undertaken by government, while others will be undertaken by private enterprise.

This Plan differs from others for two reasons. First, the roles of players in the solid waste field are no longer as clearly defined as they were in the past. This is likely to continue, and results from the fact that many areas of solid waste management are becoming increasingly profitable.

At one time collecting waste was often profitable, but its handling and ultimate disposal were generally not. Since handling and ultimate disposal were necessary but not profitable, they were the province of government. In recent years disposal, and sometimes handling, have become increasingly profitable. As a result, there are increasing economic and political pressures to permit private enterprise to make profits from handling and disposal.

These pressures have sometimes altered the legal environment within which governmental solid waste management operates. For instance, it has been traditionally accepted, and numerous governmental solid waste management programs were developed upon the assumption that governments were able by a variety of means, including by ordinance and regulation, to exercise "flow control"; that is, to designate the destination of solid waste generated within their jurisdiction. This assumption's validity has been challenged in a number of instances since 1994, when the Supreme Court decided the case of *Carbone v. Town of Clarkstown* (128 L Ed 2d 399). Moreover, Congressional action in response to the Supreme Court decision has not yet clarified the issue.

The other reason why this Plan differs from most is because the nature of governmental solid waste management programs has dramatically changed, and the means of funding them in the future is less certain. A decade ago such programs consisted largely of transporting and disposing of solid waste. Today these activities still comprise a significant portion of the average solid waste program's budget, but in addition the program will often include waste prevention, recycling, moderate risk waste, and closed landfill monitoring elements. In the past these activities were paid for with revenues derived from solid waste disposal (tip fees), but with government's flow control authority under challenge, such revenues could decrease, and program funding becomes uncertain.

In light of these factors, this Plan is designed to account for the existing, and possibly even increased, role of the private sector in solid waste management. It does this by accepting and trying to work with the uncertain organizational environment and fluid nature of solid waste management over the next six years. Most plans are designed to operate within a known and fixed organizational environment, but this is not possible for solid waste management in Snohomish County at this time.

A word on terminology is appropriate when introducing this Plan. Throughout this Plan the term "the system" is used to denote the Snohomish County Solid Waste Management System. The system refers to a number of integrated solid waste management facilities and activities undertaken by the Snohomish County Public Works Department, Solid Waste Management Division, and financed by a self-supporting enterprise fund. The facilities are operated and activities undertaken in order to fulfill the responsibilities delegated to Snohomish County under Washington law, the mutual responsibilities assumed by the County and its 19 cities and towns under the terms of their interlocal agreements, and the responsibilities arising from this Plan.

The reader should be aware that when the term "the County" (upper case) is used, the term describes the government of Snohomish County. The term "the county" (lower case) is used to denote the geographical entity of Snohomish County.

How This Plan Is Organized

This Plan is divided into four sections:

Section 1 This is Section 1, the Introduction. It includes solid waste planning history and how this Plan relates to other relevant plans, including the system's Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan. Section 1 also presents

this Plan's mission and goals, how this Plan will be kept updated, and the jurisdictions involved in the planning process. It also introduces major planning issues within the existing solid waste management system.

Section 2 is the core of this Plan. It presents the major planning issues in greater detail, and describes the activities which will be implemented between 1999 and 2005 to resolve those planning issues. It explains the rationale for those activities, and discusses the range of activities which may be chosen to resolve a problem where a definitive solution can not currently be selected. Finally, it presents considerations likely to be central to choosing the preferred solution, when that solution can be selected. It is important to note that not all of the activities listed will necessarily be undertaken by the system. In some circumstances these activities may be undertaken by the private sector. What is important is that the activities occur. The system's responsibility is to ensure that activities are undertaken, not necessarily to undertake them itself.

Section 3 is the Twenty-Year Plan. It presents the mission and goals for solid waste management within the county, as well as the activities necessary to ensure that this mission is fulfilled and these goals met. Again, please note that not all of the activities shown will be implemented by the system.

Section 4 is the Background Section. It describes the environment within which the solid waste management system operates.

Planning Methodology

This Plan is presented in the order opposite from which it was developed. Section 4, Background, was developed first. The existing system and other relevant information were examined to discern important planning issues--the existing and future anticipated problems of the solid waste management system. Concurrently a mission and general goals were developed. These goals were then further detailed to present all actions necessary to fulfill the mission and accomplish the goals. That exhaustive list of actions was analyzed in light of the planning issues to develop Section 2, the Six-Year Plan, which lists the actions the system intends to undertake in pursuit of the goals over the next five years. These activities are more "urgent" because they will help resolve existing problems.

How We Got Where We Are

This is the fourth Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan the system has prepared. Each planning period represents a discrete chapter in the history of solid waste management in Snohomish county, and each has contributed to where we find ourselves today.

Until the early 1970's the County was involved exclusively in relatively unsophisticated solid waste disposal; the County managed five dumps and did nothing more. In the early 1970's the County acquired minimal solid waste management planning responsibilities as a result of a new state law, and produced its first Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan in 1974. This Plan was developed in conjunction with the cities and towns within the county, and recognized that open dumps were no longer an acceptable solid waste disposal method, and that public health and environmental concerns warranted a more rigorous approach. This is when "the system" was formed, the County set up a separate Solid Waste Management Division within its Department of Public Works, and moved from financing solid waste related expenses with general revenues to financing them with a self supporting enterprise fund.

Between 1974 and 1980 the system became more sophisticated in its approach to solid waste disposal. The system closed three of its five dumps, developed and managed the Cathcart Sanitary Landfill (a state of the art landfill for that time), and designed and operated its transfer system consisting of two transfer stations and five drop boxes. The system also began environmental compliance at the three closed and two still open dumps, as well as at the Landfill, examined the feasibility of waste-to-energy, and, again working with the cities and towns, developed the second Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

The 1980's saw the system expand its solid waste management activities to include more than disposal, at least partially as a result of increased state and federal requirements. During this period the system closed its remaining dumps, examined the feasibility of waste export and of a wood waste landfill, continued to research the waste-to-energy option, and developed its third comprehensive plan. Most importantly from a functional viewpoint, the system designed and implemented its initial recycling and moderate risk waste programs. Trends in federal and state environmental regulation had increased the emphasis on multimedia approaches to environmental problems. Activities such as solid waste management were seen as capable of contributing to resolving problems such as resource depletion and air and water pollution. For the first time the system formally acknowledged that its waste responsibilities extended beyond solid waste and beyond disposal-related activities. One dramatic component of this acknowledgment was the adoption of a 50% recycling goal in the 1989 Comprehensive Plan.

Since the 1989 Plan was adopted, the system: closed the Cathcart Landfill, constructed a new landfill adjacent to the Cathcart Landfill, implemented waste export and committed to use this method of disposal until at least 2013, investigated development of a new recycling and transfer station intended to replace the Everett station, expanded the recycling and moderate risk waste programs into the area of waste and pollution prevention, and placed increased emphasis on recycling and moderate risk waste related activities. In addition, environmental compliance responsibilities have increased as a result of additional mandates and closure of the Cathcart Landfill. The trends which have led to the current mix of activities are expected to continue into the foreseeable future.

As a result of the trends, the system is performing the same function it did twenty years ago- providing the county's citizens and businesses environmentally safe waste disposal. However, this function is being performed in a very different manner. Rather than the system disposing of waste, the system now contracts for solid waste disposal. In regards to significant components of the waste stream, the system encourages that they be recycled rather than disposed of in the more traditional sense, or encourages that they not be generated in the first place. The system is now primarily involved with waste processing, transport, planning, engineering, recycling and waste prevention, moderate risk waste management, environmental regulation compliance at operating and closed facilities, and contract monitoring.

What It Means

This functional shift that has occurred, and that is likely to continue, requires flexibility. This Plan needs to be flexible, and the system needs to be flexible in what it does and how it does it. The events of the last several years have shown that the following issues and problems, in particular, demand flexibility when being addressed.

Funding

The system must be concerned with the long-term financial stability of its solid waste management operations. This means, at a minimum, that the system be financially able to accomplish its responsibilities as assigned under Washington law and as assumed by contracts it has entered into and permits it has applied for, pay off its solid waste related debts, and continue to monitor its closed landfills. In addition, the system must be able to pay for those discretionary programs it chooses to undertake. This requires rethinking the current practice of the system deriving nearly all of its revenues from tip fees.

Since the system undertakes far more activities than only disposal, and since tip fees represent the bulk of system revenues, tip fees are forced to support more activities than disposal. In light of the problematic nature of flow control, disposal fees cannot, in the long term, be set high enough to support these activities. In addition, the overwhelming dependence on tip fees works against the system's goals of increasing waste prevention and recycling. As waste prevention and recycling become more successful less waste comes to system facilities. Less waste means less revenues unless the system raises its tip fees. This Plan addresses this funding dilemma and is designed to be capable of responding to future uncertainties.

Increased Regional and Interagency Cooperation

Solid waste related problems increasingly extend beyond county and organizational boundaries. Solutions to these problems are often more effective, and sometimes only effective, if implemented on a regional, multi-county basis, or multi-agency basis. For this reason the system needs to think flexibly about increased cooperation. It must recognize that problems are often regional or multi-media (extending across more than one environmental medium- e.g.- water and air and soil) in nature, consider the system's problems from regional and overall health and environmental perspectives, and develop solutions to problems which take diverse impacts into account.

Recognition of the Role of the Private Sector

Snohomish County has contracted for solid waste disposal with the private sector. It has also delegated most operational elements of recycling to the private sector. Those functions which are uniquely governmental responsibilities need to be defined, and other programs may, in certain circumstances, be advantageously delegated to the private sector.

Regulatory Environment

Preparing and passing a law often appears to be the easiest, simplest, and least costly solution to a problem. However, when all direct and indirect costs are comprehensively analyzed the costs are often far higher than expected. In addition, enforcing such laws is generally costly or, in some cases, impossible. Furthermore the private sector sometimes reacts contrary to the expectations of regulators. System programs must be designed and managed with consideration of how the economic system will respond, and take into account that voluntary self compliance on the part of business people will often be in their own self-interest. Wherever possible an attempt should be made to use the normal workings of the economic system to resolve the problem being addressed.

Functions and Organizational Structure of the Division

Since the nature of solid waste management is changing, so the functions of the County's Solid Waste Management Division may also change. The County needs to regularly examine whether the Division's organizational structure remains the most appropriate in light of the functions which must be performed.

Nature Of This Plan

This Plan is mission driven: all activities called for derive from the mission, and the sum of all activities should result in accomplishment of the mission. The mission was developed by examining what the system did in the past, and what it is currently doing, either because it is required by state or federal law, or because the system voluntarily chooses to do it. The system then attempted to determine the future responsibilities which will be expected of a solid waste management agency. Discussion of these responsibilities led to the development of the mission. Included within the assessment of responsibilities was a consideration of state and federal laws, predominant among them the state Waste Not Washington Act, and the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), which often tend to drive County ordinances and system operations.

The mission is discussed below, and is intended to be narrow enough to focus on solid and moderate risk waste related activities, while simultaneously being broad enough to allow decision makers to select, develop, and manage those activities in an optimal manner. Therefore the mission should be interpreted broadly and inclusively.

How This Plan Relates to Other Plans

This is the update to the system's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. It is not meant to replace all previous plan updates, but rather to update them. Information presented and actions called for in previous plan updates are still timely and relevant, except when overtaken by events or altered by later updates.

System solid waste management activities are currently organized around two separate plans: the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, and the Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan (MRW Plan). The MRW Plan covers household hazardous waste as well as hazardous waste generated in small quantities by businesses. This comprehensive plan is intended to begin the consolidation of the two plans.

The mission is written broadly enough to cover hazardous, as well as solid wastes, and where relevant, this Plan will include some revisions and updates to the existing MRW Plan. Therefore, while this Plan is meant to update the 1993 MRW Plan, it is not meant to replace it. When this Comprehensive Plan supplements or conflicts with the MRW Plan, this Plan will take precedence. However, all other elements of the 1993 MRW Plan remain valid. Furthermore, this Comprehensive Plan serves as the 1997 update called for in the 1993 MRW Plan.

In addition to this Plan and the MRW Plan, the City of Everett has adopted its own Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. In addition, the other cities and towns are also authorized to develop and maintain their own plans.

From both operational and legal perspectives, the city and system plans must be integrated. *(Operationally, coordinating the plans would increase the efficiency of implementing the plans. Legally, RCW 70.95.080 requires other plans to be "integrated" into the County plan. Webster's II defines "integrate" as "to make into a whole by bringing all parts together: unify".)* If the city and system plans are in conflict, they are not capable of being integrated. Therefore an appropriate criterion for integrating the plans is that they not be in conflict in regards to either plans' basic assumptions, or in regards to the operation of either plan. If either plan, when implemented, would significantly impair the other plan's ability to accomplish its goals, then the plans can not be integrated. In terms of which plan must be changed to accommodate the other, the City and County have agreed this Plan will take precedence.

For instance, Everett's 1989 Plan stated that Everett would be responsible for managing waste paper generated within the city, and, if it so chose, could use that waste paper as a source of energy as part of a waste-to-energy waste management strategy. Even though this option is contrary to system recycling policy, this current update may not call for Everett to be deprived of implementing this option, unless Everett and the system agree otherwise.

The Mission

The mission of solid waste management activities in Snohomish County is:

To protect people, the environment, and natural resources by preventing, reducing, and solving problems associated with Snohomish county solid and moderate risk wastes.

The Goals

- 1** To reduce, or prevent where possible, the generation of solid and moderate risk wastes and their associated problems through service-oriented, cost-effective actions where prevention or reduction will protect human health, safety and environmental quality.
- 2** To solve problems related to solid and moderate risk waste through service-oriented actions that protect human health and safety, and environmental quality.
- 3** To provide necessary support for the other two goals using service-oriented, cost-effective actions.

Plan Modification and Revision

This Plan is meant to be dynamic. It is not intended that the Plan sit for the next five years, and then to be totally revised. While the Plan's mission and goals are expected to remain the same, the Plan is designed upon the assumption that information will be updated gradually, and the action plan will be altered appropriately in a timely manner.

However, the process used to initially approve and update the Plan would tend to work against it being dynamic. The fact that this Plan is not simply a County plan- it is a plan for the County and for eighteen of the county's cities and towns complicates the issue. That approval process requires that the Plan be approved by the County, as well as by all cities and towns which have joined with the County in preparing the Plan. This has proven time consuming and labor intensive, and is therefore costly. Moreover, some cities and towns, upon agreement with the mission, goals, and objectives of the Plan, may desire relatively little active participation in the implementing actions.

As a result of these factors, one element of this planning process was to develop a plan modification and revision mechanism. This mechanism has the following goals:

- For minor modifications, that is modifications which don't affect the basic goals or direction of the plan, allow the plan to be modified relatively easily when circumstances require change.
- Allow the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) to maintain its role as defined in bylaws, County code, and state legislation.
- Allow cities and towns to maintain their desired level of control over plan modification.
- Keep all players involved to make certain there is political dialogue behind minor plan modifications and consensus behind major modifications.

As a result the following mechanism will be used to revise and modify this Plan:

- 1 This Plan update anticipates that we will undertake those activities in the Six-Year Plan, which are presented in Section Two of this Plan.
- 2 As circumstances change, in order to better achieve one or more of the Plan's goals, we may think it beneficial to deviate from the Six-Year-Plan by either
 - i undertaking activities from the Twenty-Year Plan (presented in Section Three of this Plan)
 - and/or
 - ii not undertaking activities from the Six-Year Plan

Deviating from the Plan in one of these ways is defined as a minor plan revision, and if it seems desirable to so deviate, then the County will:

- a explain in writing how the deviation will better contribute to accomplishing one or more of the goals;
- b notify all cities and towns;
- c notify and give the public an opportunity to comment, either prior to, or at a regular SWAC meeting;
- d notify DOE of the proposed modification;
- e discuss the issue with SWAC; and
- f schedule a County Council vote on the modification no less than 60 days after the public, cities and towns, and SWAC have been notified. We expect that the 60 day period will be used by SWAC members and the public to

notify their respective cities and towns or interest groups of the proposed modification, and for opinions concerning the modification to be conveyed to the County Council.

- 3 Decisions to undertake actions outside either the Six- or Twenty-Year Plans, or altering the Mission or any of the Plan's goals, will be defined as major plan revisions. In such instances a full approval process (all cities and towns, DOE, plus Council) will be required.

Participating Jurisdictions

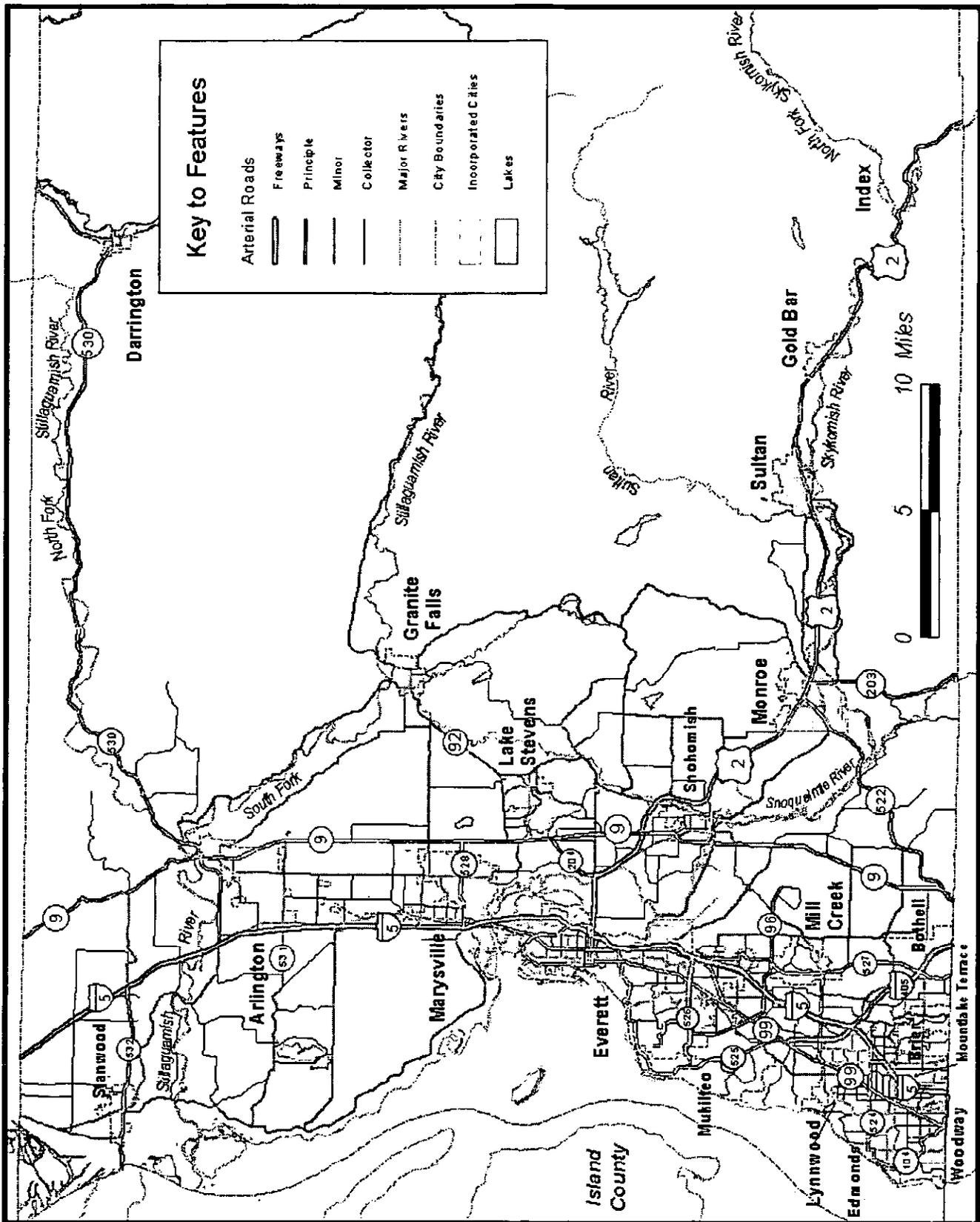
In addition to Snohomish County itself, the following municipalities are participating in Snohomish County's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan:

Arlington	Index	Mukilteo
Brier	Lake Stevens	Snohomish
Darrington	Lynnwood	Stanwood
Edmonds	Marysville	Sultan
Everett	Mill Creek	Woodway
Gold Bar	Monroe	
Granite Falls	Mountlake Terrace	

These jurisdictions have worked with the County to plan for solid waste related needs since the 1970's, and entered into formal interlocal agreements on solid waste management in 1990. Those 1990 agreements were the vehicle by which each jurisdiction approved the 1990 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. These are 20 year agreements, to be effective until 2010, and state that "... for the duration of this Interlocal Agreement, each City or Town authorizes the County to include in the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan provisions for the management of solid waste generated in each City or Town."

The County views these jurisdictions as partners in planning for future solid waste management needs throughout Snohomish county. Accordingly, this Plan was developed through the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC), on which each city and town has a seat. After SWAC approved the Plan for review, each city and town was notified of this update and offered the opportunity for a written or oral briefing. Of the 18 jurisdictions, 13 chose to have their city/town councils briefed orally, 3 desired written briefings, and 2 didn't ask for a briefing.

In addition to the plan approval process, the plan modification and revision mechanism presented above anticipates SWAC, and city and town, involvement in any modification to this update.



The interlocal agreements obligate the county and the cities and towns to each other with respect to solid waste management. Those responsibilities are clear: the cities and towns ensure that waste generated within each jurisdiction enters the County system, and the County supplies solid and moderate risk waste services. Some cities also supply services, such as recycling coordinators, but they do so voluntarily. The cities and towns are not obligated to supply any services.

In terms of geographic areas covered, this Plan encompasses all of the unincorporated area of Snohomish County, as well as all of the area within each of the municipalities listed above. There is currently one section of Snohomish County which is not covered by this Plan, but rather by the King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. This area is in the southwestern part of the County, and within the City of Bothell.

When Bothell annexed part of unincorporated Snohomish County into the City, the City, King County, and Snohomish County held discussions to decide who should be responsible for Bothell waste. It was decided that waste generated anywhere within the City of Bothell, even waste generated within Snohomish County, would be sent to King County disposal facilities, and that the King County Solid Waste Management Plan be in effect throughout the City. These decisions were based on most of the area of Bothell being within King County, most of the waste generated within the City being generated within King County, economic advantages to generators to being served by a single waste collection company operating freely across county borders, and administrative advantages to the City and both Counties for a single plan to be in effect throughout the City. In the future it is possible that similar results could emerge from the annexation of Snohomish County lands into cities located primarily within King County.

It is important to note that the Snohomish Health District's jurisdiction is not affected by the agreement reached by the Counties. Under state law the health department or district of each county is charged with regulating solid waste within their county.

Finally, this Plan may eventually pertain to solid waste planning and management on the Tulalip Reservation. The Tulalips are a federally recognized tribe, and as such their reservation and tribal government enjoy a unique status. Historically, solid waste issues have been dealt with by tribal authorities independent of the system. On a case by case basis the system and Tribes have cooperated on particular solid waste issues, such as the development of the Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan and the search for the location of a central recycling and transfer station. In recent years the system and Tribes have discussed the advantages of

managing solid waste in a more coordinated manner. If future discussions lead to an agreement between the system and Tribes to do so, this Plan may apply in whole or part to the Tulalip reservation, and the system may undertake various solid waste management activities on the Reservation. The agreement reached by the parties will define the coverage of this Plan and the roles of each party.

Planning Issues and Considerations

Early in the planning process, the following issues were identified as needing resolution relatively quickly after the Plan is implemented. As a result, an activity identified in this Plan that helps resolve one of these issues will be implemented within five years. Part 2 of this Plan consists of an in-depth discussion of each of these issues.

Financial Integrity of the System

The system has certain solid waste related obligations which must be fulfilled, even if the existing system disappears or is fundamentally altered. While these include some relatively minor programmatic expenses, they consist primarily of the obligation to repay the County's loans and bonded indebtedness (currently approximately forty-five million dollars), and the obligation to monitor, and if necessary remediate, its old closed landfills. In addition, revenues raised through the system tip fee support many of the solid waste related activities undertaken by the Snohomish Health District. These obligations and the ability of the system to finance them must be recognized in the development and implementation of this Plan. In addition, the role of existing system assets, such as the Regional Landfill and complexities arising from the current financing method for Solid Waste Management Division activities must be recognized. (Tip fees are the dominant source of revenue- no tax dollars are used.)

Ongoing Planning/Public Policy Decision-Making Mechanism

To be effective, this Plan must be kept current. This will in turn require future decisions. A means of making these decisions in an intelligent and timely manner is essential.

Moderate Risk Wastes

The Snohomish County Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan left a number of important issues, involving moderate risk waste generated by both households and small quantity generators, unresolved. Progress made in resolving these is dis-

cussed in this Plan and, where possible, future directions are outlined and future activities are described. Moderate risk waste management has several attributes which differentiate it from solid waste management. The need for multimedia approaches and interagency cooperation is particularly important where MRW is concerned. In addition, as waste prevention is an important tool in solid waste management, pollution prevention—rethinking processes to reduce the use of hazardous materials—is particularly important in MRW management.

Waste Prevention

The wisdom of recycling is generally accepted, and its practice has become widespread. But it would be even more advantageous to, where practical, avoid producing waste in the first place. State legislation prioritizes waste prevention as the preferred solid waste management strategy, and the wisdom of this approach applies equally to moderate risk wastes. If the system wishes to seriously encourage waste prevention, it must ensure the development and implementation of an aggressive and sophisticated waste prevention program, and further ensure its integration into other waste related activities.

Recycling

The system planned for the future of recycling in Snohomish County in the Recycling Potential Assessment. The results of this assessment have been and will continue to be integrated into this Plan and its resulting activities.

Solid Waste System Capacity

Since 2001 the system has begun constructing two new facilities: the Airport Road Recycling and Transfer Station (ARTS) and the rebuilt Southwest Recycling and Transfer Station (SWRTS). These facilities, in conjunction with the existing North County Recycling and Transfer Station (NCRTS), can accommodate the county's waste handling needs until 2023. However, the issue of how to best serve the fast growing east county area still needs to be answered.

Identifying the Need For and Siting of Disposal/Recycling Facilities

Solid waste and recycling facilities are necessary, but often unwelcomed by potential neighbors. As with the case of many essential public facilities, some means of ensuring that necessary facilities can be built is essential.

Special Wastes

A number of wastes require special handling and/or disposal. This may be due to health issues, their hazardous nature, or their physical qualities, such as size or abrasiveness. Opportunities for handling and disposing such wastes must be available.

Illegal Dumping/Other Enforcement Issues

To be effective, laws and regulations must be enforced. Illegal dumping enforcement in relation to both solid and moderate risk wastes could be improved. While illegal dumping of solid wastes is an obvious problem, illegal storage and disposal of moderate risk wastes is often not as widely recognized. The questions of how much regulation there should be, who will adopt the regulations, and who will enforce the regulations, need to be addressed. In addition, the organizational roles of the various agencies and interest groups involved in reducing illegal dumping must be identified and coordinated. When addressing these issues it is important to note that illegal dumping is a multi media problem. Air and water quality may be diminished by illegal dumping, particularly by the dumping of hazardous wastes.

Content of Disposed Material

There are still things being disposed of with solid waste which shouldn't, such as household and small quantity generator moderate risk wastes, which increase the toxicity of leachate; and recyclables which have uses and could feasibly be removed from the solid waste stream. In addition, moderate risk wastes are often disposed of on the ground or with sewage, with significant environmental effects.

Waste Import/ Regional Implications

Current County law prohibits out-of-county generators from disposing of their waste at system facilities. Decision makers must decide whether this prohibition should continue. Since there are economic implications to solid waste facilities operating below capacity, and since there have been challenges to flow control within the region generally, the capacities of all facilities, including private facilities, need to be considered when deciding the waste import issue.

Planning Issues

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This section is the "core" of the Plan. It discusses the planning issues introduced in Section 1 in greater depth, and describes what we intend to see accomplished to address these issues between 1999 and 2005, the first six years of this Twenty-Year Plan. (The entire Twenty-Year Plan, which served as the exclusive "menu" for this Six-Year Action Plan, is presented in Section 3.)

This section presents the central planning issues. It details the relationship between the planning issues and the specific activities which this Plan calls for. It explains the rationale for those activities, and discusses the range of activities which may be chosen to resolve a problem where a definitive solution can not currently be selected. Finally, it presents the considerations which will likely be central to choosing the preferred solution when that solution can eventually be selected.

Following the presentation of each planning issue is a list and description of the activities which will be taken over the next six years to deal with each of these issues. This is the "action plan" to address each issue. The activities and tasks shown are numbered in accordance with the goals breakdown shown in Section 3.

In several instances, activities have been shown which will not be implemented until after 2005. These activities are contingent upon the results of activities which will be implemented between 1999 and 2005. The activities will be implemented after 2005 depend upon actions prior to that time, and therefore they are included here so that the importance of implementing these prior activities is fully recognized.

This Six-Year Action Plan was developed by analyzing the activities from this Twenty-Year Plan, and selecting those considered to be most effective in resolving the planning issues established earlier in the planning process. While activities shown under a particular issue are meant to address primarily that issue, it is important to remember that in many cases the activities will also help resolve additional planning issues. These additional issues are listed after the activities are described.

The system will continue to refine its plans, and develop new ways to accomplish the mission, goals, and sub-goals of this Plan. Some of these efforts will be incremental and ongoing as programs are assessed. While we presently intend for all activities within the Six-Year Plan to be undertaken, future developments may prevent or argue against this. In addition, at any time during the first six-year period covered by this action plan, activities listed in the Twenty-Year Plan may be undertaken upon a majority vote of the system Council instead of the ones listed here. However, if the system desires to undertake activities not listed in the

Twenty-Year Plan during the initial six-year planning period, a major plan amendment process would be required. This process would include the involvement of all plan signatory cities and towns as well as Department of Ecology approval.

Other plan modification efforts will be more comprehensive in nature. For instance, the Recycling Potential Assessment (RPA) recognizes that within the next several years solid waste prevention and recycling programs need a comprehensive review. Accordingly, in light of the many changes in solid waste in the next 5-10 years, RPA project number 25 calls for the system to comprehensively assess and review waste prevention and recycling activities sometime around the year 2000. Similarly, in the year 2004, this Plan will be updated.

Planning Issues and Considerations

Early in the planning process, the following issues were identified as needing relatively quick resolution:

- financial integrity of the solid waste management system
- ongoing planning/public policy decision-making mechanism
- moderate risk wastes
- waste prevention
- recycling
- solid waste system capacity
- identifying the need for and siting of disposal/recycling facilities
- special wastes
- illegal dumping/ other enforcement issues
- content of disposed material
- waste import/ regional implications of decisions

As a result, this Six-Year Plan includes those activities which help resolve these issues.

In some cases activities shown fall neatly into a single planning issue. For instance, activity II.A.1. calls for definition of the Division's and other agencies' roles in dealing with illegal dumping. This activity is only intended to help address the illegal dumping issues.

In other cases activities are intended to address a number of planning issues, but

will have a primary and direct impact upon a single issue. For instance, activity I.A.1.a., the School Program, will have a primary and direct impact on recycling, but will also help address other issues, including waste prevention, moderate risk waste, and illegal dumping. In such cases, the activity is listed under the issue it will primarily address, but mention is also made of the other affected issues. For some planning issues all of the requisite activities are described elsewhere.

Similarly, certain activities, such as III.B.2.a., Effective Communications with Relevant Parties, will help resolve all of the planning issues. These activities are listed separately below, at the beginning of the issue and program descriptions.

When an activity is implemented to resolve more than one planning issue it is important for program managers to note that fact. The number of issues to be resolved may affect how the program is implemented, and will affect the results expected from the program. As a result, the program's design needs to be carefully considered. In these cases the programs must be designed and implemented to resolve all of their associated planning issues in order to be successful.

Finally, certain activities are basic to the mission of the solid waste management system, but do not directly address any of the planning issues. As a result, these activities must be undertaken immediately, and are in this Six-Year Action Plan, but are not listed under any of the planning issues. These activities follow immediately.

I.C.1.b. Environmental Safety and Compliance

- Solid Waste Facility Operations
- Leachate and Landfill Gas Operations
- Ground and Surface Water Monitoring
- Moderate Risk Waste Enforcement
- Garbage Accumulation and Illegal Dumping Investigation

Protecting public health, safety, and the environment is the reason that government undertakes solid waste management. The Snohomish Health District develops and enforces regulations to ensure this protection, while the system develops and implements plans and handles solid waste. One of the system's most basic solid and moderate risk waste related obligations is to ensure that its facilities, both operating and closed, pose as little environmental danger as is possible. The system commits to fulfilling this obligation, and if private facilities should become part of the system, further commits to ensuring that such private facilities also pose as little environmental danger as is possible.

Compliance Background

Several federal, state, and local regulations establish requirements for operating, maintaining and monitoring solid waste and moderate risk waste facilities, as well as addressing other solid waste issues such as illegal dumping and garbage accumulation problems at residences. These regulations are:

Federal:

- Subtitle D, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)
- National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)

State:

- Revised Code of Washington (RCW)
 - Chapter 36.58, County Solid Waste Disposal
 - Chapter 70.95, Solid Waste Management, Reduction and Recycling
 - Chapter 70.95C, Waste Reduction
 - Chapter 70.95I, Used oil Recycling
 - Chapter 70.105, Hazardous Waste Management
- Washington Administrative Code (WAC)
 - Chapter 173-303 WAC, Dangerous Waste Regulations
 - Chapter 173-304 WAC, Solid Waste Handling
 - Chapter 173-351 WAC, Municipal Solid Waste Landfills
 - Chapter 246-203 WAC, General Sanitation

Local:

- Snohomish Health District Sanitary Code
 - Chapter 3.1, Regulations Governing Solid Waste Handling
 - Chapter 3.5, Regulations Governing Moderate Risk Waste Handling
- Snohomish County Code
 - Chapter 7.35, Solid Waste Disposal
 - Chapter 7.41, Operating Rules and Disposal Fees for Disposal Sites

- Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Authority Regulations
- Pretreatment Ordinances, including Everett City Code No. 2034-95

These regulations establish requirements that govern solid waste storage, handling and facility operating policies, facility closure requirements, ground and surface water protection and monitoring requirements, sanitary sewer, leachate and landfill gas treatment and disposal practices. They also establish requirements which prohibit illegal dumping of solid and moderate risk wastes, the accumulation of garbage on property, and improper handling of moderate risk waste.

The Snohomish Health District is the regulating and enforcement agency for all solid and moderate risk waste facilities, whether operating or closed. The Health District also investigates and resolves a large number of garbage accumulation, illegal dumping, and moderate risk waste related complaints. Solid waste transfer stations, rural drop box sites, open or altered landfills, petroleum contaminated soil treatment facilities, certain recycling facilities, and moderate risk waste collection facilities are required to have a permit issued by the Health District. The Health District periodically inspects each facility to verify that the Solid Waste Management Division and other solid waste facility owners are operating their facilities in accordance with applicable regulations.

Moderate risk wastes are, legally, one form of solid waste. Therefore, some regulations which cover solid waste facilities also govern the operation of moderate risk waste facilities. However, facilities for handling moderate risk wastes are also covered by additional regulations. As is the case with solid waste regulations, federal, state and local jurisdictions all play roles in developing and implementing controlling regulations. Also, as in the case of solid waste, the Snohomish Health District is the organization with the bulk of the regulatory duties, and the Solid Waste Management Division is the primary planning jurisdiction. The two agencies cooperatively implement the Plan. The regulations controlling moderate risk waste facilities, and the organizations which participate in moderate risk waste management, are discussed in detail in chapter 5 of the 1993 Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan.

System Compliance Activities

To ensure compliance with groundwater and surface water regulations the Division's Environmental Services Section (ESS) performs ground and surface water monitoring at four closed landfills (Bryant, Lake Goodwin, Lake Stevens and Cathcart), the unused Regional Landfill and McCollum Park, formerly known as Emander Landfill.

Following is a brief synopsis of each of the closed landfills:

- Cathcart Landfill - This 52 acre landfill opened in 1980 and was considered state-of-the-art because of its advanced liner system. This landfill was closed in 1992 after receiving 3.2 million tons of refuse. Final closure included a flexible membrane liner that was keyed near the existing bottom liner for total encapsulation. The facility is being monitored per WAC 173-304 regulations. Moderate contamination has been detected downgradient from the facility, presumably from holes in the bottom liner system. The facility has an active landfill gas extraction system that has successfully controlled landfill gas migration and odors.
- Bryant Landfill - This unlined landfill opened in the 1950's as an unregulated disposal site. The 30 acre landfill underwent final closure with a clay cap in 1987 after receiving approximately 847,000 tons of refuse. The facility is being monitored per WAC 173-304 regulations. Light contamination has been detected downgradient from the facility. The facility has a passive gas extraction system that has successfully controlled odors and lateral gas migration.
- Lake Goodwin Landfill - This unlined landfill opened in the 1950's as an unregulated disposal site. The 11.5 acre landfill underwent final closure in 1983 after receiving approximately 185,000 tons of refuse. Light contamination has been detected downgradient from the facility. The facility has no landfill gas control system.
- Lake Stevens Landfill - This unlined landfill opened in 1947 as an unregulated disposal site. The 27 acre landfill underwent final closure in 1984 with a bentonite dike around its perimeter and a bentonite cap. The facility has moderately contaminated local aquifers and was determined to pose an imminent threat to drinking water supplies. Snohomish County Solid Waste installed public water to several nearby residents to ensure a safe drinking water supply. The facility has a passive gas extraction system that has successfully controlled landfill gas migration and odors.
- McCollum Park Landfill (Emander Landfill) - This 27 acre facility opened in 1947 as an unlined, unregulated disposal site. The facility underwent final closure in 1996 after receiving 238,000 tons of MSW and sludge. Final closure included sludge stabilization with portland cement and a flexible membrane liner over the top of the landfill. The facility is being monitored per MTCA regulations. Moderate contamination has been detected downgradient from this facility. The facility has an active/passive gas extraction system that has successfully controlled landfill gas migration and odors.

Samples are collected and sent to a licensed laboratory for analysis for a variety of constituents that would indicate potential problems in both ground and surface

water. The results of these tests are provided to the Health District each quarter. Annually, ESS prepares a statistical analysis for each landfill using a computer program (Dump STAT or MTCA STAT) which depicts trends in groundwater quality which is forwarded to the Health District and Department of Ecology for their review.

Landfills generate leachate and methane gas during the decomposition of the waste. The Cathcart and Lake Stevens Landfills, as well as the Regional Landfill, have leachate collection systems.

Leachate generated at the Lake Stevens Landfill is collected in the landfill through perforated pipes extending into the landfill. Periodically, the leachate is pumped into a tank truck from the landfill through a series of leachate sumps. The leachate is transported to the Regional Landfill Leachate Pretreatment Plant for treatment prior to discharge via a pipeline through the Silver Lake Water District sewer system for final treatment and disposal at the publicly owned treatment plant in Everett.

Leachate generated at the Cathcart Landfill is disposed of in the same manner except that the leachate is pumped via a pipeline directly to the pretreatment plant on a continuous basis. A leachate pipeline from the Regional Landfill to the pretreatment plant has been installed, but not used. There are no leachate collection systems at the Bryant or Lake Goodwin Landfills nor at McCollum Park. Capping these landfills has thus far significantly reduced leachate generation at these facilities.

Landfill gas is collected in perforated pipes under the cap or gas collection wells drilled into the landfill and burned in a flare at the Cathcart, Lake Stevens and Bryant Landfills and at McCollum Park in compliance with operating permits issued by the Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Authority. Landfill gas generated at the Lake Goodwin and Oso Landfills is dispersed passively through the soil cap.

Funding for operation and maintenance of all solid waste facilities is included in the annual Solid Waste Management Division budget. A landfill closure/post closure fund was created for the Cathcart Landfill in 1988 as a result of changes in the State Minimum Functional Standards for landfills. Sufficient funds were allocated to a reserve account within the Solid Waste fund balance to provide funds for the landfill capping (closure) and to maintain the landfill and perform groundwater monitoring for a minimum of twenty years, or until there is no landfill settlement and leachate and landfill gas production has ceased. At the end of each fiscal year, the post closure reserve account is decreased by the amount of funds expended the previous year. If the Regional Landfill were to be opened, a similar closure/post

closure fund would be established. There are no closure funds for the other closed landfills since they were closed prior to the requirement to establish such reserve accounts.

The Division is also responsible for four additional closed landfills: Sultan, Old Bryant, Gold Bar, and Lake Roesiger. These landfills, closed some years ago, were relatively small and have neither leachate nor gas management systems.

I.B.2.a. Hauler Coordination

The system will continue to coordinate its actions with haulers and SQG vendors, through ongoing informal contact as well as more formalized contact where appropriate.

I.B.2.b. WUTC Coordination

The system monitors and comments on WUTC actions which pertain to or impact services and rates in Snohomish county, including incorporated areas that utilize the WUTC franchise system. The system interacts with the WUTC on issues such as contract authority, trucking deregulation, flow control, rate structure, rate review, public notification, etc. The system will continue to undertake these activities.

I.C.8.a. Anticipate and React in a Timely Manner to Health District Inspection Reports Detailing Environmental-related Problems at System Solid Waste Facilities or Concerning Waste Transport.

The system and the Snohomish Health District have a long history of working together cooperatively. As a result, many of the agencies' interactions are informal. The system is regularly informed of Health District concerns before any official report is issued. The system will attempt to anticipate Health District reports, and will always react to significant concerns in a timely manner.

II.B.2.a. Facility Monitoring and Remediation

Monitoring closed system landfills is a necessary system responsibility. If monitoring shows cause for concern with environmental quality, remediation of the facility is also an unavoidable system responsibility. As a result, the Solid Waste Management Division will continue to undertake and place the highest priority on these activities. Any organizational or financial changes which the system undertakes in regards to the Division will take into account the vital nature of these activities and their high priority.

III.B.2.a. Effective Communications with Other Relevant Parties

Solid waste management has moved from being primarily a local activity to increasingly becoming a regional, statewide, and even national and occasionally international activity. Furthermore, the integration between public and private actors has also increased, and is likely to continue to do so in the future. As a result of these trends, the system must maintain effective communications with those parties and bodies, such as our own cities and towns, other counties, state SWAC, and the National Association of County Officials (NACO) and the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), whose actions will significantly affect the accomplishment of the mission of this Plan. One aspect of this communication effort will be RPA project number 12, Assist Cities and Towns. In addition, RPA project number 1, Optimize Private Sector Efforts, presented earlier in I.A.2.a., will be implemented in conjunction with this activity.

III.B.2.b. Coordination with Other Relevant Parties

In some instances communication will lead to the decision to coordinate activities with others. The system should keep alert for opportunities when coordination will yield more efficient use of resources.

In particular, RPA project number 1, Optimize Private Sector Efforts, presented earlier in I.A.2.a., will be implemented in conjunction with this activity. In addition, RPA project number 12, Assisting Cities and Towns, calls for the system to work with cities to develop funding mechanisms for staffing and projects related to waste prevention, recycling, and implementation of moderate risk waste plan elements. Furthermore, the system will work with other parties toward the development of a comprehensive and coordinated local hazardous waste management program.

III.B.3.a. Monitor Relevant Developments in the State Legislature, Congress, Federal and State Courts, and Administrative Law Panels, and as Appropriate Interact with these Groups and/or Adjust System Policies and Procedures Accordingly

System activities are controlled and impacted by legal forums and political decisionmakers far removed from the geographic boundaries of Snohomish county. Accordingly, the system will monitor legal and political developments which may

be expected to impact system activities. Where appropriate, the system may participate in these forums and attempt to affect resulting decisions. In instances where such participation is not appropriate or not practical, the system will monitor developments in order to adjust its policies and/or procedures.

III.D.5.a. Evaluation Strategy

Wherever feasible, all programs and plans will include an evaluation element. If not feasible, the program will be reviewed annually to determine if it is accomplishing what it was designed to, whether it can accomplish more or accomplish it more efficiently, and whether an evaluation mechanism can be added. Where the activity is being implemented by the system, we will attempt to implement changes suggested by the evaluation process. Where the activity is being implemented by others, the system will work with those parties to seek implementation of the suggested modifications.

Furthermore, there will be occasions when the overall direction of activities will be evaluated. For instance, RPA project number 25 calls for the RPA to be thoroughly evaluated and modified sometime around the year 2000 to reflect the many changes in solid waste in the next 5-10 years. Furthermore this Plan will be thoroughly evaluated in preparation for the 2005-2011 planning horizon.

III.D.5.b. Data Collection

The collection and analysis of data is necessary for planning and project evaluation. Therefore, the system will undertake extensive data collection and evaluation, including the following activities:

- The system will maintain and analyze data on system and hauler collected materials, including materials destined for disposal, recycling, and composting.
- Haulers will be required to submit monthly data reports to the system detailing recycling tonnage, participation, and other information.
- The system will produce quarterly and annual tonnage reports, including source and type of waste.
- The system will produce periodic program reports on specific programs.
- The system will cooperate with DOE on the DOE State-wide Survey and will encourage private companies within Snohomish county to do the same.
- The system will conduct Recycling Potential Assessment (RPA) project number 21, Curbside Efficiency Study. The purpose of this study is to work with the private sector to identify operational and economic problems within the current curbside recycling system and propose solutions, specifically to lower the costs of curbside recycling and increase diversion in the system. Recent WUTC rate

reductions have accomplished part of the work included in this study, but much remains to be studied.

- RPA project number 22, the Transfer Station Study, will determine what changes can be made at existing and planned facilities in order to allow for more effective recycling on-site.

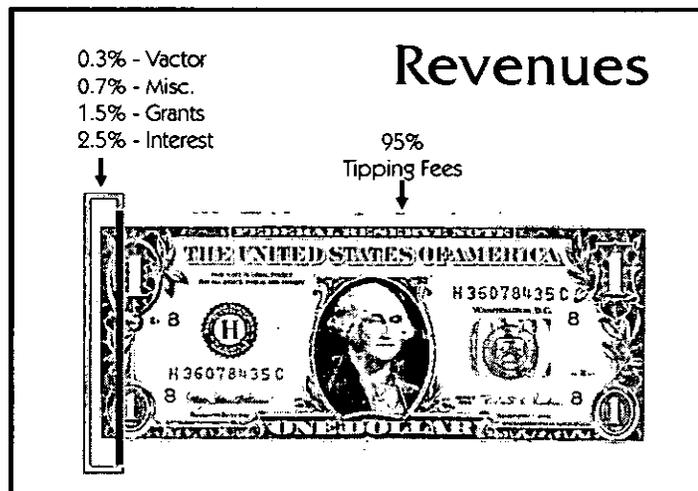
In addition, in an effort to better plan and manage system solid and moderate facilities, data on facility usage, revenues, operation, and costs will be collected and analyzed.

The RPA's Non-residential Program Analysis calls for a consultant to be hired to evaluate the success of the existing business recycling program and recommend next steps. A database will be developed, businesses will be surveyed, and the consultant will recommend businesses to target by type, location, etc.

RPA project number 24, the Self-Haul Study, will determine who the self haulers are, what materials they haul, why they self-haul, and identify the barriers to recycling that they encounter or perceive.

Financial Integrity of the System

One of the most significant long-term issues facing solid waste management in Snohomish County is the financial integrity of the existing system. In brief, it is unlikely that the Division will be able to continue to finance the operation of the existing system indefinitely, so long as we continue to rely exclusively upon existing financing mechanisms and make decisions using existing operational philosophies.



Until the 1970's counties tended to use general funds for solid waste management. During that decade the costs of disposal increased, and most Washington jurisdictions switched over to user fees, also called tip fees. Today within the system, and within Washington in general, solid waste management activities are paid for almost exclusively through tip fees. General tax revenues are only rarely used for solid waste management activities. The total quantity of tip fees collected varies directly with the amount of solid waste processed by the system. Unfortunately, system costs rarely vary directly with that quantity of waste.



figures may not total 100% due to rounding.

Certain costs, such as monitoring and remediating of old landfills and fulfilling NPDES permit requirements, remain even if no waste enters the system. As a result, tip fee financing can only be relied upon where the quantity of incoming waste is predictable, and high enough to pay both those costs which vary with tonnage and those costs which remain the same regardless of tonnage. During the 1970's disposal costs accounted for almost all solid waste expenditures. Since then non-disposal costs have increased, to the point where moneys paid by the system to its solid waste disposal contractor are approximately only 50% of total solid waste management expenditures. However, tip fees still pay for virtually all of these activities, and even when incoming tonnage decreases, these other costs must be paid.

Flow control is the legal authority of a jurisdiction to provide that solid waste generated within that jurisdiction go to one or more designated facilities. This authority has traditionally been used by local governments across the country to accomplish a variety of governmental purposes, including ensuring that solid waste went to environmentally sound landfills, ensuring that solid waste was handled in an economically efficient manner, and to maintain sufficient tonnages to support solid waste related expenditures. Flow control has traditionally been accomplished by a variety of methods- by ordinance, by contract, by municipal operation, and by other means. However, in 1994 the United States Supreme Court found that a flow control ordinance in Clarkstown, New York violated the Commerce Clause of the United States Constitution, and was unenforceable. Since that time there has been much controversy concerning the methods by which flow control can be accomplished, including court cases and Congressional debate.

Financing the solid waste system primarily with tip fees has relied in large part upon the authority of local governments to use flow control. As methods of flow control become the subject of challenge in lawsuits and by other means, local governments may face increased challenges in their efforts to direct the flow of solid waste, to predict the volumes of waste that will be processed through their systems, and to finance system costs with tip fees.

In addition, financing primarily through tip fees works at cross purposes with waste prevention and recycling. These environmentally beneficial activities are the top two solid waste management strategies mandated by the state. However, waste prevention and recycling may also reduce tip fee revenues necessary to cover expenses such as monitoring and maintaining old landfills, as well as operating waste prevention and recycling programs.

Although the system has so far been able to finance most solid waste operations through tip fees, this situation probably cannot be sustained over time. The region, and the nation, are probably moving toward a less regulated, free market oriented environment. Therefore it will be necessary to address the issue of long term financing.

While the system has already experienced competitive economic pressures on its solid waste operations, such pressures are likely to increase within the next several years. Accordingly, the system will have to decide whether it desires to stay in the business of providing solid waste services, and if so, to decide which services it should provide. Regardless of which decision the system makes, a reexamination of the system's solid waste financing mechanism is necessary. If the system continues to provide all of the services it currently provides, competitive pressures may force it to pay an increasing portion of its non-disposal related costs through a

mechanism other than the tip fee. Conversely, if the system drops certain services, the costs of monitoring and possibly remediating old landfills will remain along with certain other non-disposal programs, and these will also likely have to be paid through a non-disposal related mechanism.

However, there is another reason why it is crucial to design and have a new financing mechanism available prior to deciding which activities the system will undertake. Such decisions should be based on what is in the best long-term interests of Snohomish county residents. The only question before the system should be how to ensure that human health and environmental quality are protected while delivering solid waste management services in the most economical and convenient manner to system residents. The question of how to pay for monitoring and remediating closed landfills, or for other solid waste related services, should not play a role in answering this question. However, so long as the financial status quo remains in effect, decision makers will find it impossible to avoid these conflicting issues when making pivotal decisions. As a result, this Plan anticipates that alternative funding mechanisms will be sought, and if they become available, they will be evaluated by staff and SWAC, and possibly implemented by the system.

Designing and implementing an alternative funding mechanism is vital, but the process will be complex and will require considerable effort on the part of Solid Waste Management Division staff. This may include working with other local officials, and on the state level, to ensure that state law permits the option of enacting a range of alternative financing methods.

In addition to having an alternative funding mechanism available, if the system decides to continue to provide all or many of the services it now provides its solid waste management operations must also be evaluated to ensure that they are delivered in an economically competitive manner. Simply put, the system must continually provide better service at less cost than what is available to waste generators elsewhere. In this way generators will use system services for their disposal needs- not because there is some law requiring them to do so, but because it is in their own best interests, and they do so voluntarily.

Over the last several years the system has improved its competitive position. There has been increased emphasis on customer service, and waste processing, handling, and transport operations have been streamlined.

Being competitive has been and will continue to be challenging. Governmental entities such as the system's Solid Waste Management Division are concerned with public policy and economic issues. As such, both public policy and economic considerations receive significant weight when decisions are made. Since the

Division may in the future be competing with private entities, we will need to cultivate a system that has a strong orientation towards customer service and cost-sensitivity, and which is highly responsive to changes in the field. This must occur while functioning within a political system, if we are to be competitive.

This change in focus involves many different factors. Government hiring, transfer, promotion, and disciplinary practices tend to be more cumbersome and regimented than those in the private sector. There are extra controls over the managing of public funds, such as purchasing requirements. And government employees, including managers, often tend to make decisions in a more deliberate and cautious manner than those in the private sector, partly because they deal with increased scrutiny but also because there are few rewards in the public sector for taking chances.

These characteristics are understandable within the governmental context, but may tend to work against competitiveness. Changing them would be very difficult, in some cases impossible, and in some cases even undesirable in light of countervailing benefits. However, all aspects of the Division's operations, including the underlying mindset these characteristics represent, must be systematically and thoroughly scrutinized for their impact on competitiveness. A zero based management approach, where all policies and procedures are analyzed to see if they justify themselves, is necessary. Where changes are necessary, they must be made if the Division is to compete.

In this context the term "competitive" needs to be explained. If the system Council determines that a system-run transfer station is in the public interest, then the Division will design, build, and operate that facility with the intent that its prices and services will be "competitive". This approach does not imply that the system is trying to take business away from the private sector. It simply recognizes that a customer-centered focus is required or the facility may not be able to pay for itself.

Finally, all other aspects of system solid waste operations will need similar scrutiny. In particular, such scrutiny must include an analysis of real properties the Division controls to ensure their optimal usage. In certain instances it may be desirable to sell real properties owned by the Division where the sale is likely to outweigh the advantages of maintaining ownership for possible future use. The scrutiny must also include business arrangements with contractors and other system suppliers of goods and services. Finally, a review of those activities currently funded primarily by tip fees, but which benefit other units of government, such as MRW activities which benefit water quality, needs to be undertaken. In such situations different approaches to funding these activities needs exploration.

The following programs are designed to address this planning issue. The first two deal with making more efficient use of the system's employees by minimizing bureaucratic requirements, while the latter two projects call for the system to develop a long term plan to deal with funding issues.

III.E.1. Ongoing Review of Administrative, Financial Management and Legal Burdens

On an ongoing basis, project managers will review the administrative, financial management and legal burdens associated with their projects. If the function of those burdens is unclear, or the associated workload seems excessive, managers will discuss that issue with relevant system and other staff.

III.E.2. Minimize Undesirable Burdens

Relevant system staff will work with others to remove or alter those burdens with minimal purpose or whose burden is excessive.

III.E.4.a. Assess Long Term Financial Needs

As a prerequisite to ensuring the system's financial ability to accomplish mandated and desired activities the system must first determine what those activities are. Long term budgets then have to be developed for these activities. Both elements of this activity will take considerable staff time and will be accorded highest priority. This priority is the result of the changing legal and organizational framework within which the system will have to operate in the future.

III.E.4.b. Assess Long Term Financial Options

Concurrently with or subsequent to the activity immediately above, Assess Long Term Financial Needs, the options for meeting those needs must be developed. These options' implications will be both statewide and local. Before implementation, they will need to be presented to system decision-makers, the cities and towns, and other stakeholders in the public and private sectors.

Ongoing Planning/Public Policy Decision-Making Mechanism

All plans, no matter how well prepared, become outdated. Sometimes plan goals change with time. Circumstances which affect the means by which goals will be attained may also change. If plans are to remain current they must either be rewritten and reapproved constantly, or some means of updating them must be built into the Plan itself.

This issue is particularly relevant for this Plan. As stated previously, many of the basic underpinnings of solid waste management are in flux, and it is not possible to accurately predict their future status. As a result, this Plan is sometimes less definitive than would otherwise be desirable. While the goals of the Plan are generally clear, the means by which the goals will be attained are in some cases less so.

Accordingly, this Plan attempts to resolve this problem in two ways. First, where the means for resolving a planning issue can not presently be decided, the Plan instead attempts to show how that decision will be made. The Plan discusses the probable sources of data and other information, the options which currently appear feasible, and the factors which will seemingly have the greatest impact on which solution is chosen. Finally, the Plan discusses who will make the decision.

The second way in which this Plan is designed to stay up to date is that it includes a formal procedure for modifying the plan. In essence, it permits dropping activities shown in the Plan, or undertaking an activity sooner than shown, after notifying DOE and the cities and towns, and having the County Council formally approve the action.

The following programs are designed to address this planning issue and are further described elsewhere in this section.

- III.B.2. Maintain effective communications and working relationships with, and where appropriate coordinate actions with, relevant private parties, other subdivisions of Snohomish County government, cities, towns, special purpose districts, and other state subdivisions within the county, other relevant county and city governments, and relevant state and federal agencies.
- III.D.5. Monitor, evaluate, and improve all programs and plans.
- III.E.4. Ensure the long-term financial ability of the system to accomplish mandated and desired activities and to fulfill financial obligations which the system has assumed as a result of its solid waste management, recycling, or moderate risk waste activities.

Moderate Risk Wastes

As discussed in Section 1, the Snohomish Health District is, and has historically been, the lead agency for the enforcement of solid waste and moderate risk waste (MRW) management issues in Snohomish county. The Health District works cooperatively with the system in implementing various programs, including many dealing with MRW.

Following adoption of the 1993 MRW Plan by Snohomish County and its cities and towns, the Health District created a grant funded program to accomplish specific objectives outlined in the 1993 MRW Plan. Among these objectives was the drafting and adoption of countywide MRW regulations and the implementation of other activities intended to reduce the amount of MRW generated, address problems associated with the improper handling and disposal of MRW by both households and small businesses, create standards for the safe operation of MRW collection facilities, and provide other services related to the proper management of this waste stream.

In regard to household hazardous waste (HHW) activities, the Snohomish Health District investigated and resolved approximately 250 complaints concerning the improper management of HHW from 1993 to 1996. Most of these complaints involved improper storage and disposal of waste such as oil, gasoline or paint and paint related products. The Health District has also provided education to homeowners through exhibits at annual public events such as the Evergreen State Fair and Public Health Week. In addition, phone consultation on household hazardous waste has been provided to the public during business hours.

The Health District has also implemented small quantity generator (SQG) activities. (Small quantity generators, SQG's, are businesses which generate and accumulate relatively small amounts of hazardous wastes.) The District investigated and resolved approximately 530 complaints concerning the mismanagement of small business hazardous waste from 1993 to 1996. Most of these complaints involved improper storage and disposal of waste, as did the HHW complaints; however the SQG complaints generally involved larger quantities of waste. Health District staff also participated on the Vector Grit Task Force and wrote/adopted a countywide street waste solids policy; formed a task force known as IRAC to draw local regulatory agencies together and develop a contact and information directory for SQG's; participated on the SQG Advisory Panel; participated in SQG workshops coordinated by SWMD and in the Envirostars forums; attended and staffed a booth at annual Waste Information Conferences.

Following the adoption of the MRW regulations, the Health District also established a program to permit and inspect MRW collection facilities to ensure that there is no threat to public health created through the operation of these facilities. Since the time the regulations were adopted in 1994, seven MRW collection facilities have been reviewed and permitted, and are currently being monitored. These facilities include both the Ports of Everett and Edmonds, various auto parts stores around the county, and the system's drop boxes and transfer stations, all of which are considered "MRW" Limited Facilities. The system's permanent, or "fixed" MRW facility is also permitted by the Health District.

The Health District has also implemented a number of miscellaneous MRW activities since the adoption of the 1993 MRW Plan. These include the following: creating an inventory checklist for school chemical stockrooms with information on how to dispose of wastes; doing waste designation for materials that are not suitable for disposal through a solid waste transfer station; and overseeing the proper cleanup of illegal methamphetamine drug labs.

The Solid Waste Management Division, prior to the passage of the Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan, had developed a residential MRW program. Included were educational programs and some means of regular collection, initially collection events. Since that Plan was adopted in 1993, the system has also begun the development of a small quantity generator program.

While most activities the MRW Plan called for were intended to resolve problems of a relatively immediate nature, the Plan also called for the resolution of a number of longer term problems. In order to address these long term issues the Plan set up two panels to study and discuss the problems and propose suggested solutions.

The first of these panels was the Small Quantity Generator Advisory Panel. This group had a general charge of completing the small quantity generator elements of the MRW Plan. As a component of this charge, the group had a specific responsibility for determining the desirability and feasibility of organized year round hazardous waste disposal opportunities for small quantity generators. If the Panel found such organized disposal to be advantageous, it was to propose options.

The Small Quantity Generator Advisory Panel began meeting in 1994. It investigated and participated in the development of technical assistance and educational programs, year round disposal options, and the implementation within the county of EnviroStars, an incentive program whereby small businesses would be encouraged to handle their hazardous wastes responsibly. Additional activities which were recommended and have been implemented include the production and distribution of a newsletter and technical assistance brochures, and technical assistance by telephone to local businesses.

The SQG Panel developed a list of proposed programs and priorities which can be found in the appendix of this Plan. The Panel also formally recommended that the system establish a fixed facility for year round collection of moderate risk wastes from both residents and small quantity generators. Such a facility was opened in Everett in early 1999.

The second panel which the MRW Plan set up was an Interagency Governmental Coordination Panel. Many different units of government are involved and concerned with the control and management of hazardous wastes. These include the Solid Waste Management Division, the Surface Water Management Division, the Snohomish Health District, and local water and sewage treatment districts. The Plan called for a panel representative of these types of agencies to develop a coordinated approach to regulating and managing moderate risk wastes, and to financing this regulation and management.

The Interagency Coordination Panel began to meet in 1996. It initially concentrated its efforts on identifying the roles of each agency, and publicizing these roles so the public knows which agency to contact when assistance is needed.

The work of the Interagency Coordination Panel must be completed to fully implement the 1993 MRW Management Plan. In addition, the SQG Panel findings must be translated into action. A prerequisite to accomplishing this is to decide which agencies should undertake the recommended programs, and how those programs should be paid for. An ad hoc group, meeting under the auspices of the EnviroStars program, the Solid Waste Management Division, and the Snohomish Health District, undertook a short series of meetings to address those issues. There is a continuing need for stakeholders and decision-makers dealing with all environmental media (ground, surface, storm, and waste water, air, soils, solid waste) to cooperatively develop and implement solutions to MRW related problems.

Wherever possible this Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan update has attempted to include the progress made to date in implementing the MRW Plan. This Plan also includes other updates to the MRW Plan, such as decisions made and changes in priorities. Nevertheless, it must be noted that much of the work of the SQG Panel has not been implemented. Thus, this Comprehensive Plan can not be as complete or definitive in relation to MRW issues as would otherwise be desirable. The 1993 MRW Plan should be seen as the Plan for the system's MRW efforts except where it is in conflict with this Plan.

The 1993 MRW Plan anticipated that an update to that Plan would be prepared in 1997. Since this Comprehensive Plan update coordinates both the system's solid waste and moderate risk waste activities, this Plan should be considered an update to both system Plans. This Plan will be updated no later than 2006, and will continue to include both solid waste and moderate risk waste management. Any prior plans or plan updates remain valid except as they may conflict with this or future updates.

The following programs are designed to address the moderate risk waste planning issue.

I.A.2.j. Latex/Oil Base Paint and Solvent Program

Self-haul, drop-off, and exchange programs are needed for residents, contractors, and other businesses to recycle usable paint and paint related materials and recover or dispose of other materials at a reasonable cost. The system will work with other public entities and the private sector to encourage the provision of these services.

I.A.4.i. Household Moderate Risk Waste Recycling/Disposal Opportunities

One significant difference between household moderate risk wastes on one hand, and recyclables and solid wastes on the other, is that a single collector of MRW generally decides whether the waste will ultimately be recycled or disposed of. In the case of solid wastes, the household generator generally separates what is considered to be recyclable from what the generator considers to be solid waste. After separation, the generator may then self-haul the wastes to a recycling facility, a disposal facility, or a combined facility such as one of the system recycling and transfer stations or drop boxes.

However, in most cases of household moderate risk wastes, the household disposes of all wastes, and the disposal facility decides whether the material will be disposed of or recycled. The significance of this difference is that the generator of solid wastes must be supplied opportunities for both recycling and disposal, while the generator of household MRW need only be supplied opportunities for “disposal” since the “disposal” facility can be expected to recycle the wastes where it is economically feasible to do so.

The Snohomish County Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan currently assumes that residents should have “free,” or low cost opportunities to dispose of their moderate risk wastes. Accordingly, disposal opportunities have been provided to residents, initially through a number of collection events held around the county, and now at the fixed facility in Everett. Residents are not charged for this service, the underlying policy being that residents are more likely to remove toxics from their home if they are not charged. However, surveys of residents who use County provided disposal services indicate that there would be little disagreement with a small charge. Accordingly, charging a modest fee for use of the permanent facility will be considered to help offset associated costs.

Findings from a study of year round disposal options suggested that a fixed, centrally located, permanent facility be developed to increase customer service and decrease program costs. The SQG Advisory Panel and SWAC concurred with this, and the system Council approved construction. Construction was completed in January 1999.

I.A.4.j. Small Quantity Generator Moderate Risk Waste Recycling/Disposal Opportunities

While the system provides residential MRW generators “free” or low cost disposal, system policy has generally been that business generators are expected to pay for disposing the MRW they generate. The theory has been that waste disposal is a cost of doing business, and as the system would not subsidize a solid waste generator, so it should not subsidize a moderate risk waste generator. Moreover, Department of Ecology grants which subsidize household MRW disposal may not be used for SQG waste disposal. Nevertheless, small quantity generators may bring their MRW to the MRW Facility, where they are able to dispose of this waste for a charge prorated to cover their share of expenses.

The system will also explore expanding the latex paint collection program to cover SQGs on a fee for service basis. In addition, the system will evaluate the potential of making household hazardous waste disposal options available to SQGs, again on a fee for service basis, when developing disposal options for specific waste streams. Finally, the system intends to expand efforts to increase participants in MRW programs.

I.A.4.k. Moderate Risk Waste Activities Conducted by Snohomish Health District

The Snohomish Health District is the lead solid waste enforcement agency in Snohomish county, and therefore has the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that moderate risk waste is handled and disposed of in a safe manner. The Health District currently provides, and will continue to provide, the following services to accomplish this objective:

1. Writes, adopts and enforces countywide MRW regulations (Snohomish Health District Sanitary Code, Chapter 3.5, “Regulations Governing Moderate Risk Waste Handling”).
2. Investigates and resolves moderate risk waste complaints related to businesses and households.
3. Ensures the cleanup of illegal drug labs.
4. Ensures the safe operation of the system’s household hazardous waste collec-

tion events and its waste oil and antifreeze drop off stations. These sites are reviewed, permitted and inspected.

5. Ensures the safe operation of all other fixed (permanent), temporary, and limited MRW collection facilities. These sites are also reviewed, permitted, and inspected.
6. Provides technical assistance and education to businesses and households regarding hazardous waste prevention, recycling, and proper storage and disposal.
7. Provides technical assistance to public school laboratories regarding appropriate use, storage, and disposal of hazardous chemicals.
8. Provides technical assistance to Snohomish county citizens and public agencies by participating on various committees and providing education at public events. For example, the Health District has been active on the Snohomish County Vector Waste Task Force, the Stillaguamish Clean Water District Committee (preventing non-point pollution from MRW), the Snohomish County Groundwater Committee, and the Snohomish County Small Quantity Generator Advisory Panel. The Health District's Moderate Risk Waste program has also helped to staff the public information booth at the Evergreen State Fair and other events.
9. Initiated an Interagency Regulatory Assessment Committee (IRAC) to assist small businesses in understanding how different regulatory agencies rules affect their MRW handling practices.

Furthermore, in accordance with the Draft Snohomish County Groundwater Management Plan (1998), the Health District is considering initiating a small quantity generator inspection program. The program would be designed to protect sensitive groundwater supplies, and under it the District would inspect small quantity generators operating within Critical Recharge Areas (CRA's). CRA's are geographical areas which are particularly important in recharging aquifers which lie below them. Since water must move through the Critical Recharge Area to reach the underlying aquifer, any pollution of the CRA, such as from a small quantity generator, results in pollution of the aquifer. Prior to implementing this program, the Board of Health must identify a funding source for, and officially approve it.

I.A.5.c. MRW Rate Incentives

The system will work with the business community and hazardous waste related vendors to encourage the availability of service level options for moderate risk waste disposal which encourage use by smaller businesses.

I.B.4. Ensure the Availability of Self-Haul MRW Disposal Opportunities for Residents and SQG's.

System moderate risk waste activities are designed to minimize the quantity of MRW generated. Nevertheless, some quantity of these wastes will continue to exist, and thus need safe disposal. In contrast to solid wastes, which are generated regularly and by most businesses and households, moderate risk wastes tend to be generated in a scattered and sporadic manner. As a result, regular route collection of these wastes is unlikely to be economically feasible. Instead, the system has opened a fixed MRW Facility, where safe handling and ultimate disposal of these wastes can be certain. SQG businesses are able to dispose of their MRW at this facility, and are charged for processing and disposal/recycling of this waste.

I.B.5. Consider the Desirability of MRW Route Collection Opportunities, and Implement as Appropriate.

In specific instances, such as certain industrial neighborhoods, route collection of MRW could be feasible. The system will work with the private sector and other agencies to determine whether such an activity would be feasible, and if so, encourage and cooperate in its implementation.

I.D.2. Utilize the MRW Facility to Provide Year Round Disposal of Household and SQG Wastes, and to Maximize Opportunities for Reuse, Recycling, Pollution Prevention, and Education.

The system currently contracts with a private company to handle, transport, and dispose of moderate risk waste brought to the MRW Facility in Everett. The operation of this facility allows the system to provide year-round collection services more economically, and also to present opportunities for ongoing educational programs.

Moderate risk waste activities will also help address the waste prevention, content of disposed material, and illegal dumping/other enforcement issues.

Waste Prevention

Waste and pollution prevention are the most environmentally beneficial waste management strategies. Nevertheless, they have not engendered the political support or public enthusiasm associated with recycling. While individual companies can achieve considerable economic benefits through waste and pollution prevention, no other company, such as a hauler or processor of recyclables, will gain from another party reducing their generation of waste. This is contrary to the situation of recyclables, where certain companies earn money by helping others to recycle. Since no such profits exist in the case of waste or pollution prevention, the marketing of these strategies will be left largely to the public sector. If the system believes that these strategies are desirable, it must actively and aggressively encourage them.

This Plan assumes that there is, and will continue to be, public support for waste and pollution prevention programs. Therefore it calls for pollution prevention and waste prevention programs for both solid and moderate risk wastes.

The following programs are designed to address this planning issue and are further described elsewhere in this section.

- I.A.1. Assess needs and educate children, the general public, businesses and institutions, including governmental entities, concerning waste and pollution prevention and recycling.
- I.A.2. Develop and implement programs that will make waste and pollution prevention and recycling easier and more convenient for the general public and businesses and institutions, including governmental entities.
- I.A.3. Assess the desirability and feasibility of legal mandates and public incentives designed to encourage or require waste and pollution prevention and recycling, and implement as appropriate.
- I.A.5. Develop, and where feasible implement, or recommend to the WUTC or other appropriate party, garbage and recycling rate incentives, or other financial incentives, which will encourage waste and pollution prevention and recycling.
- I.B.2. Maintain effective working relationships with haulers and WUTC staff, and comment on proposed WUTC regulatory actions, or otherwise interact with the WUTC where appropriate.
- III.B.2. Maintain effective communications and working relationships with, and where appropriate coordinate actions with, relevant private parties, other subdivisions of Snohomish County government, cities, towns, special purpose districts, and other state subdivisions within the county, other relevant county and city governments, and relevant state and federal agencies.

Recycling

While the Recycling Potential Assessment (RPA) calls for the system to retain the 50% solid waste recycling goal, it calls for the goal year to be flexible, with 2008 being the approximate target year. As this Plan was developed, the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) expressed concerns with the idea of a flexible goal year, believing a flexible goal reflected a lack of resolve to actually accomplish the goal. In addition, some members expressed concerns with how recycling goals are set, particularly in that a goal may ignore economic considerations, or fail to account for the possibility that the purpose of recycling programs may change with time.

In light of these concerns, this Plan calls a 50% recycling goal, to be achieved in approximately 2008, but it also calls for this goal to be re-examined within the next several years. During that year system staff and SWAC will decide whether the goal should be changed, and if so, in what way. Such a change would be considered a minor plan amendment, and in accordance with the Plan modification and revision mechanism presented in Section 1, would be presented to the County Council for their consideration. Similarly, and at the same time, any change in programs necessary to meet the new goal will be derived from Section 3 of this Plan, and also presented to the County Council.

The RPA is the basis for the programs presented in this Plan. The RPA process began with interested parties proposing possible future solid waste recycling programs, and an examination of the materials left in the garbage from each of the generator sectors. Working with the cities, SWMD staff and consultants developed a list of over 300 possible programs. Using criteria developed by the cities and towns, SWMD staff and consultants, this list was eventually reduced to 50 programs. These programs were clustered into six alternate packages of activities. One package was selected based on staff, city and SWAC input. This package was reviewed by interested parties and then reworked to reflect new conditions to minimize system spending and to maximize flexibility. Computer modeling was used and, in addition, a cost analysis was done of existing programs.

The RPA process was intentionally designed to include the input of a number of interests, particularly cities and towns. While consultants were hired to do the RPA, city and town recycling coordinators were involved throughout the process in updates, criteria development, brainstorming potential programs, program and package review, and selection of a package for recommendation. SWAC was also given frequent updates and a SWAC subcommittee assisted in refining the RPA work and selecting a recommended package to present to the entire SWAC. SWAC endorsed the initial recommended package in 1994 and reconfirmed its support of the revised recommended package in 1995.

Other stakeholders gave initial input through a series of stakeholder meetings on the RPA. Separate meetings were held with haulers, processors (CDL and traditional recyclables), drop-off recycling centers, other businesses and trade organizations, agencies, and Master Recycler Composters and dome sponsors. After a single package was selected, one meeting was held inviting all stakeholders to comment.

The RPA examined three main approaches to 50% recycling: a regulatory approach, an education/programmatic approach, and an approach combining the two. With a regulatory approach, the public sector establishes the services to be provided and the private sector implements most of the programs and services. This approach could cost the system the least if the regulations were inexpensive to develop and enforce, but significant reliance on regulations could be unpopular with the public. In some instances, there could be difficulty coordinating the enactment of regulations with the development of the necessary service infrastructure. As a result, this approach is not recommended.

With an educational/programmatic approach, the system would provide numerous educational opportunities for citizens and would also provide some services directly. This approach is much more expensive for the system, though it provides high customer service levels. Due to cost, this approach is also not recommended.

This Plan recommends combining the two approaches. A blend of education/programs and regulations provides both relatively high cost efficiencies and relatively high customer service. In this package, most programs are implemented by the private sector, resulting in savings to the system. A major strategy of the recommended approach is for the system to prioritize work which assists the private sector in successfully implementing services and establishing facilities. If circumstances change, programs can be implemented more aggressively so that the goal year is earlier than 2008.

This Plan defines "recyclable materials" as those solid wastes that are separated for composting, recycling, or reuse into the usable or marketable materials. Materials which are separated, and then used for energy production, such as hogged fuel, would be considered recyclables. Materials disposed of in a landfill or through incineration are not considered recyclable materials, nor are residual material remaining after recyclables have been removed.

The following programs will address recycling issues:

I.A.1.a. School Program

The system will provide assistance in the area of waste/waste and pollution prevention/recycling/MRW education to schools and other agencies involved with the education of children and older students. The system provides phone referrals for speakers, volunteers and service providers; maintains a "lending library" of educational materials and "hands-on" tools, provides educational materials directly to teachers when possible, and cooperates with other youth agencies such as the YMCA Youth Earth Service Corps.

The RPA, project number 13, calls for the system to work with other agencies, such as the Snohomish PUD, to fund two resource conservation education specialists to work with public schools in the county to reduce waste.

The Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Advisory Panel suggested the development and implementation of programs to educate students concerning MRW. In particular, the Panel suggested materials cover alternative handling and disposal methods to minimize and prevent pollution, and the role consumers may play in reducing the use of hazardous materials and in encouraging the appropriate methods for disposing of MRW by businesses.

In discussing the system's responsibilities concerning school programs, the word "school" should be understood broadly. In addition to traditional secondary schools, the system should also be prepared to provide materials to, and if possible more actively assist, vocational schools and colleges.

I.A.1.b. Information Phone Line

The system currently provides, and will continue to provide and promote, a central phone number which the public may call for information on solid and moderate risk waste issues. Callers are served by recorded message, office personnel, or specialists depending upon need. In addition, the system will work with other entities, such as the Health District, to ensure that appropriate information is readily available by phone.

I.A.1.c. Educational/Referral Materials

In response to customer needs, the system will continue to maintain, distribute and publish information on private and public solid and moderate risk waste prevention and recyclable management options, including guides, brochures, and reference lists. Constituent tasks include:

- RPA project number 15 calls for the creation of a series of Waste Prevention Guides, to be used initially in a campaign promoting prevention. Subjects include an overall waste prevention guide and individual guides on food waste, yard debris and grasscycling, and repair shops and charities.
- RPA project number 16 will establish a system to efficiently distribute publications to the public.
- The SQG Panel called for the production and distribution of educational materials associated with the appropriate management of MRW for both the business community and the general public.

I.A.1.d. Customer Outreach and Advertising

The system will continue to ensure that current recycling, waste prevention, and MRW handling/disposal instructions are distributed or published to customers annually. Instructions may be distributed by the system, other governmental entities, organizations, cities, private haulers, or a combination of these. Instructions may be distributed through direct mail, billing inserts, newspaper ads, city, system, and other organizational newsletters, or, in emptied recycling containers. Constituent tasks include:

- RPA project number 3 calls for increasing residential recycling by 10% for each residential unit through a major educational and promotional campaign for one year.
- RPA project number 14 calls for the system to contract with a consultant to develop and implement an education/outreach campaign to reduce the generation of mixed waste paper from commercial and residential sources.
- RPA project number 17 which includes new signage at SWMD facilities required by the implementation of new RPA programs, as well as some general advertising related to new programs.

I.A.2.a. Optimize Private Sector Efforts

RPA project number 1 and research related to MRW conclude that the most cost effective method for the system to divert inappropriate materials out of the solid waste stream is through private sector efforts. This activity will assist the private sector in successfully establishing sites, new services, and new markets for MRW and recyclable materials by:

- Creating an interagency task force to facilitate permitting, siting and regulatory reform.

- Working with relevant groups, such as the Economic Development Council, to locate new recycling and MRW related industries and expand existing businesses in the county.
- Providing information and advice to existing businesses to expand their activities into locations, sectors, and targeted materials not adequately served at present.

I.A.2.b. Increase Collection Customers

Since residents with garbage service automatically receive curbside recycling and have a very high rate of participation, RPA project number 2 has the goal of increasing the number of collection customers. This program will be implemented in coordination with haulers, and develop and implement an outreach campaign for getting more residents who do not subscribe to garbage service to recycle, either through curbside service or other options.

In addition, as called for in the SQG panel document, the system will work with SQG businesses and vendors to encourage the availability and attractiveness of appropriate levels of service, including collection services.

I.A.2.c. Yard Debris/Wood Drop-Off

Drop-off opportunities are needed for contractors, residents, and landscapers to deliver yard debris and clean wood. If the private sector has not provided adequate opportunities by 2005, RPA project number 6 calls for the system to contract with a firm to site and operate two drop-off collection sites.

I.A.2.d. Multi-Family Expansion

RPA project number 8 seeks to expand the number of multifamily residences with recycling services. This is important in light of the fact that Snohomish county's existing multi-family recycling rate is 16%, as compared to nearly 38% for the single family sector. Three components make up the activity:

- Combine multi-family recycling fees with multi-family garbage fees.
- Educate architects and builders to provide adequate space for recycling.
- Provide an outreach program for multi-family owners, managers and residents.

I.A.2.e. Expand Curbside to Business

RPA project number 9 will attempt to expand curbside recyclable collection to very small businesses, which could utilize a recycling collection service similar to that provided residents. Recently, some haulers have begun to offer this service, but

only on the edges of their residential routes. This program will work with haulers to expand the availability of this service and effectively promote its availability.

I.A.2.f. Target Specific Business Types

The County currently monitors business recycling through reports sent by haulers, through informal discussions with businesses and recycling industries serving businesses, and through miscellaneous sources, such as the state recycling survey. RPA project number 10 and SQG related activities will identify groupings of businesses by type, material, or location, with the goal of determining which collection services can be more effectively provided for identified materials. An outreach program will be created for the targeted business types, and barriers to recycling and MRW waste prevention and appropriate disposal will be determined and addressed. Initial emphasis will be on collection of paper and disposal of paints and solvents. Targets will likely need to change with time and more accurate information. As a result activity II.D.5.a., which calls for all programs to contain an evaluation element, will be particularly important in successfully selecting targets.

I.A.2.g. Non-Residential Drop-Off Opportunities

RPA project number 11 will set up five new drop-off locations for small businesses such as the following: those which produce small volumes of recyclables; those which are located far from recycling collection routes; and those for whom the cost of recycling collection service is not economically feasible. This program will be evaluated prior to implementation to determine if the private sector has already fulfilled the need. In addition, the system will continue to ensure that businesses have drop-off opportunities to dispose of MRW at the fixed MRW Facility, and explore opportunities to develop "milk runs" for businesses that generate wastes in amounts too small to work independently with service vendors.

I.A.2.h. Transfer Station Staff Training

The system will develop and implement a training program for its transfer station/drop box staff to enable them to oversee recycling activities, enforce new policies, and educate the public about recycling and MRW options. Job descriptions of these staff will be changed to include these skills within their current positions.

I.A.2.i. Improve In-House Program

The system and cities need to set a good example to other institutions and businesses. Currently, the system's in-house recycling rate is lower than the commercial sector average, and more materials are being disposed of which could be recycled. RPA program number 20 includes the system and cities passing motions

requesting that government business be conducted using copies printed on two sides, as well as other waste prevention activities. Moreover, a more proactive in-house recycling strategy will be developed and implemented.

I.A.3.a. Advance Disposal Fees

Advance Disposal Fees (ADFs) could be the most effective and appropriate incentive mechanism for waste and pollution prevention, especially of moderate risk wastes, and for collection of needed funds for proper recycling or disposal. In order to be effective ADFs must be implemented on a state-wide basis. SWMD will participate in regional and state-wide activities that consider, and if deemed feasible promote, the establishment of ADFs.

I.A.3.b. Mandatory Separation of Cardboard

Cardboard represents approximately 8% of the remaining solid waste stream and is often generated in significant quantities by a relatively small number of generators. In addition, cardboard recycling has significant environmental benefits. Therefore, cardboard recycling is particularly advantageous. If all other private sector and RPA initiatives have not resulted in the capture of most of the remaining disposed-of cardboard by 2005, RPA project number 5 proposes the enactment of an ordinance to require the separation of cardboard from garbage prior to garbage disposal, with the cardboard available to the private sector for collection.

I.A.3.c. Mandatory Separation of Yard Debris

If the private sector has not adequately captured the remaining yard debris being disposed of as garbage, RPA project number 7 calls for the enactment of an ordinance to require that yard debris be separated from garbage prior to disposal.

In addition to recycling related issues, the activities under I.A.1., I.A.2., and I.A.3. are also intended to help resolve the following issues:

- waste prevention
- content of disposed material
- moderate risk waste

I.A.4.a. Single Family Residential Curbside Recyclable Collection

The curbside recycling service zone defines those areas within which curbside recycling is economically reasonable and operationally feasible. This zone is legally established, defined, and modified by Snohomish County Code (SCC)

section 7.42, a copy of which is found in the Appendix of this Plan. The materials that are to be collected for recycling, by haulers within the zone and by other County programs, are also defined by this ordinance.

Within the curbside recycling zone curbside recycling will be provided to all single family garbage service customers. It will also be offered as a separate service available to all households within the curbside service zone, even if they do not subscribe to garbage service. The curbside service zone boundaries will be reviewed by the system for possible expansion at least every other year. Additional details of the single family residential curbside collection program include:

- All new garbage service customers within the curbside recycling service zone receiving recycling receptacles automatically when they subscribe to garbage service.
- Haulers collecting the following materials in all curbside programs: newspaper, cardboard, mixed paper, container glass, metal cans (tin, aluminum, bi-metal), PETE #1 screw top plastics, HDPE #2 bottles and jugs. In addition, the system and haulers will work to add scrap metal.
- Increasing the number of collection customers, as discussed in I.A.2.b above.

I.A.4.b. Residential Multi-Family Recyclable Collection

Service equivalent to single family residential curbside recycling, as described immediately above, will be provided to multi-family complexes with garbage service and located within the curbside recycling service zone. It will also be offered as a separate service available to all complexes within the curbside service zone, whether or not they subscribe to garbage service. In the past, this service has been offered to garbage service customers as a separate subscription service. In the future, this service is to be provided with garbage service as a combined charge. Additional details include:

- Materials to be collected are the same as for single family curbside recycling service.
- Multi-family collection service is to be provided to all garbage service customers which have central garbage collection (rather than curbside pick-up from individual residences) including trailer parks, condominiums, 5-plexes and above. When more appropriate, curbside containers and service can be provided to multi-family residences. Likewise, central containers can be provided to duplexes, tri-plexes and four-plexes if more appropriate.

In addition, Multi-Family Expansion, as described in I.A.2.d., will be undertaken to support this activity.

I.A.4.c. Residential Yard Debris Collection

Residential yard debris collection for composting is offered wherever it is deemed economically reasonable and operationally feasible. In this context “economically reasonable” means that the cost of yard debris processing does not significantly exceed the cost of mixed waste disposal. The total cost of this service to the consumer ultimately depends on the cost associated with physically collecting and transporting the material, plus the cost of composting (or, if disposed, disposing) of the material. In regards to the first component, the cost of physically collecting and transporting the material, the County attempts to control costs to the consumer by considering the operational feasibility of the collection operation.

In reference to the second component, the cost of composting the material, the County has attempted to lower costs in a number of ways. First, the County advises and works with composting operations and entrepreneurs considering operating composting operations. In addition, the County attempts to increase demand for compost by encouraging consumers to use the product, and through programs such as “Soils for Salmon”.

Yard debris service will be available to all single family residents within the yard debris service zone, including those who do not subscribe to garbage collection service. It will be a voluntary subscription service in unincorporated county but may be a mandatory service within the cities. In the future, this service could be adapted to include the collection of select compostables such as food waste, clean wood, and non recyclable paper.

I.A.4.d. Public Residential Recyclable Self-Haul Opportunities

Self-haul (or drop-off) opportunities will be provided at system transfer stations and drop boxes for those who self-haul their garbage. The materials accepted will vary depending upon opportunity and circumstance but will include the widest range of materials, including, where practical, MRW, that can be collected within economic and spatial constraints.

In addition, RPA project number 19 calls for a Transfer Station Staff Training program. Under this program, the system will develop and implement a training program for its existing transfer station/drop box staff to provide information and skills necessary for these staff to oversee recycling activities, enforce new policies, and educate the public about all their recycling options. Furthermore, where appropriate, staff will be trained in the correct handling of MRW. Finally, the Yard Debris/Wood Drop-off (RPA project number 6) described in I.A.2.c., will be implemented in conjunction with this activity.

I.A.4.e. Private Residential Recyclable and Recyclable MRW Self-Haul Opportunities

Private buyback/recycling centers provide important opportunities to self-haul recyclers. It is important to SWMD customers that these centers successfully site and operate in the county. Therefore the system and cities will assist these private activities in the following ways:

1. The system will keep an updated list of properly permitted private drop-off facilities and will make this list available to the public upon request. This list will be used to make phone referrals in response to queries.
2. When possible and appropriate, the system will promote private recycling drop-off facilities in conjunction with other recycling promotional activities.
3. Zoning codes will be reviewed and revised if necessary to ensure that there are reasonable and appropriate opportunities for the establishment of private recycling facilities.
4. Any privatization policies enacted by the system will be favorable to recycling activities.

In addition, activity I.A.2.a. Optimize Private Sector Efforts, presented earlier, will be undertaken in conjunction with this activity.

I.A.4.f. Commercial Recycling Collection

Commercial recycling collection is provided by the private sector. Collectors include waste haulers, buyback centers, large private collection firms such as Weyerhaeuser and Smurfit, and small "mosquito fleet" operators, often consisting of a single pick-up truck and driver. While rapidly expanding, suitable recycling collection service is still not universally available to businesses in Snohomish county. Considerable recyclable paper fiber continues to be landfilled, along with other recyclable commodities of value. Large businesses are now refining their waste management strategies, and thus ensuring that they have the opportunity to recycle, rather than dispose of, the wastes they generate. Medium sized businesses are beginning to receive expanded and more aggressive attention from service providers, while small and more rural businesses still do not have adequate access to service.

The system and cities will assist these private collection activities in the following ways:

1. The system will keep an updated list of properly permitted private collection providers and will make this list available to the public upon request. This list will be used to make phone referrals in response to queries.

2. When possible and appropriate, the system will promote private recycling collectors in conjunction with other recycling promotional activities.
3. The system will work with private collection providers to expand and promote services to businesses that currently lack adequate collection opportunities.

In addition, the following activities, all presented earlier, will be undertaken in conjunction with this activity.

- I.A.2.a. Optimize Private Sector Efforts
- I.A.2.e. Expand Curbside to Businesses
- I.A.2.f. Target Specific Business Types

I.A.4.g. Commercial Self-Haul Opportunities

As in the case of other self-haul recyclers, private buyback/recycling centers provide important opportunities to commercial self-haul recyclers. The activities above under 1.A.2.h., Transfer Station Staff Training, and 1.A.4.e., Private Residential Self-Haul Opportunities, will be implemented with the needs of commercial self-haulers being considered.

I.A.4.h. Construction, Demolition and Landclearing Debris Recycling

Construction, demolition and landclearing (CDL) recycling is undergoing rapid change, and CDL recycling opportunities are especially critical to contractors and developers. Construction and demolition debris represents a significant component of the county system's waste stream, and these materials will continue to be generated in large quantities so long as Snohomish County's population continues its rapid growth. Restrictions on the burning of these materials are more effective if adequate recycling opportunities exist. In addition, local industries are in need of feedstock for manufacturing which is derived from these recyclables.

The system and cities will assist private CDL recycling activities in the following ways:

1. The system will keep an updated list of properly permitted private CDL recyclers and will make this list available to the public upon request. This list will be used to make phone referrals in response to queries.
2. When possible and appropriate, the system will promote CDL recycling opportunities in conjunction with other recycling promotional activities.
3. The system will work with private CDL recyclers to expand and promote services to contractors, developers and other interested parties.

4. Zoning codes will be reviewed and revised if necessary to ensure that there are reasonable and appropriate opportunities for the establishment of private recycling facilities.

In addition, the Solid Waste Advisory Committee has suggested that cities, towns, and County government could possibly increase construction and demolition debris recycling in two ways. First, these governments could include, within their own bid requirements, a requirement that any contractor performing work for the government recycle some proportion of the waste produced during the construction project. Second, these governments could include a requirement for recycling within their building or demolition permit requirements.

Each of these options requires further study, and as a result this Plan calls for staff and SWAC to research and analyze the issues by no later than the year 2004. After this analysis SWAC will decide whether these options should be presented to County Council for their consideration.

Finally, the following activities, previously described, will be implemented in conjunction with this activity:

- I.A.1.e., Volunteer Outreach Program
- I.A.2.a., Optimize Private Sector Efforts
- I.A.2.c., Yard Debris/Wood Drop-off
- I.A.2.h., Transfer Station Staff Training

In addition to recycling, all activities under I.A.4. will also assist in addressing the following planning issues:

- content of disposed material
- illegal dumping/other enforcement issues
- moderate risk waste

I.A.5.a. Garbage and MRW Service Options

Garbage service options have been established and will continue to be offered which encourage recycling and waste prevention. Mini-can or equivalent service will be available to all garbage service customers, and haulers are expected to seek garbage service rate structures which economically reward recycling and discourage unnecessary garbage disposal. To the degree allowable by the WUTC, rate structures should encourage recycling by providing significant cost differential between various levels of service. Haulers are encouraged to consider "garbage by

the pound” collection and billing systems as soon as this technology is operationally and economically feasible.

I.A.5.b. Differential Rate Policy

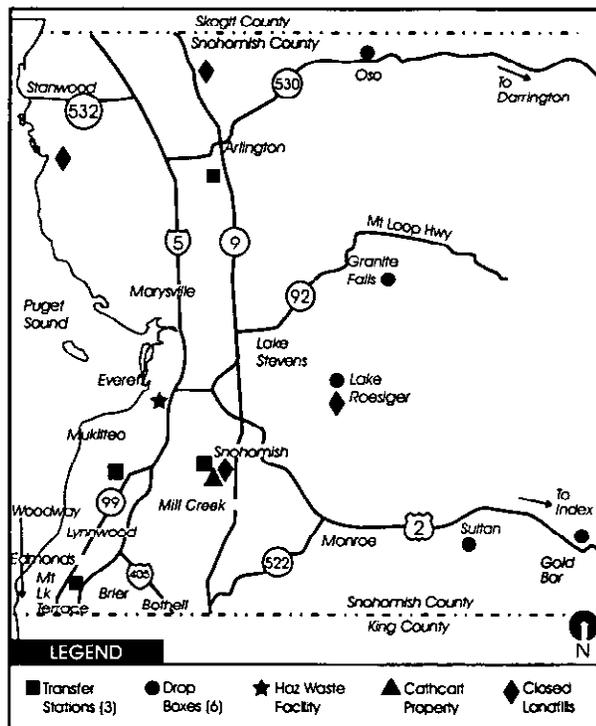
This program, RPA project number 18, will consider the feasibility of charging lower rates for certain recyclable wastes arriving at system facilities as compared with the charges for garbage. The differential rate policy could also allow for a surcharge upon garbage delivered to SWMD facilities with a high percentage of recyclables in it. In addition, activity I.A.3.a., Advance Disposal Fees, may be implemented in conjunction with this activity.

In addition to recycling, activities I.A.5.a. and b. will also help address the waste prevention, moderate risk waste, illegal dumping/other enforcement issues, and content of disposed material planning issues.

I.A.6.b. Recyclable Collection/Transfer Station Compatibility

New truck configurations allow for the collection of separated materials (recyclable, garbage and/or compostables) in a single unit. This can potentially reduce costs, truck traffic and emissions. These configurations will only be practical if transfer stations are able to receive the various material streams or receiving facilities for select materials are clustered near each other. The ability to deal with recyclable streams has been built into the Airport Road Recycling and Transfer Station, as well as the new Southwest Recycling and Transfer Station. In addition, future proposals for public or private garbage (including Construction & Demolition) transfer or disposal sites should address the need for and feasibility of receiving commercial loads of separated recyclables, compostables and garbage.

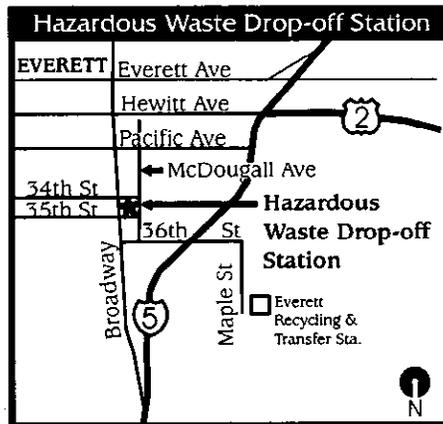
In addition, activity I.A.2.a., Optimize Private Sector Efforts, will be implemented in conjunction with this activity.



This activity will also assist in resolving the content of disposed material planning issues in addition to recycling issues.

I.A.7.a. Procurement Policies

The system and at least 15 of the cities covered in this plan have established procurement policies favorable to recycled content materials. These policies will be adhered to, reviewed and updated periodically. The system will provide system, city, and school district purchasing agents with updated information as available. To the degree possible, bid documents should be written such that recycled content materials and recycling opportunities are priced as an option and given preference.



The system will cooperate with other agencies, trade organizations, such as the Washington Organic Recycling Council and the Industrial Materials Exchange, and private companies to promote the use of recycled content products. When possible, the system will participate in regional "buy recycled" campaigns.

The system and cities will request that bid documents and consultant reports be submitted on recycled content paper and double-sided for waste prevention. The system and cities will encourage haulers and other private recycling service providers to establish and use procurement policies favorable to recycled content materials.

This activity will also help resolve the moderate risk waste issue as well as the recycling issue.

Solid Waste System Capacity

Waste Disposal System Design

The system uses facilities and activities to manage solid waste in the county. The facilities include three transfer stations and five drop box sites located to handle disposal for the four service areas. These include the North County Recycling and Transfer Station in Arlington, Airport Road Recycling and Transfer Station in Everett, Southwest Recycling and Transfer Station in Mountlake Terrace and five drop box facilities to serve East and part of North county, located in Gold Bar,

Granite Falls, Lake Roesiger, Oso and Sultan. Drop boxes are operated primarily for use by residential and small commercial self-haulers of uncompacted waste. See Appendix A for location maps of the transfer stations and drop boxes.

Recycling containers for glass, metals, paper, cardboard and newspapers are located at every transfer station and drop box site. Recycling stations for automotive wastes are located indoors at automotive supply stores countywide and at our sites.

Prior to 1999, household hazardous waste was collected during several widely-advertised free roundups each year. Each event was held in a different service area of the county to offer the greatest possible disposal convenience to county residents. All events each year included collection/swap activities for latex paint and garden supplies. In 1999, a permanent fixed disposal facility opened and is located in Everett. This facility offers year-round disposal of household hazardous waste. The facility is also open for a fee to Small Quantity Generator businesses generally on an appointment-only basis.

System Tonnage 1997-2002 (Actual Disposal)

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
January	30,963	30,814	32,383	32,484	37,024	34,300
February	27,153	27,113	29,546	32,422	30,103	33,509
March	29,950	33,634	34,618	37,056	36,575	34,538
April	30,820	33,451	33,958	35,290	34,989	38,487
May	33,777	32,290	35,262	38,658	38,566	38,663
June	32,570	34,894	36,122	37,153	40,325	38,114
July	34,785	36,683	38,407	38,176	38,266	41,663
August	32,954	34,924	37,485	40,959	39,551	39,595
September	32,891	35,780	35,744	37,556	37,626	37,084
October	34,278	35,467	37,672	36,398	36,372	38,454
November	29,319	30,075	33,509	35,683	37,822	34,895
<u>December</u>	<u>30,378</u>	<u>32,336</u>	<u>35,035</u>	<u>32,919</u>	<u>33,759</u>	<u>35,082</u>
Total	79,838	397,461	419,741	434,754	440,978	444,384
% increase	+ 11.7%	+ 4.6%	+ 5.6%	+ 3.6%	+ 1.4%	+ .8%

Solid waste collected at the drop box sites is transported to the transfer stations, where it is compacted into shipping containers, and hauled to a rail head at Everett. There, it is loaded aboard container trains for export to a landfill in Klickitat County, Washington.



During the late 1990's, there was a significant upsurge in solid waste disposed of within the county. Factors which contributed to this include increases in population, economic vitality, unstable recyclable markets, and commercial and industrial development. Construction activity kept pace to facilitate these increases, and this generated additional quantities of construction and demolition debris. System recycling programs decreased, and this too may have played a role in increased disposal. Finally, average income in the county rose, and per capita waste generation tends to rise with income.

Tonnage growth began to slow in 2000, and in 2002 system tonnage actually declined slightly from the prior year. This was the first time in a decade that tonnage declined. As is the case with increased tonnage, factors leading to lower generation rates include slower population growth, less construction activity, higher unemployment rates, and an overall less robust economic climate.

System Tonnage (Actual Disposal) 1985-1996

<u>Year</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>
1985	234,826	1991	313,592
1986	260,971	1992	301,417
1987	280,086	1993	309,026
1988	311,584	1994	314,746
1989	341,994	1995	323,662
1990	357,788	1996	340,179

In addition to overall changes in countywide tonnage, one additional factor must be considered. Land use patterns are changing, and as a result waste generation is increasing relatively rapidly in east county, where there is no excess capacity.

This Plan anticipates the system being responsible for ensuring the availability of necessary solid waste processing capacity. However, the questions of who will site, finance, construct, and operate facilities remain open. The system has traditionally sited, financed, and operated its stations, and contracted for their construction. Whether the system will do so in the future will be decided for each needed facility on a case-by-case basis.

The system desires that county citizens and businesses pay the lowest rates for solid and moderate risk waste disposal and receive an appropriate level of customer service, when viewed over the long term. One relevant issue is providing service throughout the county, in both urban and rural areas. In addition, the system must consider that waste must be handled and disposed of so as to minimize risks to human health and environmental quality, including minimizing risks to the safety and health of customers and employees of facilities in the County system. In the future, when considering the need for additional waste handling capacity, the system will examine the options available, and choose that option which results in low long term costs, as well as the requisite level of control necessary to ensure that neither human health nor environmental quality are jeopardized. In some cases this decision process could result in a publicly owned and managed facility, in others a publicly owned but privately managed facility, and still others a facility which is privately owned as well as privately managed.

Solid Waste Projections

The Snohomish County Solid Waste Management Division commissioned SERA (Skumatz Economic Research Assoc., Inc.) to compile the Snohomish County Solid Waste Forecast Final Report, 1999.

Key points from this include:

- Mid-90's saw large increase with growth of 11 % in 1997 and 7 % in 1998.
- Growth has since slowed to between 4 % and 5 %, and after 2000 growth rates of approximately 3.5 % annually were expected. The recession of 2001 decreased 2001 growth to just over 1 %, and in 2002 tonnage was slightly lower than in 2001.
- Materials comprising the largest share of potential disposal (i.e., what is left after recycling) include food waste, wood waste, non-recyclable paper, plastic packaging, and construction and demolition debris.

The following data indicates the current and expected future waste generation at each of the existing major system handling facilities.

Tonnage by Facility

Facility	2000	2005	2010
SWRTS	167,758	188,853	217,274
ERTS	154,918	N/A	N/A
ARTS	N/A	174,398	200,643
<u>NCRTS</u>	<u>104,135</u>	<u>117,229</u>	<u>134,971</u>
Total	426,811	480,480	552,888

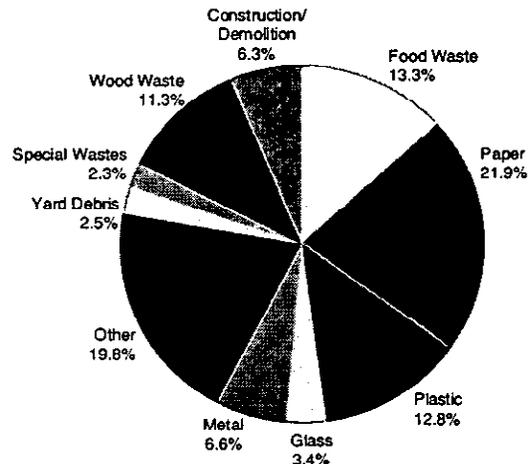
Note: all data are derived from the 1999 study performed by SERA.

The 2001 edition of this Plan contained significant discussion on capacity needs and options for meeting those needs in the southern and central portions of the county. With the reconstruction of the Southwest Recycling and Transfer Station, serving the southern portion of the county, and the construction of the Airport Road Recycling and Transfer Station, serving the central county, the eastern portion of the county is the only area still requiring significant attention.

In conjunction with addressing capacity needs, the system will seek to reduce those needs through waste prevention and recycling activities. With less waste, there is less need for facilities to handle waste. Where practical, waste prevention and recycling are the most environmentally friendly and economically efficient means of reducing the need for new or enhanced facilities.

As a result, the system will implement waste prevention and recycling activities called for within this plan and the Recycling Potential Assessment in a manner designed to reduce pressure on the solid waste handling system. Under this implementation philosophy the system may emphasize programs which prevent waste or increase recycling in areas where capacity is particularly limited. Similarly, the system may seek to minimize particular materials in the waste stream through waste prevention and recycling activities where handling those materials pose operational difficulties. The system may also encourage the development of private recycling facilities so as to reduce pressure on solid waste handling facilities.

Composition of Snohomish County Waste



Unfortunately, it is not feasible to expect waste prevention and recycling programs, by themselves, to fulfill future capacity needs.

Projected Waste Generated by Material Type

<u>Material Type</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2008</u>
Newspaper	7,464	9,889
Cardboard	19,014	25,567
Mixed waste paper, including		
office paper & magazines	29,276	34,322
PETE, HDPE bottles	4,336	5,725
Metals	28,154	37,974
Glass bottles	10,523	13,844
Yard debris	10,297	13,760
Clean wood	11,237	14,921
Rocks, brick, concrete,		
soil, asphalt	9,702	13,082
Gypsum	7,740	10,397
Plastic film	33,836	44,630
Food waste	53,752	69,838
Carpet, textiles	23,464	31,538
Other recyclables	2,465	3,241
<u>Roofing</u>	<u>10,493</u>	<u>15,014</u>
Recycling Tons	261,753	343,742
<u>Non-Recyclable Tons</u>	<u>181,111</u>	<u>241,624</u>
Grand Total	442,864	585,366

Note: all data are derived from the 1999 Waste Forecast by SERA.

I.C.1.a. Privatization Policy

During 1994 the Solid Waste Management Division worked with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and representatives of the private sector to develop a system policy regarding private solid waste handling facilities. In May 1994, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its Carbone decision on flow control. As a result, the established ground rules which had defined the relationship between public and private sector solid waste service providers became uncertain. Hoping this uncertainty would be resolved quickly, it was decided to delay formally implementing the policy. The uncertainty has not been resolved, further delay is undesirable, and accordingly, this Plan will formally implement the policy, which is described below.

Figures may not total 100% due to rounding.

It must be stressed that this policy pertains to facilities which handle "traditional" solid wastes. Recycling facilities as well as moderate and hazardous risk waste facilities are not affected by the policy, and their presence in the county is only limited by health, safety, environmental, and zoning regulations, ordinances and statutes.

A. Introduction

The Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Update adopted in 1989 encouraged "private initiatives in solid waste management," and allowed for the private development and operation of solid waste handling facilities. "Solid waste handling" is defined in RCW 70.95.030(20) and by the Snohomish Health District regulations as ". . . the management, storage, collection, transportation, treatment, utilization, processing and final disposal of solid wastes, including the recovery and recycling of materials from solid wastes, the recovery of energy resources from solid wastes or the conservation of the energy in solid wastes to more useful forms or combinations thereof."

The intention of the system in developing this policy is to set out a framework for negotiations between the parties by defining the reasons the system has developed this policy, and by delineating the requirements which the system will impose upon private parties. Accordingly, the only obligation and legal duty which this policy creates is for the system and private parties to act in good faith.

A basic assumption underlying this policy is that solid waste management is ultimately a system responsibility. This policy further assumes it may be beneficial to county citizens for private parties to help the system fulfill this responsibility. Therefore, all solid waste facilities, whether owned and operated by the system or by private parties, should be seen as components of that solid waste management system identified as optimal by the system. Privately owned facilities are operationally, but not legally, part of the system, except as provided for by specific contracts.

B. Policy Purposes

The general purposes of this policy are to:

1. Allow the development of a competitive environment for the provision of solid waste related services that will preserve the system's ability to fulfill its solid waste related financial obligations and legal mandates, and preserve the system's ability to make and ensure the implementation of solid waste related ordinances and policy; and
2. Encourage the development of such an environment where it will advance these system interests.

C. Policy Application

The system intends that this policy apply to all private facilities where any of those solid wastes destined for disposal and traditionally controlled by the system as part of the solid waste stream are handled, and to rail yards where intermodal transfer of containers of waste occurs. However, this policy is not intended to apply to private facilities that handle only materials intended for recycling, composting, or energy recovery. Materials shall be considered to be "intended" for recycling, composting, or energy recovery when the facility's incoming material has been source separated for the intended use and when the incoming stream of materials does not contain more than 10%, by load, of material unsuitable for recycling, composting, or energy recovery.

Examples of the types of facilities to which this policy does not apply include medical incinerators, other incinerators that burn only materials source separated for energy recovery, waste wood chippers, tire reclamation facilities, and material recovery facilities receiving and handling only source-separated recyclables. In addition, this policy is not intended to address facilities which handle hazardous and moderate risk wastes.

In instances where the applicability of this policy to a proposed facility is open to question, the Director of the Solid Waste Management Division shall have the discretion to apply the policy or exempt the facility from the policy. When a party is aggrieved by the decision of the Director, that party may appeal that decision to the County Executive.

D. Policy Goals

This Policy, and any contract as described in G. below, are intended to achieve the following goals:

1. Ensure environmentally sound solid waste handling and disposal;
2. Promote long term rate stability;
3. Ensure the opportunity for meaningful public participation in decisions about private solid waste facilities;
4. Preserve the system's solid waste revenue base to meet solid waste related obligations, and to support programs and policies;
5. Ensure the system's recycling, waste prevention, resource conservation, and moderate risk waste goals and policies are met;
6. Provide for economic benefit to county citizens;
7. Provide for and encourage comprehensive and convenient services to customers of the system; and
8. Provide for monitoring of contract and permit compliance.

E. Applicable Laws and Regulations

Private solid waste facilities must comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including land use, health, and environmental requirements. Such facilities shall be required to obtain necessary land use permits and perform SEPA review as required. Private project applicants shall develop and provide to the system a plan for obtaining and considering public comment and input on the proposed facility. For private projects proposed in incorporated areas, the system will coordinate with the city or other agency during the SEPA process. The private project applicant shall make the Solid Waste Management Division a party of record in any SEPA process involving the project.

F. Project Initiation

The system envisions that owners/operators of private solid waste facilities may establish their enterprises either in response to a system procurement for solid waste services, or upon their own initiative to site, permit and operate such facilities in the open market in accord with this policy.

G. System/Operator Contract

The system and the owner/operator of a private solid waste facility shall negotiate a contract that addresses at a minimum the following topics. The system shall approve the contract if it is substantially in accord with each of the goals stated in D above and the owner/operator's proposed activities do not conflict with any other provision of this policy.

1. A description of the types of materials to be handled at the private facility;
2. An identification of the customer type, geographic source, destination, disposal and/or final disposition of materials handled at the private facility;
3. Reporting procedures to ensure the ability of the system to effectively plan for system-wide comprehensive solid waste management, including accurate accounting by the contractor for materials handled at the private facility, regardless of whether such materials are generated in or outside the county;
4. Protection for the system in case of disruption of service or default of this contract by the owner/operator;
5. Protection for the system from liabilities arising from the negligent acts or omissions of the private owner/operator;
6. Provision for system commitments under other contracts it has entered into;
7. Provisions for the payment of fees that the system and the private party may owe to each other under the contract, or under local, state, or other applicable law.

H. Effect on System Employees

The system and private owners/operators shall make every reasonable effort to arrange for employment of system employees whose jobs may be lost as a direct result of the private facility operations either elsewhere within the county or at the private facility.

I. Contract Compliance

In all instances the facility scale house will either be operated by or under the direct authority of the system or the facility will be otherwise monitored to the satisfaction of the system to ensure that all contract provisions are met.

J. Role of System Plans

Private facilities handling waste from outside the county shall do so in compliance with the Snohomish County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and the Moderate Risk Waste Plan, and with the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan of the jurisdiction in which the waste is generated, if applicable.

I.C.2.a. Waste Generation Assessment

Waste generation forecasting has and will continue to be an ongoing and vital element of solid waste management planning. Waste generation models will be updated periodically and used in conjunction with program and facility planning and evaluation.

This activity will also help address the waste prevention, recycling, special wastes, waste import, and siting disposal/ recycling facilities issues.

I.C.3.a. Transfer System Needs Assessment

The Solid Waste Management System currently operates three urban recycling and transfer stations (RTS) and five rural drop box sites. These facilities are located as follows:

Transfer Stations:

- North County Recycling and Transfer Station (NCRTS) Arlington
- Airport Road Recycling and Transfer Station (ERTS) Everett
- Southwest Recycling and Transfer Station (SWRTS) Mountlake Terrace

Drop Box Sites:

- Oso
- Lake Roesiger
- Sultan
- Granite Falls
- Gold Bar

With the construction of the Airport Road recycling and Transfer Station and the reconstruction of the Southwest Recycling and Transfer Station, the most immediate capacity needs discussed in this Plan's 2001 edition have been addressed. Two needs remain: the overall requirement for generators to be able to dispose of special wastes, and how to most conveniently and economically meet the disposal needs of those living and doing business in the rapidly growing east county area.

Disposal opportunities for generators of special wastes, including moderate risk wastes, must be available. In some situations the system will provide these opportunities directly, but in other cases the system will either subcontract with the private sector, or encourage the private sector to provide these services.

For a number of reasons, including assessing the adequacy of facilities, the SWMD will maintain and analyze data on system and hauler collected materials including materials destined for disposal, recycling, composting and energy recovery. In order to gather this data, haulers and system subcontractors will submit monthly data reports to the SWMD detailing recycling tonnage, participation, and other information. The system will, on a continuing basis, analyze these data, as well as other information, including information on demographic and economic development trends. The purpose of the analysis will be to determine whether special waste disposal opportunities exist, assess the capacity of the existing solid waste management system to handle anticipated future wastes, and ensure that facilities will exist to handle those wastes.

I.C.3.d. East County Needs

The 1989 update to the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan identified the potential need for a transfer and recycling station to serve the east county area and potentially replace the Monroe Drop Box. A potential location for this facility was identified at that time at the intersection of State Route 2 and New Bunk Foss Road. After reviewing traffic conditions around the area, the project was canceled.

Discussions were held with the City of Monroe in 1995 to assess the need for a new solid waste facility in or near the City of Monroe. Monroe indicated that since mandatory solid waste collection had been implemented within the City, the need for a solid waste transfer site within the city had been significantly diminished.

Subsequent studies of customer use at the Monroe Drop Box indicated that over 80% of the users were from the unincorporated areas of the county around Monroe. In addition, discussions with haulers servicing Monroe and adjacent areas indicated that significant economies would continue to be lost if haulers had to continue traveling to existing more distant facilities to empty their trucks. This loss of hauler efficiency results in higher garbage collection costs to those in the area.

Waste projections show that increasing tonnage can be expected in the eastern part of the county.

In 2002 the Monroe Drop Box was closed. Since then the area has been served by the other drop boxes and, while SWRTS was undergoing reconstruction, the Temporary Recycling and Transfer Station at Cathcart.

Use of this facility has served the area, and few negative impacts to the surrounding area have been noted. The system will have to decide how to best serve this area, and the permanent use of TRTS will be one option examined. As mentioned previously, proper permits would be acquired and extensive public involvement and input sought prior to any change in the present status of TRTS, or any construction of new facilities.

I.C.5.a. Facility Planning Processes

Since additional MRW, recyclable, and solid waste transfer capabilities will be necessary, facilities will be modified or built. The system commits to developing and implementing planning processes to address these needs which integrate early and thorough public involvement and environmental assessment elements. In addition, these processes will also integrate consideration of the proposed facility's impact upon waste prevention and recycling activities. Finally, opportunities to increase financial and other involvement by stakeholders in a fixed MRW facility will be pursued.

Activity I.C.4.a. and I.C.5.a. will also help address the recycling, MRW, special wastes, waste import, and siting disposal/recycling facilities issues.

Identifying the Need For and Siting Disposal/ Recycling Facilities

Solid waste, recycling and composting facilities are often unwelcomed by their potential neighbors. Nevertheless, they are necessary, and so a means of ensuring the ability to locate them must be found. While environmental and land use controls are not a responsibility of the system, the Solid Waste Management Division will cooperate with agencies and jurisdictions with land use and environmental control powers to ensure that such facilities can be located in a fair and equitable manner for those throughout the county who need the facilities as well as those who will be impacted by their location.

In addition to traditional siting difficulties, the siting of recycling facilities has a further complication. Since recyclables are legally a form of solid waste, recycling

facilities must generally meet the same requirements as solid waste handling facilities. Solid waste generally poses environmental dangers which most recyclables don't, and therefore, the criteria for facilities which will handle only recyclables are often excessively rigorous. By having to meet the same criteria, recyclers have an unnecessarily difficult time locating facilities, and the costs for siting and building the facilities is also excessive.

The following programs are designed to address this planning issue and are further described elsewhere in this section.

- I.C.1. Ensure the operation of solid waste and MRW transfer and processing facilities, including those operated by the private sector, sufficient to handle wastes generated within the county in an environmentally safe and economical manner.
- I.C.2. Assess existing and projected waste generation patterns, including the generation of moderate risk and special wastes, and waste prevention and recycling trends, to determine future program, transfer, processing, and transport needs.
- I.C.3. Assess the ability of facilities to meet existing and future needs, including for MRW and special wastes, and for area now served by the Temporary Recycling and Transfer Station.
- I.C.4. Determine whether any deficiency in needs can be met by modifying the overall system, existing facilities or constraints on the system or facilities.
- I.C.5. Design and implement planning processes, including public involvement elements, for those situations where modification to existing facilities or the overall system will enable the system to meet future needs, or where new construction will be necessary.
- III.B.2. Maintain effective communications and working relationships with, and where appropriate coordinate actions with, relevant private parties, other subdivisions of Snohomish County government, cities, towns, special purpose districts, and other state subdivisions within the county, other relevant county and city governments, and relevant state and federal agencies.

Special Wastes

The system has a responsibility to ensure that generators of wastes have a means of disposing of those wastes. If the system desires to continue in the business of solid waste handling, it will be in its own competitive self interest to give generators the opportunity to dispose of a large variety of wastes. In this way generators will find it convenient to use system facilities, and will be more likely to do so.

However, even if the system does not itself provide disposal options, there are at least two reasons why it is necessary for the system to ensure that options exist. First, waste disposal is an economic development issue. Businesses rarely locate, and can not thrive, in places where they cannot conveniently dispose of the waste they generate. Those industries without convenient disposal options will, in the long run, choose to locate elsewhere. When they do so, they take jobs and tax revenues with them.

Even more important than the impact of waste disposal on economic development, the system is responsible for the protection of health and environmental quality. Unfortunately, if generators do not have a convenient means of disposing of their waste, some irresponsible generators will be more likely to dispose of their waste illegally. Others may store the waste while they seek disposal. In any case, such storage or dumping is at best unsightly, and at worst involve environmental and health risks.

Managing these risks and preventing associated damages is the most important role the system has in solid waste management. As a result, ensuring that there are disposal opportunities for waste generated in the county will be a high priority system responsibility.

Although these special wastes represent only a relatively small proportion of the total solid waste generated within the county, the Health District and Solid Waste Management Division receive a significant number of inquiries about a variety of unusual and new wastes. Each of these inquiries represents a customer with a problem. It is the system's responsibility to develop a safe and reasonable disposal option, and also to consider whether to alter system policies or operations in order to provide that disposal option.

The following programs will address this planning issue, and are described elsewhere in this section of the Plan.

- I.C.1. Ensure the operation of solid waste and MRW transfer and processing facilities, including those operated by the private sector, sufficient to handle wastes generated within the county in an environmentally safe and economical manner.
- I.C.2. Assess existing and projected waste generation patterns, including the generation of moderate risk and special wastes, and waste prevention and recycling trends, to determine future program, transfer, processing, and transport needs.
- I.C.3. Assess the ability of facilities to meet existing and future needs, including for MRW and special wastes, and for area now served by the Temporary Recycling and Transfer Station.

- I.C.4. Determine whether any deficiency in needs can be met by modifying the overall system, existing facilities or constraints on the system or facilities.
- I.C.5. Design and implement planning processes, including public involvement elements, for those situations where modification to existing facilities or the overall system will enable the system to meet future needs, or where new construction will be necessary.

Illegal Dumping/Other Enforcement Issues

Illegal dumping is the disposal or handling of waste in a location not permitted for that activity. In some instances this activity will threaten human health or environmental quality, and in other situations it will primarily be more of a nuisance to the owner of the land or adjacent owners. In most situations in Snohomish County current levels of solid waste illegal dumping and unsafe storage practices are not significant health or environmental threats. This is contrary to similar situations involving moderate risk and hazardous wastes, where such practices constitute significant threats.

Despite not being generally dangerous, solid waste illegal dumping and improper storage are localized problems in the county where found. Both are aesthetically displeasing, can reduce real estate values, and represent unwanted costs to property owners. In addition, the improper storage of solid waste can pose local health problems for the offending property owner as well as those living close by. For these reasons this plan assumes the Snohomish Health District and the system will address illegal dumping and other enforcement issues.

The work of the system affects the work of the Health District. The system seeks to minimize illegal dumping and its impacts through advertising campaigns and grant programs. Conversely, actions of the system can unintentionally increase illegal dumping. For instance, when tip fees rise the Health District notices increases in illegal dumping and illegal and unsafe solid waste storage practices.

The following programs are designed to address this planning issue.

II.A.1. Define and Undertake the System's Role in Dealing with Illegal Dumping, and Work with Other County, State and Federal Agencies, and Other Jurisdictions, to Establish the Roles of These Other Parties.

Illegal dumping continues to be a problem throughout the county- in urban and rural areas, and within both the incorporated municipalities and the unincorporated

rated county. Both the Health District and the Solid Waste Management Division play relatively active roles in combating illegal dumping. Unfortunately, the responsibilities and roles of other parties are somewhat unclear, and there is no coordinated approach to the problem. As a possible solution, the system will work with others to define roles and activities, and the Solid Waste Management Division will undertake the role identified. The Solid Waste Advisory Committee has previously examined the role that mandatory garbage collection may play in reducing illegal dumping, and the results of this examination will be considered when considering how illegal dumping may best be prevented and cleaned up.

II.A.3. Develop and Implement Educational Programs Aimed at Those Who Illegally Dump Solid and Moderate Risk Wastes as Well as Landowners Who Suffer Illegal Dumping and Could Secure Their Land to Reduce the Problem.

While an educational effort will not eradicate illegal dumping, education can reduce the problem. Educational activities will be developed and implemented in conjunction with other parties, as identified by activity II.A.1., immediately above. These activities will include public education on special waste alternatives, and problems caused by and the possible legal penalties associated with illegal dumping. Other elements will include educating landowners on how to secure their land so as to discourage illegal dumping.

II.A.4. Develop and Implement a Program to Provide Financial Assistance to Those Citizens and Citizen Groups Who Voluntarily Undertake Cleanup of Lands They Do Not Own, to Certain Landowners Who Have Had Waste Illegally Dumped Upon Their Lands, and to Certain Cities, Towns and Community Groups Which Have Community Cleanups.

The system has developed a program to partially or totally reimburse the solid waste disposal costs of individuals and groups who must dispose of waste they did not generate. In certain cases these are innocent landowners, who permit their land to be used for public recreation, and in other cases they are public service groups which clean up public lands. The system will continue this program and seek ways to increase its effectiveness.

Content of Disposed Material

Many of the programs undertaken by the system are designed to alter the content of waste which generators dispose of. Both waste prevention and recycling programs are designed to alter the quantity and variety of wastes. Moderate risk waste

programs are designed to reduce the toxicity of the leachate produced by waste, as well as reduce the toxicity of sewage and runoff which could degrade ground and surface waters.

While these programs have shown considerable progress, waste from Snohomish county generators still contains useful items, materials which could be easily recycled, and materials which increase the toxicity of our waste's leachate. The Recycling Potential Assessment and the system's future moderate risk waste programs are designed to address these problems. The following activities are designed to address this planning issue and are further described elsewhere in this section.

- I.A.1. Assess needs and educate children, the general public, and businesses and institutions, including governmental entities, concerning solid and moderate risk waste prevention and recycling.
- I.A.2. Develop and implement programs that will make waste prevention and recycling easier and more convenient for the general public and businesses and institutions, including governmental entities.
- I.A.3. Assess the desirability and feasibility of legal mandates and public incentives designed to encourage or require solid and moderate risk waste prevention and recycling, and implement as appropriate.
- I.A.4. Ensure that residents, businesses, and institutions have the opportunity to safely recycle solid and moderate risk wastes, through public or private measures.
- I.A.5. Develop, and where feasible implement, or recommend to the WUTC or other appropriate party, garbage and recycling rate incentives, or other financial incentives, which will encourage solid and moderate risk waste prevention and recycling.
- I.A.6. Assess present and future recyclable transport, processing, and remanufacturing needs and opportunities, and encourage such capability through coordinated actions with private enterprise.
- I.B.4. Ensure the availability of self-haul MRW disposal opportunities for residents and SQG's.
- I.B.5. Consider the desirability of MRW route collection opportunities, and implement as appropriate.
- I.D.2. Utilize the MRW Facility to provide economic year round disposal of household and SQG wastes, and to maximize opportunities for reuse, recycling, pollution prevention, and education.
- III.B.2. Maintain effective communications and working relationships with, and where appropriate coordinate actions with, relevant private parties, other

subdivisions of Snohomish County government, cities, towns, special purpose districts, and other state subdivisions within the county, other relevant county and city governments, and relevant state and federal agencies.

Waste Import/Regional Implications of Decisions

The issue of whether out of county generators should be able to use system facilities is one aspect of regional solid waste management. Since commerce of every other sort is undertaken without regard to county borders, it is questionable whether solid waste management should operate otherwise. On the other hand, the state solid waste management regime assigns responsibility for solid waste management planning to counties and other local governments, which encourages the development of county by county solid waste management systems (see, in general, RCW 70.95 and RCW 36.58).

As a result, Snohomish County, as well as the counties it borders (King, Island, Skagit, and Chelan) manage their wastes individually. While Counties informally cooperate with each other and ensure disposal options will be available in the event of an emergency (for instance, Island and Snohomish County have an agreement under which Island County may use the Snohomish County solid waste management system for its disposal needs in an emergency) such cooperation is relatively informal and sporadic. Facilities are constructed, contracts entered into, and systems financed based on the wastes generated within their borders. As a result the system will seek regional solutions to solid waste problems, but base those solutions on the recognition that the financial integrity of each County's solid waste management system should be protected.

The following programs are designed to address this planning issue and are further described elsewhere in this section.

- I.C.3. Assess the ability of facilities to meet existing and future needs, including for MRW and special wastes, and for area now served by the Temporary Recycling and Transfer Station.
- I.C.5. Design and implement planning processes, including public involvement elements, for those situations where modification to existing facilities or the overall system will enable the system to meet future needs, or where new construction will be necessary.
- III.B.2. Maintain effective communications and working relationships with, and where appropriate coordinate actions with, relevant private parties, other subdivisions of Snohomish County government, cities, towns, special purpose districts, and other state subdivisions within the county, other relevant county and city governments, and relevant state and federal agencies.

The 20-Year Plan



Page

1 Introduction

2 Goal 1: Reduce, or prevent where possible, the generation of solid and moderate risk wastes and their associated problems through service-oriented, cost-effective actions in order to protect human health, safety and environmental quality.

6 Goal 2: To solve problems related to solid and moderate risk waste through service-oriented, cost-effective actions that protect human health and safety and environmental quality.

7 Goal 3: Provide necessary support for the other system goals using service-oriented, cost-effective actions.

This Twenty-Year Plan served as the source of the Six-Year Action Plan, presented previously in Section 2. It was the "menu" from which the six year plan's activities were selected. In particular, the Six-Year Action Plan consists of those activities from this Twenty-Year Plan that will be most effective in resolving the planning issues developed earlier in the planning process. At any time during the six-year planning horizon, activities listed in this Twenty-Year Plan may be undertaken upon a majority vote of the County Council. A major plan amendment process will be required if the system desires to undertake activities not listed in the Twenty-Year Plan within the current Six Year planning horizon. This process includes the involvement of all plan signatory cities and towns as well as Department of Ecology approval.

This Twenty-Year Plan was developed by first developing a mission for solid waste management in Snohomish County. Next, that mission led to a number of goals, and then production of those discrete activities necessary to accomplish each goal. In developing these goals the cost or political desirability of implementing any element was not considered. However, these criteria were considered in developing Section 2 of this Plan, the Six-Year Plan. Furthermore, as future Six-Year Plan updates are developed to account for changing conditions these criteria will be considered.

Constituent activities are inherently included within each activity. For instance, if the activity says "assess the need for..." that activity includes all activities required to assess the need, such as "develop the research plan" or "design and implement a survey and analyze results".

Finally, the relationship between the mission, goals, subgoals, and activities is hierarchical. Conditions imposed by a higher level classification apply to component lower level classifications. For instance, the mission is concerned with "... problems associated with Snohomish county solid and moderate risk wastes". As a result, all of the goals, along with each goal's component subgoals and activities, should be construed to deal exclusively with Snohomish county solid waste. To provide another example, Goal I is concerned with reducing or eliminating wastes, and problems associated with wastes, to protect human health or environmental quality. Since that goal controls all of its component subgoals and activities, those activities must be service-oriented and cost-effective, and only undertaken where human health or environmental quality will benefit.

Mission

The mission of solid waste management in Snohomish county is:

To protect people, the environment, and natural resources by preventing, reducing and solving problems associated with Snohomish county solid and moderate risk wastes.

Goal I

Reduce, or prevent where possible, the generation of solid and moderate risk wastes and their associated problems through service-oriented, cost-effective actions in order to protect human health, safety and environmental quality.

Subgoal I.A. Solid and Moderate Risk Waste Prevention and Recycling

Prevent the generation, and encourage the recycling, of solid and moderate risk waste through service-oriented, cost-effective actions.

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. Assess needs and educate children, the general public, and businesses and institutions, including governmental entities, concerning solid and moderate risk waste prevention and recycling.	yes
2. Develop and implement programs that will make waste prevention and recycling easier and more convenient for the general public and businesses and institutions, including governmental entities.	yes
3. Assess the desirability and feasibility of legal mandates designed to encourage or require solid and moderate risk waste recycling, and implement as appropriate.	yes
4. Ensure that residents, businesses, and institutions have the opportunity to recycle solid and moderate risk wastes, through public or private measures.	yes
5. Develop, and where feasible implement, or recommend to the WUTC or other appropriate party, garbage and recycling rate incentives, or other financial incentives, which will encourage solid and moderate risk waste prevention and recycling.	yes

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
6. Assess present and future recyclable collection, transport, processing, and remanufacturing needs and opportunities, and encourage such capability through coordinated actions with private enterprise.	yes
7. Encourage the development of markets for recyclables and products with recycled content composed of materials collected under system auspices or with system encouragement.	yes

Subgoal I.B. Waste Collection

Ensure the provision of collection services for recyclables and solid and moderate risk wastes where appropriate in light of economic and environmental criteria.

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. Work with cities and towns to investigate the desirability and feasibility of mandatory curbside garbage and recyclable collection for all or designated parts of the county, and implement, or have cities or towns implement, if appropriate.	no
2. Maintain effective working relationships with haulers and WUTC staff, and comment on proposed WUTC regulatory actions, or otherwise interact with the WUTC where appropriate.	yes
3. Consider the desirability of County contracts for collection if changes in state legislation allow for this option.	no
4. Ensure the availability of self-haul MRW disposal opportunities for residents and SQG's.	yes
5. Assess the desirability of MRW route collection opportunities, and implement as appropriate.	no

Subgoal I. C. Waste Transfer, Processing, and Transport

Ensure the availability of customer-oriented and cost-effective facilities and means, designed and managed to ensure the safety of the public and system employees, as well as environmental quality, for the acceptance and processing of solid waste and transport to the disposal site.

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. Ensure the operation of solid and moderate risk waste transfer and processing facilities, including those operated by the private sector, sufficient to handle wastes generated within the county in an environmentally safe and economical manner.	yes
2. Assess existing and projected waste generation patterns, including the generation of special wastes, and waste prevention and recycling trends, to determine future transfer, processing, and transport needs.	yes
3. Assess the ability of facilities to meet existing and future needs, including for MRW and special wastes, and for area now served by the Temporary Recycling and Transfer Station.	yes
4. Determine whether any deficiency in needs can be met by modifying the overall system, existing facilities or constraints on the system or facilities.	yes
5. Design and implement planning processes, including public involvement, when modification to existing facilities or the overall system will enable the system to meet future needs, or when new construction will be necessary, and implement the resulting activities.	yes
6. Contract for outside professional safety analysis of transfer, processing and transport facilities and means vehicles, and take appropriate corrective actions to ensure the safety of the public and employees on at least an annual basis.	no
7. Using a Total Quality Management or other similar line-employee centered approach, analyze design and operations of existing and proposed new facilities and transport system and take corrective actions to optimize efficiency at least every other year.	no
8. Anticipate and react in a timely manner to Health District inspection reports detailing environmental-related problems at system solid waste facilities or concerning waste transport.	yes

Subgoal I.D. Waste Disposal

Ensure the safe, cost-effective disposal of solid and moderate risk waste generated within Snohomish county.

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. Monitor the system's existing solid waste disposal and moderate risk waste collection/ disposal contracts to be certain that all contractual obligations are met by both the system and the contractor.	yes
2. Utilize the Moderate Risk Waste Facility to provide economic year-round disposal of MRW, and to maximize opportunities for reuse, recycling, pollution prevention, and education.	yes
3. In conjunction with the Snohomish Health District and other jurisdictions, ensure that solid and moderate risk waste originating within the county is disposed of, either within or outside the county, by generators or transporters acting independently of the system, in a manner meeting all applicable standards and regulations.	yes

Subgoal I. E. Facility Monitoring and Maintenance

In conjunction with the Snohomish Health District, ensure that all facilities currently or historically used for system solid or moderate risk waste, or for system recycling purposes, are monitored and maintained to ensure protection of environmental quality.

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. Monitor, maintain and supplement all landfill gas and leachate facilities at system facilities, as required.	yes
2. Monitor groundwater and surface/storm water quality at all relevant system facilities and take corrective action as appropriate.	yes
3. Ensure that other facilities currently used for system solid or moderate risk waste, or for system recyclables, are monitored and maintained appropriately.	yes
4. Develop and implement a program to monitor, evaluate and improve facility monitoring and maintenance efforts.	yes

Goal II

To solve problems related to solid and moderate risk waste through service-oriented, cost-effective actions that protect human health and safety and environmental quality.

Subgoal II.A. Illegal Dumping

In conjunction with the Snohomish Health District, support the cleanup of existing illegal dump sites and seek to minimize future illegal dumping.

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. Define the system's role in dealing with illegal dumping, as well as the roles of other County, state and federal agencies, other jurisdictions, and private entities.	yes
2. Develop and apply an overall strategy to fulfill the system's role concerning illegal dumping and coordinate that role with the roles of other jurisdictions.	no
3. Develop and implement educational programs aimed at those who illegally dump solid and moderate risk wastes as well as landowners who suffer illegal dumping and could secure their land to reduce the problem.	yes
4. Develop and implement a program to provide financial assistance to citizens and citizen groups who voluntarily clean up lands they do not own, to certain landowners who have had waste illegally dumped upon their lands, and to certain cities, towns and community groups which have community cleanups.	yes
5. Develop and implement a program which ensures that any identified illegal dumper will be assessed the cost of cleanup plus a penalty sufficient to discourage future illegal dumping.	no
6. Develop a program to identify and implement increased or enhanced service by the system which will lead to reduced illegal dumping, if research indicates service modifications are desirable.	no
7. Develop and implement a comprehensive program to ensure that illegal dump sites are identified and cleaned up in a timely manner.	no

Subgoal II.B. Other Environmental Problems

Identify and remediate other problems resulting from system solid and moderate risk waste activities.

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. Control underdrain problem at the Cathcart Landfill.	yes
2. Using the monitoring program outlined under subgoal I.E., identify other environmental problems resulting from system solid and moderate risk waste activities.	yes
3. Control or otherwise ameliorate other problems resulting from system solid and moderate risk waste activities.	yes

Goal III

Provide necessary support for the other two system goals using service-oriented, cost-effective actions.

Subgoal III.A. Upgrade, Maintain and, As Needed, Repair Facilities and Equipment in a Timely and Efficient Manner

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. Ensure the safe operation of system facilities and equipment by regularly inspecting and maintaining landfill facilities and associated equipment, other facilities and associated equipment, and mobile equipment.	yes
2. Maintain the ability to perform, and undertake major repairs, including emergency repairs, of landfill facilities and associated equipment, other facilities and associated equipment, and mobile equipment, in a timely and efficient manner.	yes
3. Plan, schedule, budget, and modify or update facilities and equipment to conform with new or altered regulatory requirements.	yes

Subgoal III.B. Maintain Effective Communications With Other Organizations and Coordinate System Activities Where Appropriate

Maintain effective communications with other governments, governmental agencies and private groups, and coordinate the system's activities with those of these other organizations when appropriate.

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. Seek to maintain the effectiveness of, provide staff support to, and maintain good working relations with the Solid Waste Advisory Committee as well as ad hoc advisory groups developed to provide advice on particular solid waste issues.	yes
2. Maintain effective communications and working relationships with, and where appropriate coordinate actions with, relevant private parties, other subdivisions of Snohomish County government, cities, towns, special purpose districts, and other state subdivisions within the county, other relevant county and city governments, and relevant state and federal agencies.	yes
3. Monitor relevant developments in the state legislature, Congress, federal and state courts, and administrative law panels, and as appropriate interact with these groups and/or adjust system policies and procedures accordingly.	yes

Subgoal III.C. Public Input, Information and Education Function

Develop and maintain an effective public input, information and education function.

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. Develop and implement a program to encourage, gather, analyze and use public input into proposed and ongoing system operations as well as special one-time projects.	yes
2. Develop and implement a program to provide information to the public concerning system operations and policies and, as appropriate, educate the public on relevant solid and moderate risk wastes and environmental issues.	yes

Subgoal III.D. System Management

Create an environment within the system that maximizes net long term productivity of staff.

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. Develop and maintain an appropriate physical environment, including maintaining sufficient supplies and equipment.	yes
2. Establish system organizational structures wherein relations among employees, and managers, and between employees and managers contributes to maximum net long-term productivity.	yes
3. Organize projects and programs to maximize staff productivity, including clearly delineating responsibilities and rights of all management and staff.	yes
4. Identify other factors, for example financial and psychological, including training and development opportunities, that are integral to the development of an optimal environment. Identify whether those factors are within the control of the system or primarily within the control of others. Improve those factors that are within the control of the system, and work with other parties to improve those factors primarily not within the control of the system.	yes
5. Develop and implement program elements, integral within each activity, to either continuously or periodically monitor, evaluate, and improve all solid waste management activities.	yes

Subgoal III.E. Administrative, Financial Management, and Legal Support

Ensure the provision of administrative, financial management (budget development, financial expenditure, and bond management), and legal services to support other system goals, while simultaneously seeking to reduce unnecessary or excessive related burdens.

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
1. On an ongoing basis, have project managers review the administrative, financial management and legal burdens associated with their projects, and if the function of those burdens is unclear, or associated workload seems excessive, discuss that issue with relevant system and other staff.	yes

Activity	Included in Six-Year Plan
2. Have relevant system staff work with others as appropriate to remove or alter those burdens with minimal purpose or whose burden is excessive.	yes
3. Ensure the long-term financial ability of the system to accomplish mandated and desired activities and to fulfill financial obligations which the system has assumed as a result of its solid waste management, recycling, or moderate risk waste activities.	yes
4. Endeavor to use system equipment and facilities in an optimal manner to ensure the greatest economy to the rate payers.	yes

Planning Background

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Natural and Human Environments

Snohomish county covers 2,064 square miles between Puget Sound on the west and the crest of the Cascade Mountains on the east. The flat river bottoms and gently rolling hills of the county's western half rise into foothills and the Cascade Mountains of the eastern half. In the western lowlands, a natural corridor of accessible land extends north from the Seattle area. Most of the county's urban development has occurred and is expected to continue within this corridor.

The county's position between western ocean salt water and eastern mountains along 48° north latitude gives it a maritime climate. Winters are generally moist, with temperatures dropping into the 30°'s F; summers are generally dry with temperatures in the 70°'s F. Precipitation falls mostly as rain in the lowlands, snow in the mountains, and varies from 30 inches per year near Puget Sound to as much as 200 inches in the Cascades.

Melting snow and glacier ice from these mountains provide the water to start three rivers running through the county — the Skagit, Snohomish, and Stillaguamish. The non-permeable Cascade rock surfaces enable abundant runoff to reach the lowlands, and provide water for the county's industrial, farm and domestic consumers.

The western lowlands were built up from glacial deposition and erosion by rivers and streams. Soils there are more permeable, and while they provide good sources of groundwater, all three river drainage basins typically flood in spring, as do most county stream beds. These flood plains limit land development. Two other factors likewise limit development: (1) steep slopes — 69 square miles of county slopes exceed 15%; and (2) "wet soils" — 214 square miles of land are periodically flooded, are poorly drained, or are constantly wet. The remaining county lands are economically usable.

Urban development and agriculture have displaced most of the original coniferous forests that covered the county. Most forest land is now in second and third growth timber. Timber species in lowland areas are mostly deciduous.

Jurisdictional Roles and Authorities

Twenty-one general-purpose municipalities and three special-purpose districts affect solid waste management in Snohomish county. The general purpose entities include the County government, 19 cities and towns and the Tulalip Tribes. The special districts include the Snohomish Health District, the Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Authority, and Snohomish County Public Utility District No. 1. Each of the twenty-one municipalities must formally adopt this Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan for it to be applicable within their jurisdiction.

The State Department of Ecology (DOE) and Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) also perform important planning, financial assistance, and regulatory functions regarding solid waste management.

Following is a summary of solid waste management roles in Snohomish county.

Department of Ecology

State law (RCW 70.95) assigns to local governments the primary responsibility for solid waste management planning in their jurisdictions. The planning framework must follow that established by DOE, which is charged with creating the state's long-range plan, goals, and policies.

The state controls compliance with RCW 70.95 through its review and approval of solid waste management plans and facility permits. The state delegates regulatory authority over solid waste facilities to local health departments. Issuance of permits by local health departments may be appealed by DOE to the state Pollution Control Hearings Board.

The 1989 "Waste Not Washington" revisions to RCW 70.95 set forth a new order of priorities (RCW 70.95.010 (8)) for solid waste management, as follows:

- (1) Waste reduction
- (2) Recycling, with source separation of recyclable materials as the preferred method
- (3) Energy recovery, incineration or landfilling of separated wastes
- (4) Energy recovery, incineration or landfilling of mixed wastes

By stating in RCW 70.95.010 (9) that "It is the state's goal to achieve a fifty percent recycling rate by 1995," and in (10) that "Steps should be taken to make recycling at least as affordable and convenient to the ratepayer as mixed waste disposal," the state law makes clear that landfilling is the last resort to consider in solid waste management.

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

The WUTC regulates garbage and refuse hauling under RCW 81.77, through the issuance of certificates entitling a hauler to provide solid waste collection services of a certain type (garbage, refuse, demolition) within a specified geographic area. This franchise system under which haulers are permitted to solely operate in particular areas is of importance to Snohomish county because of the county's significant rural population. The franchise system permits the spreading of hauler costs over large populations, which results in lower costs for rural customers. Because their costs are lower, more customers sign up for service, there is less self-

haul traffic to county facilities, and there is less likelihood of illegal dumping and illegal waste storage. However, municipal annexations are increasing. If such annexations result in rural populations being left to pay higher hauler costs, there could be health and environmental related impacts, as well as effects on system facilities.

The authority of the WUTC under RCW 81.77 is limited to collection of solid waste from generators and does not extend directly to the regulation of hauling of solid waste from transfer stations or of recycled materials. The WUTC regulates private companies providing the latter services through issuance of common carrier permits under RCW 81.80.

Snohomish County

Snohomish County, through its Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD), is currently the primary solid waste planning agency in the county. Snohomish County's specific authorities include:

- Preparing and updating the CSWMP under the advisory overview of a Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)
- Managing a countywide transfer and disposal system. This includes the authorities to:
 - design, construct, and operate facilities
 - seek and accept state and federal financial assistance
 - issue general obligation or revenue bonds to cover capital costs
 - assess and collect user fees to offset operating costs, including management and financing costs
 - establish operating rules for system disposal sites.

Snohomish County's authority over and options regarding solid waste collection in unincorporated areas is restricted by the provisions of RCW 36.58A. These, in effect, vest such authority in the WUTC. Although the County may establish mandatory collection districts, in which all solid waste generators must receive and pay for collection services, the WUTC rules on the form of service to be provided. The County may not provide the collection service itself or through direct contract if any qualified garbage and refuse collection company is willing to do so. In addition, if such a district is established, the County becomes ultimately responsible for the collection of fees owed to the collection company.

Local Municipalities

Under state law, cities and towns have a broad range of authority to determine how they wish to manage or delegate control of solid waste generated within their jurisdictions. In Snohomish County, all cities and towns have delegated responsibility for solid waste transfer and disposal operations to the County and all, except the City of Everett, have adopted Resolutions of Concurrence designating the county as their solid waste management planning agency for the purposes of comprehensive plan update. Cities and towns have the option, during each update of a county CSWMP, to keep or change their local approach to solid waste management. Interlocal agreements and other contracts may constrain the approaches available.

In April 1988, the Everett City Council resolved to authorize and develop a separate CSWMP for the city. The resolution required that Everett coordinate its plan with the County's. In October 1990, the City and County entered into an Interlocal Agreement, under which the City assumes responsibility for collecting solid waste generated within its borders, and for using or disposing of recyclable materials outlined in the Agreement. The City uses the system for disposing of all other solid waste.

During 1996 the City updated its CSWMP. This update called for the City and County to negotiate an agreement concerning system decision making, services available to City residents and businesses, and the prices to be paid for these services. If these negotiations proved unsuccessful, the update called for the City to leave the system and develop its own waste disposal mechanism.

Since the system financially depended upon the City's waste, sold bonds stating that the City was part of the system, and considered the 1990 Interlocal Agreement binding, the County filed a declaratory judgment lawsuit to uphold that Agreement. Court rulings to date have upheld the Agreement, and this Plan accordingly assumes that waste from Everett will continue to flow into the system at least until 2010, when the Interlocal Agreement expires.

Tulalip Tribes

The Tulalip Tribes is a federally recognized Indian entity. It retains all jurisdiction over solid waste management on tribal and trust lands within the Tulalip Reservation, which includes about 36 square miles within the County. Its authority also extends over other lands within the Reservation, a fact which effectively excludes the County from extending its planning or regulatory authority or functions over tribal lands.

Solid waste generated on the Reservation is currently handled by a small, relatively unsophisticated drop box on the Reservation, or hauled to system facilities, primarily by certificated public carriers. County jurisdiction over this waste attaches as soon as it enters the unincorporated area of the county or is transported to a system facility within an incorporated city. By virtue of this jurisdiction, the County could prevent and regulate passage of Reservation generated waste through the county.

Because of this and other potential jurisdictional conflicts between the County and the Tribes, the Tribes should be involved in waste management planning processes, and both parties should strive for an interlocal solid waste handling and disposal agreement. Progress in this direction has been made over the last several years, with the Tribe now represented in a nonvoting capacity on the SWAC. In addition, the County and Tribes have begun discussion on a possible solid waste related interlocal agreement.

Snohomish Health District

The Snohomish Health District (SHD) is the county's primary regulatory authority for environmental and public health aspects of solid waste management. The District includes the entire county, the 19 cities and towns, but not the Tulalip Reservation.

Under regulations adopted pursuant to RCW 70.95 and WAC 173-304, SHD's authority covers construction and operation of all solid waste facilities; the storage, collection, transfer and disposal of solid waste; sewerage systems, septic tank installation and pumpers, noise emissions, and other public health activities that might affect the solid waste management system. This charge permits the District to assert regulatory control over both public and private facilities. The County also regulates these facilities through its land use and building regulations process.

Applications for proposed private facilities must be submitted to the Snohomish Health District for review and comment regarding their consistency with this comprehensive solid waste plan. If required by the appropriate zoning code, facilities proposed for unincorporated areas of the county are subject to the County's conditional use permitting process, and facilities within incorporated areas must meet the conditional use permit requirements of the applicable city or town.

Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Authority

The Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Authority (PSAPCA) regulates mobile and stationary sources of air pollutants. Through its urban area burn bans, it has effectively moved woody wastes and slash that was formerly burned into the waste stream. Some of this additional waste goes through the system, and some goes to private facilities. Other areas in which PSAPCA actions affect the system include its regulatory authority over emissions from solid waste equipment (including landfill emissions), composting facilities, and from other facilities that the system might build in the future.

Snohomish County Public Utility District No. 1

The Snohomish County Public Utility District No. 1 (PUD) plays a key role in power supply in Snohomish County. It has the authority to construct electrical generating facilities and to purchase and sell electrical power. These authorities may also give the PUD a role if the system decides to build resource recovery and landfill gas extraction systems.

County Demographics and Employment

The Washington State Growth Management Act requires counties to designate urban growth areas (UGA) based upon the 20-year population projections made for them by the state Office of Financial Management (OFM). By definition, these areas must contain enough space and density to accommodate the projected growth. Counties then allocate data gathering tasks for more specific forecasts, which are essential for planning by cities, towns and rural areas.

Snohomish County's process involved all jurisdictions, the County's Planning Department and the Economic Development Council, through Snohomish County Tomorrow. Subcounty allocations of population and employment were based on the Puget Sound Regional Council's Vision 2020 forecasts, and subsequently refined as the comprehensive planning process evolved.

The OFM forecasts 180,000 additional people taking up residence in this county over the next 15 years. In the Snohomish County proposed comprehensive plan, county forecasters expect to attract into the UGAs 85 % of that population, and up to 96 % of the accompanying employment growth.

The intentions of the management plan are to retain open space and prime agricultural land in the rural areas, and to prevent further development within the flood plain areas. As a result of policies the county and local jurisdictions are

setting with regard to the natural environment, transportation, community facilities, and utility improvements, the portion of Snohomish county lands unavailable for development, reserved for parks or covered by streets is expected to grow from approximately 28 % now to almost 33 % by 2020.

Population

Snohomish county population has increased steadily since the beginning of this century, but between 1980 and 1990, it jumped by nearly 38 %, and has grown another 18 % so far this decade. Just over half of the county's population (50.04 % in 1997) resides in unincorporated areas. Snohomish county's 19 incorporated cities and towns have largely increased their populations by annexing adjacent areas. Now, in the late-'90s, Snohomish is the state's third most populous county at over 550,000 people.

This rapid growth puts pressure on transportation networks, services and county lands, and requires critical assessments of how to manage the over 40 % boost, to 715,000 people, anticipated through 2012. The Growth Management Act of 1990 was the state legislature's response to these developments in Snohomish county and the rest of the central Puget Sound region. The counties are directed to create plans within this framework. The table below illustrates this growth.

Average household size, projected by the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), will continue its long-term decline from 3.25 persons per occupied housing unit in 1960 to 2.47 in 2010. Contributing factors include postponement of marriage and childbearing to later years, fewer children per family now than in the past, increased frequency of divorce and separation, and elderly surviving spouses living alone for longer periods of time than in the past.

Median age will rise from 32.1 to 36.2, and small population gains in the under 25 age group will not offset the dramatic gains by the 45 and over group. While annual birthrates are high in the county (8,285 in 1990), most population increase results from in-migration. Most people settle around Everett and in the southwest portion of the county. In 1970, the county's population density was 1.44 persons per acre; in 1980, 1.83 persons per acre, and by 2010, that density is forecast to reach 3.65 persons per acre — an average some 40 percent higher than elsewhere in the Puget Sound region.

CITY	POPULATION			PERCENT CHANGE	
	1980	1990	1997	1980-90	1990-97
Arlington	3,262	4,037	6,010	23.0%	48.9%
Bothell (part)	N/A	350	12,500	N/A	3471.4
Brier	2,915	5,633	6,185	93.2	9.8
Darrington	1,064	1,042	1,185	- 2.1	13.7
Edmonds	27,679	30,743	35,470	11.1	15.4
Everett	54,413	69,974	84,130	28.8	20.2
Gold Bar	794	1,078	1,520	35.8	10.9
Granite Falls	911	1,080	1,830	16.4	41.0
Index	147	138	141	- 5.4	2.2
Lake Stevens	1,860	3,435	5,290	106.9	54.0
Lynnwood	22,641	26,637	33,070	26.5	24.2
Marysville	5,544	10,326	18,770	86.3	81.8
Mill Creek	N/A	7,180	9,798	N/A	36.5
Monroe	2,869	4,275	8,670	49.0	102.8
Mtlk. Terrace	16,534	19,320	20,360	16.9	5.4
Mukilteo	1,428	6,962	15,890	389.9	128.2
Snohomish	5,294	6,499	7,856	22.8	20.9
Stanwood	1,646	1,961	3,050	19.1	55.6
Sultan	1,578	2,236	2,658	41.7	18.9
Woodway	832	914	985	9.9	7.8
Incorporated	151,229	205,832	275,390	36.1	33.8
Unincorporated	186,491	259,796	275,810	39.3	6.2
TOTAL	337,720	465,628	551,200	37.9	18.4

Snohomish County Projected Households, Existing Conditions (000s)

HOUSEHOLD TYPE	1990	2000	2010	2020
Single-family	129.2	166.7	197.5	228.2
Multi-family	42.5	63.3	80.5	96.3
Total	171.7	230.0	278.0	324.5

Employment

Snohomish county added more than 70,000 jobs between 1980 and 1991, according to the Washington State Employment Security Department. It is forecast to add another 90,000 by the year 2010, for a total of 263,252, a 62% gain over 1980. As

with population, employment is growing more rapidly here than elsewhere in the region.

	1980	1990	2000	2010	% +/-
Manufacturing	34,500	50,009	65,133	68,786	+ 37.5
Wholesl/Transport/ Comm/Utility	8,900	12,897	16,596	20,778	61.1
Retail	21,400	35,390	48,846	60,960	72.3
Services	20,600	38,490	54,191	69,144	79.6
Govt/Educ	18,000	25,691	38,309	43,584	69.6
Total Employment	103,400	162,477	223,075	263,252	62.0

Historically, Snohomish county has been economically dependent upon agriculture, forest products and fishing. The economy has diversified, however, and now barely 1 % of total county employment is in these areas. Though manufacturing now employs the largest number of people in Snohomish county, OFM and PSRC forecast that the retail and services sectors will grow faster in the next two decades (72.3 % and 79.6 % respectively vs. 61.1 %), and that services will surpass manufacturing as the largest employment sector by 2010.

Currently, the county's top employers by employee count are:

1 Boeing	34,000
2 Naval Station Everett	6,250
3 State of Washington	4,200
4 Edmonds School District	2,800
5 Providence Gen'l. Med. Center	2,300
6 Tramco/ BF Goodrich	2,200
7 Everett School District	2,180
8 GTE Northwest	2,142
9 Snohomish County Government	2,041
10 Safeway	1,500
11 Fluke Corporation	1,500
12 Tulalip Tribes Enterprises	1,350
13 Blue Cross of WA and AK	1,345
14 Marysville School District	1,300
15 Advanced Technology Labs	1,297
16 Stevens Healthcare	1,200
17 Kimberly Clark	1,000
18 QFC	1,000
19 Snohomish County PUD #1	970
20 City of Everett	950

Land Use

Major industries are currently and expected to continue to remain concentrated around Everett and south along I-5 and I-405, while lighter industries extend along I-5 as far north as Arlington. The flood plains of the Stillaguamish and Snohomish River systems cross the urban corridor and serve as a constraint to urban land uses.

Other urban land uses in the county are concentrated in and around the communities located in the Snohomish, Skykomish, and Stillaguamish River valleys. Much of the river bottom land has been developed for farming, while the land at higher elevations and the mountainous eastern portion of the county remains largely in timber. The eastern part of the county lies within the national forest.

Approximately 17% of the county's land is developed for residential purposes, while 6% is used for employment. This 3:1 ratio is expected to fall to 2:1 by 2020, as industrial development continues within the county. By 2020, land used for employment is projected to more than double to over 14% of total land use, while residential land use is expected to grow more slowly to 26%.

Solid Waste Collection Services in Snohomish County

All of Snohomish county is served either by a private or municipal collection service. In unincorporated areas, solid waste collection is currently provided to residents on a voluntary basis by seven private companies operating under certificates issued by the WUTC. They include:

- Rabanco/Lynnwood Disposal
1600 - 127th Avenue NE, Bellevue, WA 98005
- Rubatino Refuse Removal, Inc.
PO Box 1029, Everett, WA 98206

- Sound Disposal, Inc.
P.O. Box 487, Edmonds, WA 98020
- Stanwood-Camano Disposal, Inc.
26020 64th Avenue N.W., Stanwood, WA 98292
- Waste Management Northwest
P.O. Box 12070, Mill Creek, WA 98082

Three industrial refuse-only collection companies also provide services to points and premises in the county. The service areas for refuse-only collectors are not specified in their WUTC certificates. The companies include:

- Rubatino Refuse Removal, Inc. (see above)
- Amalgamated Services, Inc.
21318 103rd Place W.,
Kent, WA 98031
- Environmental Transport, Inc.
P.O. Box 84661 Seattle, WA 98124

As WUTC records indicate, no formal complaints filed against certificated collection companies in Snohomish county, the private collectors apparently provide reliable and consistent service to residential and commercial accounts.

In the more rural areas, certificated collection and self-haul programs appear to maintain adequate service levels, although rural municipalities that provide collection service in their incorporated areas generally do not have the resources or equipment suitable to serve the larger commercial accounts. One alternative measure for these municipalities may be to contract with a private collection company to service their large commercial accounts.

Type of Collection Service by Municipal Jurisdiction

Municipality	Form of Collection Service	Mandatory Regulation
Arlington	Contract	Yes
Brier	License	No
Darrington	License	Yes
Edmonds	License	No
Everett	WUTC Certificate	No
Gold Bar	Contract	No
Granite Falls	Contract	No
Index	Municipal	Yes
Lake Stevens	WUTC Certificate	No
Lynnwood	Contract	No
Marysville	Municipal	Yes
Mill Creek	License	No
Monroe	License	Yes
Mountlake Terrace	Contract	Yes
Mukilteo	WUTC Certificate	No
Snohomish	License	Yes
Stanwood	License	No
Sultan	Municipal	Yes
Woodway	License	No

Licensed Collection: Municipalities may require that haulers operating within their jurisdiction have a license, as well as a WUTC certificate. The license is issued by the municipality, and allows the municipality some measure of control over collection through monitoring of collection and operating conditions and establishment of rates. Under the licensing system, collectors usually do their own billing, and subscription for service is voluntary. Fees charged by city-licensed private collection companies are generally fixed by a resolution of the city or town council, but are based upon WUTC approved tariff. It is the collector's responsibility to collect fees for services rendered and to remit a franchise tax, and frequently a fee based on gross receipts, to the municipality it serves.

Contracted Collection: A municipality may contract with private collectors for residential and commercial collection services within all or part of its incorporated area. By using the contract mechanism the municipality can exert the greatest control over collection without operating its own municipal collection system. Under the contract system, management and regulation are the responsibility of

the municipality. The contract controls collection frequency, rates, billings, and other operating conditions the municipality negotiates with the hauler. Fees charged by contracted collection companies are generally established by the city or town council. Collection of fees may be the responsibility of either the municipality or the collection company, and is determined by the contract specifications.

Municipal Collection: Municipalities may also use their own equipment and staff to operate their own collection systems. A municipality determines its own collection frequency, rate structures, and other operating conditions. The municipality is responsible for billing, and collection service is generally provided to the residents on a mandatory basis.

The future demand for solid waste collection in each service area will depend on population growth patterns within the county. Collection needs in county areas projecting moderate growth should be met easily by the collection companies currently serving them. However, meeting the collection needs of rapidly growing areas (e.g., in the southwest and east service areas) will require planning by the collection companies and evaluation of the potential need for additional facilities such as new transfer stations or drop boxes.

Increases in population density will, in some cases, result in concentrated collection routes and therefore more efficient and less costly operations. Future service improvements, including modifications to support curbside recycling and other new solid waste programs, will also affect the projected operational and equipment needs of solid waste collection systems.

As the table indicates, only 8 of the 19 cities and towns in the county require mandatory collection of residential solid waste. Significantly, some of the largest municipalities such as Everett, Edmonds, and Lynnwood do not have mandatory collection service.

While mandatory collection programs tend to sometimes be unpopular, they do have significant benefits, including the following:

- Aesthetics—guaranteed waste removal on a regular schedule
- Health—regular removal eliminates the potential for breeding diseases and harmful insects and attracting rodents
- Economics of scale — costs drop as system usage increases
- Environmental —controlling the ultimate disposition of wastes
- Energy—energy consumed per residence served decreases as service area density increases

The greater the housing unit density and population, the more economically and environmentally beneficial mandatory waste collection and curbside recycling become. These areas enable collection to operate more efficiently because of the short travel distances between stops.

Transportation Network

Most arterials and highways between Marysville and the south county line are in urban areas with high traffic volumes and side friction from parking and driveways. Outside of this corridor, the county is largely rural. Most area highways have light traffic volumes, few intersection controls and little side friction.

North-south highways through the county include State Routes (SR) 99, 9, 203, and 527, and Interstates 5 and 405. Portions of these roadways in south Snohomish County are routinely congested during the morning and evening commute periods.

East-west routes through the county are mostly streets and avenues not designed for the increasingly heavy traffic they carry. Snohomish County has been upgrading key routes, such as 132nd Street Southeast between SR 527 and Seattle Hill Road, 164th Street Southeast and Southwest 36th Avenue west to Mill Creek, and 128th Street Southwest (Airport Road) from 8th Avenue West to SR 99. These improvements ease traffic congestion in the most populous and fastest-growing southwestern portions of the county. To the east of Everett, SR 2 has been upgraded between Hewitt Street causeway and Monroe, but future improvements to SR 2, 92, and 530 depend on increased traffic volumes.

Vehicle Use Regulations

None of the major arterials includes restrictions below standard WUTC dimensions. Allowable vehicle weights under normal conditions depend upon the configuration of the vehicle. Emergency load restrictions are occasionally imposed in spring during periods of thaw, and if flooding is severe enough, some collection and transport activities must be postponed. Thanks to the mild climate, however, emergency restrictions are infrequent and usually of short duration.

Rail System

The freight rail system in Snohomish county is served by Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. Routes run from the north to the south along the coast in the county, as well as west to east from Everett to Stevens Pass. Passenger rail system is provided by AMTRAK. In the state of Washington, AMTRAK is operated on the same trackage as Burlington Northern Santa Fe. Passenger stations within Snohomish County are located in Edmonds and Everett.



Appendix A

Snohomish County Public Works Determination of Non-Significance

Date issued: January 10, 2000

The issuance of this Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) should not be interpreted as acceptance or approval of the subject proposal presented. Snohomish County reserves the right to deny or approve said proposal subject to conditions if it is determined to be in the best interests of the County and/or necessary to the general health, safety, and welfare of the public to do so.

FILE NAME:

Snohomish County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Update

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL:

Snohomish County is updating its Solid Waste Management Plan. The intent is to help protect and preserve human health, environmental quality, and natural resources by guiding solid and moderate risk waste efforts and decisions in Snohomish County between 2000 and 2006, and influencing them further into the future. As the latest update to the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, this document is meant to replace all previous plan updates. In addition, this document is intended to begin the consolidation of the County's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and the Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan (MRW Plan).

The Plan does not detail the solid waste related activities which will be undertaken, but instead discusses the types of activities necessary if solid waste generated within the County is to be managed in a safe and economical manner. The Update contains a six-year plan that describes what will need to be accomplished between 2000 and 2006, and a twenty-year plan that presents the mission and goals for solid waste management in the future.

Programs, policies, and facilities that may be developed or implemented during the six to twenty-year planning horizon have the potential to impact the environment. Some of these would have adverse impacts, some would benefit the environment, and some may have both adverse and beneficial effects on the environment. This environmental review occurs as part of the Plan update process.

LOCATION OF PROPOSAL:

Snohomish County-wide

PROPONENT & LEAD AGENCY: Snohomish County

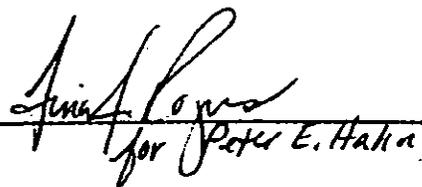
DEPARTMENT: Snohomish County Department of Public Works
Solid Waste Management Division
2930 Wetmore Avenue
Everett, WA 98201

THRESHOLD DETERMINATION: 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 by Snohomish County of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with this agency. This information is available for public review upon request. This DNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 15 days from the date below.

Written comments may be submitted to the lead agency, to the attention of Rubin Yu, at the above address. Comments must be received by January 31, 2000.

This DNS along with the subsequent decision by the County to pursue or not pursue the described action may be appealed in the superior court of Snohomish County, at Everett, Washington. A Notice of Action describing the final decision by the County to pursue or not pursue the proposed project will be mailed to you and published in the paper of record for two consecutive weeks. The notice of intent to commence a judicial appeal shall be filed with the Clerk of the Snohomish County Superior Court, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett, WA 98201-4046, phone: (425) 388-3466, within 21 days following the last week of publication in the paper.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Peter E. Hahn
POSITION/TITLE: Public Works Director

SIGNATURE:  **DATE:** January 7, 2000
for Peter E. Hahn

Rubin Yu, Senior Environmental Planner
Public Involvement/Environmental Section
to discuss this checklist, Or
Steve Goldstein, Principal Planner
Solid Waste Management Division
to discuss the Solid Waste Management Plan Update

DISTRIBUTION LIST:

Federal Agencies:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Federal Highway Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service.

Tribal Government:

Tulalip Tribe, Muckleshoot Tribe.

State Agencies:

Department of Ecology (Environmental Review Section), Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources [Natural Heritage Program/Environmental], Department of Transportation, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

Regional Agencies:

Puget Sound Clear Air Agency, Puget Sound Water Quality Authority.

County Departments:

Executive Office, County Council, Planning and Development Services.

Other Agencies:

Snohomish Health District

Cities:

Arlington, Bothell, Brier, Darrington, Edmonds, Everett, Gold Bar, Granite Falls, Index, Lake Stevens, Lynnwood, Marysville, Mill Creek, Monroe, Montlake Terrace, Mukilteo, Seattle, Snohomish, Stanwood, Sultan, Woodway.

Counties:

King County Solid Waste Management, Skagit County Public Works, Island County Public Works, Klickitat County Public Works.

Public Service Organizations:

Snohomish County PUD #1. Puget Sound Energy.

Libraries:

Everett, Bothell, Sno-Isle Regional Libraries: Arlington Branch, Darrington Branch, Granite Falls Branch, Lake Stevens Branch, Lynnwood Branch, Marysville Branch, Mill Creek Branch, Monroe Branch, Mukilteo Branch, Snohomish Branch, Stanwood Branch, Sultan Branch.

Community Organizations:

Cathcart Citizen's Review Board Members
Pilchuck Audubon Society
League of Women Voters Conservation Committee



Snohomish County

Expanded Environmental Checklist

Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Update

Prepared By
Snohomish County Department of Public Works
Public Involvement/Environmental

January, 2000

This Environmental Checklist has been prepared in order to comply with
The Washington State Environmental Act, Chapter 43.21C RCW.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS 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.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project:

Snohomish County Solid Waste Management Plan Update

2. Name of applicant:

Snohomish County

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

Snohomish County Public Works Department
Solid Waste Management Division
2930 Wetmore Avenue, Suite 101
Everett, WA 98201

Contact: Rubin Yu, Senior Environmental Planner
Public Involvement/Environmental Group
425-388-3488 ext. 4516, to discuss this checklist

Or

Steve Goldstein, Principal Planner
Solid Waste Management Division
425-388-6483, to discuss the Solid Waste Management Plan

4. Date checklist prepared:

January, 2000

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Snohomish County Public Works

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

The Snohomish County Solid Waste Management Plan Update will be approved by the cities and towns of Snohomish County, and by the Snohomish County Council, during the year 2000. The Plan update will be in effect for six years from its date of approval by the Washington State Department of Ecology.

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

Washington State Statute (RCW 70.95.110) requires solid waste plans to be kept current and formally updated every six years, therefore, the Plan will be updated by 2006. Projects may be implemented and construction undertaken in association with this current plan update. In such instances, project specific environmental review will accompany planning and permitting where required.

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

This Plan is the latest in a series of comprehensive solid waste related plans prepared by the Snohomish County Solid Waste Management Division. The first solid waste management plan was prepared in 1974, and was updated in 1980 and 1990. In 1993 the Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan was prepared. These documents underwent environmental review. Other relevant environmental documents include:

- *Final EIS for Snohomish County General Policy Plan, 1994*
- *Snohomish County Moderate Risk Waste (MRW) Fixed Facility Environmental Checklist, 1997*
- *Southwest Recycling & Transfer Station Draft EIS, September, 1999.*
- *Cathcart Site Land Use Feasibility Study (under way).*

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.

An application has been submitted to alter the Conditional Use Permits controlling the use of the Cathcart site. The Cathcart site is a 640-acre parcel of property upon which the closed Cathcart Landfill is located, as well as the unused Regional Landfill. The requested alterations to the Conditional Use Permits are to permit the construction and operation of a temporary solid waste transfer station, and to add an easement for the construction of a water pipeline.

A proposal to expand the Southwest Recycling and Transfer Station located in Mountlake Terrace recently underwent environmental review. This project is expected to be constructed between the years 2000 and 2001. The project will require permits and approvals prior to construction.

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

The Snohomish County Council and the Washington State Department of Ecology must approve this plan update. Cities and towns within Snohomish County may wish to adopt this Plan. Projects resulting from the plan may require federal, state, and/or local permits and approvals.

11. Location of proposal

This plan affects solid and moderate risk waste management throughout Snohomish County. Snohomish County is located in the central Puget Sound region between King, Skagit, Chelan, and Island Counties.

12. Give a brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site.

Snohomish County is updating its Solid Waste Management Plan. The intent is to help protect and preserve human health, environmental quality, and natural resources by guiding solid and moderate risk waste efforts and decisions in Snohomish County between 2000 and 2006, and influencing them further into the future. As the latest update to the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, this document is meant to replace all previous plan updates. In addition, this document is intended to begin the consolidation of the County's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan and the Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan (MRW Plan).

The Plan does not detail the specific solid waste related activities which will be undertaken, but instead discusses the types of activities necessary if solid waste generated within the county is to be managed in a safe and economical manner. The Update contains a six-year plan that describes what will need to be accomplished between 2000

and 2006, and a twenty-year plan that presents the mission and goals for solid waste management in the future

Programs, policies, and facilities that may be developed or implemented during the six to twenty-year planning horizon have the potential to impact the environment. Some of these would have adverse impacts, some would benefit the environment, and some may have both adverse and beneficial effects on the environment. Some of the potential programs, policies or facilities resulting from the Plan include the following (see the Solid Waste Management Plan for more detail concerning these items):

- Waste transfer facilities
- Collection events
- Drop boxes
- Education programs
- Private sector incentives
- Rate policy changes and incentives
- Volunteer outreach programs
- Waste importing
- Data collection
- Paint and solvent recycling program
- Route collection of moderate risk waste
- Public/legal mandates
- Expanded curbside recycling
- Waste prevention programs
- Privatization of certain solid and moderate risk waste activities

This environmental review occurs as part of the Plan update process.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

Generally, this plan update does not call for the construction of specific facilities, although it does indicate the types of facilities that may be required in the six and twenty year planning horizons. It is likely that facilities will be built while this update is in effect. Therefore, the following information is provided for general background purposes and where possible to assess the potential impacts of programs, policies, and facilities that may result from the plan. The plan itself generally has no environmental impacts.

1. Earth

a. General description of the site: flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other.

Snohomish County encompasses approximately 2,098 square miles. Six major topographic plateaus separated by narrow streams and broad river channels characterize the western portion of the county. Floodplains formed by the Snoqualmie, Skykomish, Snohomish and Stillaguamish Rivers create topographic boundaries between the plateaus. The land in this area is nearly level, and rolling in benchlike glaciated plains. The eastern portion of the county contains the foothills of the Cascade Mountain Range. Very steep mountains and narrow valleys characterize this area. Existing and potential new solid waste facilities are, or would be generally located in the more urbanized western part of the county.

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

Slopes in the county vary widely ranging from 0 percent to over 50 percent. The topography is mainly the result of the latest glacial activity, which ended some 11,000 years ago. The western portion of the county features generally rolling terrain divided by numerous rivers and streams. The Snohomish River and its broad flat floodplain is a major feature of the south-central area. Similarly, the Stillaguamish River divides the northern area with its flat floodplain. Localized areas of flat and steep terrain are scattered throughout the western part of the county. Farther east the hills rise to become the Cascade Range. This steep terrain is a major factor in restricting the vast majority of development to the flatter areas near Puget Sound.

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.

Three distinct physiographical areas characterize the soils of the county: nearly level alluvial deposits along the major rivers; glacial till plains, and terraces in the western portion of the county; and mountainous areas in the eastern portion of the county. Alluvial river deposits are primarily composed of Puget-Sultan-Pilchuck soils. These

river valley deposits are wet, poorly drained soils that can present engineering difficulties due to drainage problems (USDA 1983).

The land between the flood plains of the river valleys typically contains Norma-Lynnwood-Custer, Alderwood-Everett, and Tokul-Pastik soils. These soils types are located on outwash plains, terraces, and till plains, and have varying degrees of drainage and slope. Upland areas in the western part of the county contain primarily Alderwood-Everett soils, which are generally suitable for development. Low-permeability cemented hardpan units are often present in the Alderwood-Everett series and these soils can provide protection for underlying groundwater. However, they can also present drainage and excavation problems for large excavations. Upland areas in the central part of the county are dominated by Tokul-Pastik soils, which are moderately well drained and generally suitable for development (USDA 1983).

The eastern portions of the county contains soils typically found in more mountainous areas and include Elwell-Olomount-Skykomish and Getchell-Oso types. These soils are moderate to very deep, have well draining characteristics, and are found in areas with level to mountainous slopes (USDA 1983).

The eastern areas of the county are predominantly in the Elwell-Olomount-Skykomish and Getchell-Oso groups, which are usually not suited for development because of the steep terrain in which they are generally found. However, these soils may be suitable for development when located in relatively level areas. Organic soils may be found scattered throughout all the more mountainous areas, usually associated with streams and other water bodies.

There are many prime farmland soils in the county, most which are located in the flatter western part of the county. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (1997) considers the following soils prime farmland:

- Alderwood gravelly sand loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes (where irrigated)
- Bellingham silty clay loam (where drained)
- Bellingham Variant mucky silty clay loam (where drained and protected from flooding)
- Custer fine sandy loam (where drained)
- Greenwater loamy sand (where irrigated)
- Kitsap silt loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes
- Lynnwood loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes (where irrigated)
- McKenna gravelly silt loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes (where drained)
- Menzel silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes
- Mukilteo muck (where drained)
- Norma loam (where drained)
- Norma Variant loam (where drained)

- Pastik silt loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes
- Puget silty clay loam (where drained and protected from flooding)
- Puyallup fine sandy loam (where protected from flooding)
- Ragnar fine sandy loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes
- Snohomish silt loam (where drained and protected from flooding)
- Sulsavar gravelly loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes
- Sultan silt loam (where protected from flooding)
- Sultan Variant silt loam (where protected from flooding)
- Sumas silt loam (where drained)
- Terric Medisaprists, nearly level (where drained)
- Tokul silt loam, 2 to 8 percent slopes
- Tokul gravelly loam, 0 to 8 percent slopes
- Winston gravelly loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes

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

The Puget Sound region including Snohomish County is susceptible to several types of hazardous soil or geological conditions. These include erosion, landslide, and seismic hazards and are classified by the County as critical areas (mine hazards areas are also listed as geologically critical areas). Soil erosion is a natural process that can be accelerated by construction and development. Vegetation removal, topographic changes from grading activity, and increases in storm water runoff are factors that can increase the rate of erosion. Also the various characteristics of soil and terrain such as the makeup of soils (i.e., particle size and physical properties), and degree and length of slope can contribute to soil erodibility. Typically, many soils located on slopes steeper than 15 percent have a medium or high potential for erosion if disturbed particularly if these are noncohesive granular soils. When slopes are steeper than 40 percent, all soils in the county have a high to severe potential for erosion.

Unstable or potentially unstable conditions in an area increase the risk of slope failure or landslide. Slope gradient, soil type, character of the underlying glacial unit, presence of groundwater, and vegetative cover are criteria used to determine landslide sensitivity. There are many areas throughout the county that are susceptible to landslides. In many cases, these hazards are caused by groundwater flow and geologic conditions that consist of a clay layer located under permeable soil units. During large storm events, groundwater flow is increased and moves along the top of the impermeable clay layer. This creates a slick surface that the upper soil layers can move along. This can precipitate a landslide particularly in areas of steep slopes. This phenomenon has occurred frequently during large storms over the past several years.

Steep slopes that exceed 40 percent can be very sensitive to land modification. Development on or near these slopes must not disturb them in a manner that would accelerate erosion or landslides. Site specific geotechnical evaluation is typically

necessary prior to design and construction on steep slopes. In most instances, development must be designed to help stabilize the slope and constructed in such a manner so that it can withstand potential slope failures.

Snohomish County is located in a seismically active region that has experienced thousands of earthquakes in historical time. Earthquakes can cause ground shaking (and associated land failure including landslides), soil liquefaction, and surface fault ruptures. Based on past earthquake frequency, the Uniform Building Code classifies the county as Zone 3 for seismic risk based on a scale from 1 (lowest risk) to 4 (highest risk). The county has several faults located mostly in the eastern part of the county. These are mainly associated with the Straight Creek Fault Zone that runs north to south through the county.

The physiography of the county is characterized by three distinct areas: nearly level alluvial deposits along the major rivers; glacial till plains, and terraces in the western portion of the county; and mountainous areas in the eastern portion of the county. Alluvial river deposit areas are primarily composed of Puget-Sultan-Pilchuck soils. Puget-Sultan-Pilchuck soils are characterized by nearly level soils of varying drainage capabilities located on flood plains (USDA,1983).

Plateau areas between flood plains typically contain Norma-Lynnwood-Custer, Alderwood-Everett, and Tokul-Pastik soils. The majority of Snohomish County plateau areas contain the latter two types of soils. These soils types are located on outwash plains, terraces and till plains, and have varying degrees of drainage and slope. The soils are suitable for vegetable and fruit cultivating, although areas often must be drained (USDA,1983).

The eastern portion of the county contains soils typically found in more mountainous areas: Elwell-Olomount-Skykomish and Getchell-Oso types. These soils are moderately to very deep, have well draining characteristics, and are found in areas with level to mountainous slopes (USDA,1983).

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

Construction will not occur as part of this update. Project specific environmental review would be required for construction activities. Filling and/or grading would be needed to establish the proper grade and soil conditions to support the construction of solid/moderate risk waste facilities. Typically, sites must be leveled in the area in the immediate vicinity of the footprint of a structure and soil conditions must be such that the soils that support a structure will not shift. This may require removal of unsuitable soils and replacement with structural fill (and then compacting the fill), excavation down to undisturbed soils, or use of support piles. The type and quantities of filling and grading

would be determined once specific projects are proposed for development. County sources of fill would likely be used for any new or expanded moderate risk or solid waste facilities. However, construction or modification of solid or moderate risk waste facilities would require clearing, grading, compacting, and overcovering of soils. Soil work would create erosion potential, which would require erosion and sedimentation controls.

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

Generally, the greatest potential for erosion to occur is during construction. During construction soil is disturbed by earthwork and wind or surface water runoff can carry soil particles off site if not controlled. Eroded soil that is carried off site by surface water runoff can cause siltation and sedimentation impacts to streams, wetlands, or other water bodies.

Once construction is complete, erosion is generally not a problem, because disturbed soil areas are either covered over with a structure or paved area, or are vegetated or landscaped. In addition, it is a requirement of permit approval to control storm water. Storm water is typically controlled by collecting runoff from impervious surfaces such as roofs and directing it into storm drains or areas where erosion will not occur.

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

New solid or moderate risk waste facilities would create impervious surfaces such as structures and paved areas. The extent of impervious surface created would depend on the design of the facility and selected site.

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

Construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been developed to reduce or control erosion. These mitigation measures are generally accepted practices recommended and/or approved by state and local agencies such as the Department of Ecology and used by the construction industry to reduce impacts to earth during construction. Some typical construction BMPs to reduce or control erosion are described below:

- Erect silt fences around disturbed soil areas on a site to contain eroded sediment on site.
- Protect disturbed soil areas or soil stockpiles by using jute matting, erosion netting, plastic, or hay over the exposed surface.
- Use temporary diversion facilities such as culverts, sand trenches, or french drains to direct surface water runoff away from exposed slopes.
- Scarify slopes to reduce runoff volumes.
- Direct storm water runoff into temporary settling basins prior to release of

storm water from a site.

- Use sediment traps such as check dams, hay bales,
- Minimize extent of clearing, limit duration of soil exposure, and revegetate disturbed soil areas as soon as practical.

Specific erosion control mitigation measures would be determined on a case-by-case basis during environmental review of any new construction or significant modification of solid waste or moderate risk waste facilities. In addition, any new or improved facility would be required to control storm water runoff that typically has the greatest potential to cause erosion.

For any new construction of or significant modification of solid waste or moderate risk waste facilities, Public Works will go through planning and SEPA review processes to assess environmental impacts and provide mitigation measures to meet all the federal, state, and local requirements.

2. Air

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

The main construction impact would be generation of dust during clearing and grading. Dust from construction is generally composed of larger particles that settle fairly rapidly. Thus, dust is generally confined to the vicinity of the project area. However, dust can be spread over a larger area by strong winds or by construction vehicles entering and leaving the site, particularly those transporting cut or fill material.

Construction emissions would also occur and include gasoline and diesel exhaust from construction vehicles and equipment and emissions from paving. Vehicle exhaust contains carbon monoxide, particulates (unburned hydrocarbons), and emissions that combine to form ozone as a result of the burning of fuel. Vehicle exhaust and paving can also produce odors that may be objectionable particularly to nearby residences. Construction would cause temporary impacts to air.

Traffic from any new solid or moderate risk waste transfer facilities would introduce new sources of vehicle emissions (primarily carbon monoxide) to the surrounding areas, particularly along access roads. However, new facilities would also likely reduce emissions at existing facilities since some users would shift their usage pattern to the newer facility. In addition, more facilities would result in less congestion and fewer vehicles idling while waiting in line (e.g., idling vehicles produce greater levels of carbon monoxide in the immediate vicinity because they are not moving and pollutants are not dispersed). The level of air quality impacts would depend on traffic volumes and site

locations.

There are potential odors associated with the transfer of waste. The County keeps its facilities in as clean a state as possible, and does not store waste overnight in the open. These steps minimize or eliminate potential odor problems.

Landfills do not produce significant amounts of regulated air pollutants. However, they can emit reduced sulfur compounds and other odorants that can be objectionable to neighbors. The use of bottom liners, impermeable covers, and gas collection systems, such as those, used at the closed Cathcart Landfill, and the Regional Disposal Company's landfill in Klickitat County where the County disposes of its waste, greatly reduces these emissions.

Generally, landfills can impact air quality in several ways including: (1) extensive earthmoving during construction and operation can cause emissions of fugitive dust; (2) vehicle traffic and equipment operations will produce carbon monoxide; (3) decomposing waste produces landfill gases (principally methane), (4) flaring of landfill gas can be a source of air pollution; and (5) odors can be generated by the waste and by the leachate treatment lagoons.

Dust at landfills is a problem only during the dry summer months, and the heavy particles settle quickly, making off-site impacts unlikely. Vehicle emissions could cause localized increases in carbon monoxide levels; however, since landfills are not built in highly congested traffic areas; air pollutant levels are not likely to exceed air standards.

Landfill gases are collected within the landfill and piped to either a system of flares or a single central flare. The burning process destroys most of the chemical components within the gas, but also produces small quantities of carbon monoxide, oxides of nitrogen, sulfur oxides, particulate matter, and trace organic species. These quantities are sufficiently low so that modern landfills generally do not exceed air quality standards.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a pollutant with very localized impacts. Motor vehicles are the greatest source of CO, and the highest concentrations are found in urban areas that are adjacent to congested roadways. Concentrations have generally been decreasing in recent years due to more stringent emission standards on vehicles. Although Snohomish County is not a non-attainment area for CO, EPA has recently proposed regulations, which would require regional strategies triggering additional measures for controlling carbon monoxide.

Snohomish County lies within the CO and ozone maintenance areas within the Puget Sound region. Air quality emissions for ozone and CO in the Puget Sound region are currently being managed under the provisions of Air Quality Maintenance Plans (AOMPs) which have been approved by the EPA.

This Plan is designed to improve air quality by insuring consistency with applicable air quality regulations.

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

The northern Puget Sound region has generally good air quality. Meteorological conditions are typical of a marine climate; prevailing air currents are from the Pacific Ocean. Proximity to the Cascade Range, Puget Sound, and the ocean tends to create large unstable air masses that continuously circulate the air, which is important for maintaining good air quality. Winds are generally from the southeast, but are strongly influenced by local terrain. The marine influence moderates temperatures typically resulting in mild wet winters and comfortably warm, drier summers.

Two major meteorological patterns dominate local weather. In the late spring, a high-pressure ridge forms in the north Pacific Ocean forcing storms to travel north of Washington. This high pressure zone is responsible for creating dry stable weather conditions during the summer. In the winter, a stationary low-pressure trough develops in the Aleutian Islands and routes storms eastward across the Puget Sound. Occasionally these storms produce damaging winds and are accompanied by heavy rains and flooding.

Air quality for the greater Everett area, as measured on the Pollutant Standard index, is generally well within the "GOOD" range, or between 0 and 50 on a scale where 100 indicates that at least one measured pollutant level exceeds the national air quality standard. A reading of 200 would mean the pollutant concentration has reached an "ALERT" level and a value above 300 is "HAZARDOUS".

The worst regional climatic conditions for air quality usually occur during the winter, when nighttime inversions can last into the afternoon and sometimes for several days. During these times, the lack of dispersion, because of stable atmospheric conditions and minimal vertical mixing, can raise pollutant concentrations, especially in river valleys. Emissions from industrial sources with tall smokestacks and warm, buoyant plumes often escape the inversion layer and are less affected by low-level inversions.

Three agencies have jurisdiction over air quality in Snohomish County: the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE), and Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA). These agencies establish regulations governing the concentration of pollutants in the outdoor air and the emission of contaminants from air pollution sources. Each agency has developed similar but separate primary and secondary ambient air quality standards for a number of pollutants (shown in the table below).

Pollutant	Averaging Period	Puget (PSCAA) Standards	Sound	Washington (WDOE) Standards	Federal (NAAQS) ¹	
					Primary	Secondary
Carbon Monoxide	8-hour	9 ppm ²		9 ppm	9 ppm	9 ppm
	1-hour	35 ppm		35 ppm	35 ppm	35 ppm
PM ₁₀	1-yr (arith mean)	50 µg/m ^{3,4}		50 µg/m ⁴	50 µg/m ⁴	50 µg/m ⁴
	24-hour ^a	150 µg/m ⁴		150 µg/m ⁴	150 µg/m ⁴	150 µg/m ⁴
Total Suspended Particulates	1-yr (geo mean)	60 µg/m ⁴		60 µg/m ⁴	--	--
	24-hour	150 µg/m ⁴		150 µg/m ⁴		
Ozone	1-hour ^b	0.12 ppm		0.12 ppm	0.12 ppm	0.12 ppm
Nitrogen Dioxide	1-year	0.05 ppm		0.05 ppm	0.05 ppm	0.05 ppm
Lead	3-month	1.5 µg/m ³		--	1.5 µg/m ³	1.5 µg/m ³
Sulfur Dioxide	1-year	0.02 ppm		0.02 ppm	0.03 ppm	--
	30-day	0.04 ppm		--	--	--
	24-hour	0.10 ppm ^c		0.10 ppm	0.14 ppm	--
	3-hour	--		--	--	0.50 ppm
	1-hour ^d	0.25 ppm		0.25 ppm	--	--
	1-hour	0.40 ppm ^c		0.40 ppm	--	--
	5-minute ^e	1.00 ppm		--	--	--

Notes: ¹ National Ambient Air Quality Standards
² ppm = parts per million.
³ µg/m³ = micrograms per cubic meter.
⁴ Annual, quarter, and 30-days never to be exceeded, shorter term standards not to be exceeded more than once per year unless noted.

^aStandard attained when expected number of days per year within a 24-hour concentration above 150 µg/m³ is equal to one or less.

^bStandard attained when expected number of days per year with an hourly average above 0.12 ppm is equal to one or less.

^cSulfur dioxide short-term standard never to be exceeded.

^dNot to be exceeded more than twice in seven days.

^eNot to be exceeded more than once in eight hours.

The EPA designates regions where one or more pollutants exceed the ambient standards as "non-attainment areas". Snohomish County has no non-attainment areas for the monitored air pollutants.

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

Construction BMPs exist for controlling dust and include some of the following measures:

- Water may be used to control dust on the site, but care should be taken to

- avoid the use of water where sediment runoff could enter sensitive areas.
- Construction access points should be stabilized by building rock spall entrance/exit pads.
- To reduce offsite transport of dust, vehicle tires should be washed prior to leaving the site.
- Trucks transporting cut or fill material should be covered to eliminate particles of dirt or dust blowing off during transport.
- Dirt, dust, and debris should be removed from roads surrounding construction sites with a street sweeper.

Implementation of this plan will have a positive effect on air quality. Potential programs, policies, and facilities outlined in the plan would:

- Reduce the use of toxic chemicals that may give off vapors when used or disposed
- Reduce the use of burning as a method to dispose of moderate risk and solid waste
- Reduce the numbers of individuals who self-haul their solid waste to one of the System's solid waste recycling and transfer stations, thereby reducing vehicular emissions along the haul route and at existing solid waste facilities.

In addition to the factors cited above, waste reduction and recycling efforts would reduce emissions from production of aluminum, paper, glass, and other materials. Vehicle emissions would be increased in residential and commercial areas due to additional collection trucks. However, these impacts would be insignificant in frequency and scale, and largely evened out by a reduction in the amount of solid waste that must be hauled, and thus a reduction in vehicle use for hauling of waste.

3. Water

a. Surface Water

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 western border of Snohomish County is formed by Puget Sound. Possession Sound carves into the mainland forming Port Gardner Bay next to the City of Everett. Tidewaters of the Puget Sound mix with freshwater in the Snohomish River estuary affecting salinity at the mouth of the river and Ebey, Union, and Steamboat sloughs.

Snohomish County contains two major river basins. The Stillaguamish River and its north and south forks dominate the northern region, while the Snohomish River and its

two major sources, the Skykomish and Snoqualmie, dominate the south. These rivers have their sources in the forested mountain areas, and flow generally west through broad agricultural floodplains into Puget Sound. Smaller stream basins are generally oriented north/south, and several of these, such as North Creek, Swamp Creek, and Quilceda Creek, flow through rapidly developing suburban and urban areas. Streams in the south flow either into Lake Washington or directly into Puget Sound.

Streams throughout the urbanizing portions of the county have been altered by development. Vegetation has been removed, some channels rerouted or culverted, and excess runoff allowed to impact flows. Since 1980 there have been efforts by the County and various cities to reduce and reverse these impacts. The County has classified streams into five types depending on their size and functions. The County requires buffers around streams to protect streams from development. Buffers range in size from 25 to 100 feet.

The county contains many lakes of various sizes. Some of the larger lakes include Lake Goodwin, Lake Roesiger, Lake Chaplain, Lake Stevens, and Spada Lake. Spada Lake is a reservoir for the City of Everett drinking supply and serves homes in much of the county.

Most, if not all of the western portion of the county, is underlain by one or more aquifers. The depth to usable groundwater varies greatly depending on the region. Although the majority of domestic and industrial water in the county is drawn from surface water bodies, smaller systems and private wells do tap into these aquifers. One area, the Cross Valley Aquifer in south county, has been designated a sole source aquifer by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Similar designations have been sought in the past for the Tulalip and Newberg areas. Such a designation places certain state and federal restrictions on the siting of landfills and other projects.

Wetlands are numerous throughout the county and are frequently encountered on potential sites that are suitable for development. Consequently, development must be planned to avoid or minimize wetland impacts and often it is necessary to provide mitigation for impacts to both wetlands and wetland buffers. The County has categorized wetlands into four types depending on their size and functions and established buffers requirements to protect wetlands from development. Wetland buffers range in size from 25 to 100 feet depending on the category of wetland.

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.

Construction of new solid waste facilities and/or modification of existing facilities may require work over, in or adjacent to some waters. In this event, the specific project will go through additional site-specific SEPA environmental review. The County will strive to design facilities that minimize the impact on wetlands or water and that comply with

applicable regulations such as the County Critical Areas regulations, the Endangered Species Act, and other federal, state, and local agency requirements pertaining to surface water.

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.

Construction of new waste facilities may require fill and dredge material to be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands. The amount of fill material would depend on the specific project and site. Typically, fill material would likely originate from sources in the county. Work involving filling or dredging in wetlands or waters of the state would require additional environmental review and compliance with federal, state, and local permitting requirements. For example, wetland fill would be under the authority of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; work in water would be under the authority of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife; and work in a shoreline environment would be under Snohomish County jurisdiction. An individual SEPA review process will be undertaken to assess the impact and provide mitigation measures in compliance with all federal, state, and local requirements.

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

The construction and operation of solid or moderate risk waste facilities has the potential to require surface water diversions. The purpose and quantity would be determined on a project specific basis. Any projects requiring surface water diversions would go through a SEPA review process to assess impacts and provide mitigation measures in compliance with ESA, County Critical Areas regulations, and all other local, state, and federal requirements.

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

If solid or moderate risk waste facilities are constructed within the 100-year floodplain, the Department will go through a SEPA review process to assess the impacts and meet all local, state, and federal requirements.

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.

Potential projects would be designed and constructed to avoid the discharge of waste material to surface water. Programs, policies and facilities described in the plan would result in fewer potential discharges of waste materials to surface waters by reducing the

use of toxic chemicals and reducing the illegal disposal of moderate risk and solid wastes.

b. Groundwater

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

The County currently monitors closed landfills and other solid waste facilities and this monitoring requires that small quantities of groundwater be withdrawn for testing purposes. In addition, older unlined landfills, all of which are closed in Snohomish County, may leak leachate into ground and surface waters. Therefore, wells are used to withdraw leachate and groundwater to minimize environmental damage from such leakage. Any ongoing withdrawals have already gone through their own permitting and environmental assessment processes. Any future withdrawals will similarly go through their own permitting and environmental assessment processes.

It is not anticipated that future solid or moderate risk waste facilities would require groundwater withdrawals or any discharge of water to groundwater.

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.

Generally, potential solid and moderate risk waste facilities would not involve discharges of waste material into the ground. However in the case of landfills, waste material is put into the ground and therefore there is the potential to impact water resources in several ways. Fill and grading disturbs natural drainage patterns, increasing runoff and in some cases redirecting it out of its natural basin. Landfills may require excavation and filling including surface water features such as wetlands and ponds and may require the relocation of drainages and streams.

The recharge of aquifers can also be affected by landfill construction because rain falling into the active fill area must be collected and routed into a leachate treatment system, and bottom liners intercept water that would otherwise percolate down into the soil. There is also the potential for such liners to fail, allowing leachate to enter the groundwater, which could contaminate drinking water sources. The extent of such impacts depends on a particular landfill site, including the presence of aquifers, the amount and type of soils lying between the landfill and groundwater, and whether the groundwater is used as drinking water. Design features such as liners and leachate collection systems are used to minimize landfill impacts to the ground and groundwater.

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.

Typically, storm water runoff is the only source of water that must be collected and disposed at solid waste facilities (except for landfills). During construction, runoff is controlled through the use of Construction Best Management Practices (see section B. 1.h). Surfaces that will be impervious surfaces are designed and constructed to have a slope so that water is directed into drains, catchbasins, gutters, or other water control/ collection devices. This water is then directed to storm drains. Some storm drains may run to the wastewater treatment plant, but most eventually empty into surface water. Water from pervious surfaces is not collected, but allowed to soak into the ground.

For landfills, stormwater runoff is a problem because water can pick up contaminants from the waste forming leachate. Therefore, this leachate water must be collected by using a system of liners, drains, and pipes and treated prior to release. Leachate water may be treated on site or at a wastewater treatment plant.

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

As described in the responses to questions B.3.a.6, B.3.b.2, and B.3.c.1., solid waste activities could impact water resources.

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

During construction, BMPs would be used to control surface water runoff. Some examples of these measures include:

- Install erosion control measures prior to clearing and grading (see also response to question B.1.h).
- Stabilize construction access points.
- Control runoff over exposed slopes through the use of swales, french drains, or trenches.
- Revegetate disturbed areas as soon as practical.

At transfer stations, tipping floors and compactor areas must be drained to a wastewater treatment plant to capture and treat leachate from waste.

Plan goals would benefit water quality by reducing the use of toxic chemicals, reducing the illegal disposal of moderate risk and solid wastes, and by encouraging additional waste prevention and recycling efforts.

The proposal is designed to improve water quality by reducing the use of toxic chemicals, reducing the illegal disposal of moderate risk and solid wastes, and by encouraging additional waste prevention and recycling efforts.

This plan update does not call for the construction of any particular facilities, nevertheless, it is likely that facilities will be built while this update is in effect.

4. Plants

a. Check 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

other types of vegetation

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

Snohomish County contains a wide variety of vegetation types, including forests, wetlands, pastures, and agricultural land. A combination of topography, soils, and climate influences vegetation patterns on an east-west bias. Temperatures are milder and rainfall less near the Puget Sound, and as one approaches the mountains temperatures drop and rainfall (and snow) increase. Therefore, plant species in the western lowlands tend to be those which thrive in drier, warmer areas, while the higher elevations are populated by species accustomed to greater precipitation and colder temperatures. Coniferous or broadleaf forest is the predominant vegetation cover in the suburban and rural areas. At higher elevations to the east, near the Cascade crest, vegetation enters the true fir/mountain hemlock zone.

In the suburban and urban areas, most of the native vegetation has been removed. Nearly all of the remaining forested areas in the western part of the county are second- or third-growth. Grasses, shrubs, and other ornamental plants are common.

Snohomish County contains a wide variety of wildlife habitats, including forests, wetlands, lakes and streams, and marine waters. These habitats support diverse populations of wildlife, providing recreational opportunities for local residents and an economic base for fishing, recreational, and forest product industries.

Most of the county lies within the Puget Sound subarea of the western hemlock vegetation zone characterized by Franklin and Dymess (1973). Coniferous or broadleaf forest is the predominant vegetation cover in the suburban and rural areas. At higher elevations to the east, near the Cascade crest, vegetation enters the true fir/mountain hemlock zone.

A combination of topography, soils, and climate influences vegetation patterns on an east-west bias. Temperatures are milder near Puget Sound, and precipitation increases as one approaches the mountains. Therefore, plant species in the western lowlands tend to be those which thrive in drier, warmer areas, while the higher elevations are populated by species accustomed to greater precipitation and colder temperatures.

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

Threatened and endangered plant species may occur within the county. Prior to construction of any new solid or moderate risk waste facility it will be necessary to survey the project area to determine the presence or absence of threatened or endangered plant species.

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

Construction of new solid waste facilities and/or modification of the existing facilities will include the use of native plants in landscaping. Where possible, native vegetation will be preserved.

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 (*shown in bold type*):

birds: **hawks, heron, eagle, songbirds**, other: **owls, ducks, woodpeckers**
mammals: **deer, bear, elk, beaver**, other: **opossum, raccoon, coyote, small rodents**,
fish: **bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish**, other:

The eastern rural areas of the county remain largely forested, and wildlife thrives in large numbers and diversity. In the western more developed portion of the county animals tend to congregate near the larger remaining islands of vegetation and some developed areas such as agricultural lands provide suitable habitat for certain kinds of species such as raccoons, coyotes, deer, opossum, and small rodents. However as urban development encroaches further into natural areas, wildlife habitat and plant communities will be forced to change. Wildlife that cannot adapt to new conditions will be forced out of the

area entirely, with a resulting loss in numbers.

Increasing interest has been focused in recent years on wetlands and the rate at which they are being filled or drained. Snohomish County's climate and geography have created a wide variety of wetlands scattered across the landscape, ranging from tiny pockets to the large expanses of the Snohomish River delta. These features are valuable as wildlife habitat; they also filter out water pollution and help provide natural control of flooding.

SEPA review process will be used to list the wildlife species known to be on or near the affected geographic areas.

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

Some of the threatened, endangered, sensitive or priority species that live and/or breed within unincorporated Snohomish County include:

- Colombian black-tailed deer
- Peregrine falcon
- Marbled murrelet
- Band-tailed pigeon
- Blue grouse
- Red-legged frog
- Chinook salmon
- Northern bald eagle
- Golden eagle
- Osprey
- Wood duck
- Pileated woodpecker
- Harlequin duck
- Great blue heron

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

Salmon species migrate throughout the rivers in Snohomish County. Snohomish County is also part of the Pacific Flyway, a migratory route for birds.

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

The programs, policies, and facilities described in the Plan are designed to improve environmental quality by reducing the use of toxic chemicals and the illegal disposal of moderate risk and solid waste. For each of these programs, policies, and facilities separate environmental review will occur. This will help to improve wildlife habitat. Mitigation measures for enhancing wildlife habitat on specific sites would be developed

as solid or moderate risk waste projects are proposed. These measures must conform to ESA, critical areas, and other applicable regulations.

Any construction of new solid waste facilities and/or modifications of existing facilities would require wildlife protection measures in accordance with Critical Area Regulations and all other local, state, and federal regulations.

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.

The proposal is designed to conserve energy and natural resources by encouraging waste prevention and recycling, and by discouraging the number of trips made to solid waste facilities by self-haulers. This plan update does not call for the construction of any particular facilities. Nevertheless, it is likely that facilities will be built while this update is in effect.

Generally, electricity or natural gas is used to meet the needs of solid and moderate risk waste facilities. This includes energy for lighting, heating, and operation of machinery. Petroleum is also used by machinery and during waste transport by both trucks and trains.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

Potential facilities are not likely to affect the use of solar energy by adjacent properties. However, during design of waste facilities it will be necessary to be cognizant of any use of solar energy by adjacent properties and to design facilities to avoid or minimize any impacts on solar energy use.

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:

There are several aspects of the plan that will conserve energy. These include waste reduction and recycling programs. Waste reduction programs are aimed at reducing the generation of products that will require disposal. This results in less energy to transport and dispose of the waste. For example, reducing the amount of packaging material results in less waste material. Recycling programs also benefit energy use. Recycled glass, metal, and paper typically require less energy when they are used to produce new products as compared with raw materials.

Any new proposed facilities would be constructed in accordance with requirements for energy conservation. For example, new buildings would use energy conserving measures such as insulation in the walls and ceilings and double-paned windows. Past experience has shown that, in practice, this is not a significant health problem.

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.

All solid waste handling and disposal facilities have the potential for releasing substances into the environment, which could endanger human health. For example, landfills can produce air emissions such as methane gas that can potentially affect nearby residents, and leachate that can enter groundwater drinking supplies. The extent to which these impacts actually occur is dependent on site conditions, facility design, control measures, and proximity to sensitive populations. All solid and moderate risk waste facilities in the county are regularly monitored by the Snohomish Health District to minimize environmental health hazards. In addition, new facilities are designed to modern standards of waste disposal and containment and many design features are incorporated to ensure that environmental health hazards do not occur.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Special emergency services, such as fire suppression and emergency medical aid, may be required during construction or operation of solid and moderate risk waste facilities. In the past, it has been necessary for emergency personnel to respond to incidents such as customers becoming ill or injured, fires in vehicles or solid waste, and the release of irritating or hazardous gases from materials illegally disposed with solid waste.

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

Some of the goals of the plan are to reduce the use of toxic chemicals and reduce the illegal disposal of moderate risk and solid wastes. Implementation of these goals will have a beneficial impact on environmental health.

In terms of operating facilities, the County has implemented a safety plan to control environmental health hazards. For example, staff receives training in identifying and handling particular wastes, such as toxic and medical waste. Measures such as site security, fencing, containment buildings, etc. are used to control waste on a particular site. This program has reduced incidents at existing facilities such as transfer stations.

b. Noise

The effect of such noise depends on:

- (1) the sensitivity of the receptor or listener (the most sensitive being residences, hospitals, schools, etc., vs. more tolerant uses such as industry and stores),
- (2) how close a receptor is to the noise source,
- (3) the volume and,
- (4) the duration of the source, and
- (5) whether the noise is constant or irregular (with constant, steady noises being less annoying than sudden, irregular ones).

Sensitive receptors are more common in the denser urban areas, which is also where it is more difficult and expensive to provide buffering distance between source and receptor. Conversely, the higher background noise levels in an urban setting tend to mask new noise sources, making them less noticeable than if they were in a quiet area.

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

Noise is a constant part of the urban and rural environment. It is created by a wide variety of sources, both natural and human. In most areas traffic is the largest source of noise, but industrial, commercial, recreational, and other land uses also contribute to ambient noise levels. The effect of noise depends on some of the following factors: the sensitivity of the receptor or listener (the most sensitive being residences, hospitals, schools, etc.), how close a receptor is to the noise source, the volume and the duration of the source, and whether the noise is constant or irregular (constant, steady noises are less annoying than sudden, irregular ones).

Sensitive receptors are more common in the denser urban areas, which is also where it is more difficult and expensive to provide buffering distance between a noise source such as a waste related facility and receptor. Conversely, the higher background noise levels in an urban setting tend to mask new noise sources, making them less noticeable than if they occurred in a quiet area.

The U.S. EPA has set general guidelines for evaluating noise impacts based on the relative increase in sound levels (EPA 1973). These guidelines state that noise level increases of less than 5 dBA (decibels) will create few community complaints as long as the increase is gradual; such impacts are usually considered "insignificant". Noise increases of between 5 and 10 dBA would generate more complaints; these are generally considered "significant". Noise level increases of greater than 10 dBA are considered "very significant".

The Snohomish County Noise Ordinance (10.01.060 SCC) sets limits on sound levels and the duration of those sound levels at the boundaries of four land use types: rural, residential, commercial, and industrial. The table below shows the sound level limits and

when those levels may be exceeded. The noise ordinance exempts certain sound sources or activities and includes sounds created by motor vehicles operating on public roads, sounds created by back-up alarms on vehicles, and sound created by vehicles when operated off public highways, except when the sounds are received in a residential zone.

Snohomish County Environmental Noise Limits (dBA).

Land Use at Noise Source	Receiving Property Land Use			
	Rural	Residential	Commercial	Industrial
Rural	49	52	55	57
Residential	52	55	57	60
Commercial	55	57	60	65
Industrial	57	60	65	70

The maximum permissible levels can be:

- Exceeded by 15 dBA for up to a total of 1.5 minutes in any one hour period (L_{2.5}).
- Exceeded by 10 dBA for up to a total of 5 minutes in any one hour period (L_{8.33}).
- Exceeded by 5 dBA for up to a total of 15 minutes in any one hour period (L₂₅).

Ordinary traffic noise on public roads is exempt from the Snohomish County Noise Ordinance.

Source: Snohomish County Code - Title 10

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.

Curbside pickup programs, drop-off centers, collection of commercial recyclables and solid waste, and other operations involving the handling and transfer of recyclables and solid waste create noise. These noise sources are typically intermittent, and in residential neighborhoods occur no more than once a week for a few minutes at a time. Careful siting of facilities, and routing of pickup vehicles to avoid especially sensitive receptors during quiet parts of the day can mitigate some of these impacts.

Mechanical processes used to handle waste as part of materials processing and other sorting operations, including the grinding and mixing of compostables, can be very noisy (sometimes in excess of 100 dBA). Some of these operations could be located inside buildings to reduce impacts on adjoining properties. Any operations would be required to meet the Snohomish County Noise Ordinance for industrial operations (EDNA Class C). Allowable noise levels at the property line would range from 60 dBA for adjoining residences to 70 dBA for adjoining industrial properties.

Recycling and transfer stations generate noise from vehicles (both cars and trucks, including the large transfer trailers), waste unloading operations, and mechanical devices

on-site. These operations can cause noise impacts at adjoining properties. Enclosing the tipping area can mitigate noise impacts from these sources, providing buffer spaces or berms, and restricting operations to appropriate hours. Selecting sites in industrial areas and away from existing or proposed residences would also reduce impacts.

Landfills generate noise in several ways including vehicle movement (especially transfer trailers), earthmoving, and backup alarms on vehicles. Construction noise comes from site preparation (clearing, grading, and excavation), installation of liners, pipelines, ponds, and other features. Operational activities require depositing waste in the landfill and bulldozing cover material over the top. These operations can create high sound levels. Maintaining spatial buffers around the site perimeter, building berms, and using natural terrain to shield receptors can mitigate noise impacts from these sources. Restricting operations to daylight hours can also help to reduce impacts on noise sensitive receptors.

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

This proposal does not call for the construction of any particular solid or moderate risk waste facility. If such facility is constructed, the County will seek to mitigate any noise impacts, and go through a full and open planning and permitting process.

Measures to reduce or control noise would be considered during the design and construction of new facilities in compliance with the Snohomish County Noise Ordinance. (Also see the response to the previous question.)

8. Land and Shoreline Use

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

Snohomish County is approximately 2,098 square miles (1.34 million acres) in area. Of the total, 168.5 square miles are located within identified urban growth areas (UGAs) including cities. The remainder of the county, consists of rural areas, agricultural lands, and forest lands. Residential, commercial and industrial land uses comprise approximately 26 percent of the land area within the county, and are concentrated primarily within cities and adjacent unincorporated areas in the western one-third of the county.

This Plan update does not call for the construction of any particular facilities, nevertheless, it is likely that facilities will be build while this update is in effect. Therefore, the following information is provided for general background purposes.

Snohomish County contains extensive shoreline resources including (1) three major river systems: the Stillaguamish, the Snohomish, and the Skykomish; (2) Lake Stevens, Spada

Lake, Lake Roesiger, and Silver Lake; and (3) Marine shorelines adjacent to Puget Sound.

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

Approximately five percent of the land area within the county is designated as agricultural land. In general, most of the agricultural lands are located in floodplains and adjacent upland areas along the Snohomish, Snoqualmie, Skykomish, Pilchuck and Stillaguamish rivers.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Not applicable.

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

In the future, some of the existing solid waste structures, particularly the Everett Recycling and Transfer Station and the existing Southwest Recycling and Transfer Station, may be demolished.

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

Zoning varies depending on specific sites within the county. At this time there are no specific facilities identified, therefore it is not possible to identify the zoning. However, many of the potential solid waste facilities would be located within areas that are zoned commercial or industrial.

Within the unincorporated areas, the land use plans do not place specific restrictions on solid waste facilities. Instead, the zoning code is used to regulate individual proposals. Transfer stations are classified as "government structures and facilities," and so are permitted outright in most commercial and industrial zones, and with conditional use permits in residential and rural zones.

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

Similar to question B.8.e above, no specific sites have been identified for potential new facilities therefore it is not possible to identify the General Policy Plan (comprehensive plan) designation.

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

Similar to question B.8.e above, no specific sites have been identified for potential new facilities therefore it is not possible to identify the shoreline master program designation.

Construction of new solid waste facilities and modification of the existing ones will be subject to compliance to the County's Shoreline Master Plan. Transfer stations are not mentioned in the Master Program, and therefore would be permitted only with issuance of a Shoreline conditional use permit.

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

Many sites around the county would be classified as having environmentally sensitive areas. According to the County's Critical Area Ordinance, the following areas are considered sensitive: streams, wetlands, geologically hazardous areas (erosion, landslide, volcanic, seismic, and mine hazard areas), and fish and wildlife habitat.

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

At this time it is not possible to determine the number of people who may be employed in future programs or facilities related to solid or moderate risk waste.

Currently the county has a population of about 550,000 and is expected to grow in the next decades.

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

Construction of new solid waste facilities and modification of the existing ones is unlikely to displace any people, based on past experience.

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

The county would take care in siting facilities to minimize displacements. In the event that a displacement was necessary, the County would comply with regulations for displacements and relocation under the Revised Code of Washington (RCW Chapter 8.26), Snohomish County Code, and applicable federal relocation regulations.

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

Waste handling facilities must comply with the General Policy Plan and zoning requirements. During the environmental review and permitting process, County staff will ensure that future facilities would be compatible with existing and projected land use plans. The Solid Waste Management Plan is compatible with the overall General Policy Plan.

The County ensures that the future construction and operation of particular County solid or moderate risk waste facilities will be compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans. This proposal does not call for the construction of any such facilities. Any facilities built will comply with comprehensive planing and zoning requirements, attain any necessary conditional use permits, and meet all other state and local requirements.

9. Housing

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

No housing units would be provided.

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

This proposal does not call for the construction of any such facilities. It is not anticipated that solid waste or moderate risk waste facilities will impact housing. In the event that a displacement was necessary, the County would comply with regulations for displacements and relocation under the Revised Code of Washington (RCW Chapter 8.26) and Snohomish County Code, and undergo separate environmental review.

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

The construction and operation of particular solid or moderate risk waste facilities has the potential to impact housing. Facility construction could potentially require the removal of housing. Any projects will go through separate environmental processes.

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?

This plan update does not call for the construction of any particular facilities. Nevertheless, it is likely that facilities will be built while this update is in effect.

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

Waste handling facilities can adversely affect the visual quality of the surrounding area particularly if residential areas are located close by. Views of transfer stations generally include large metal buildings, fences, and waste handling vehicles. Landfills can significantly change the visual appearance of an area. The site usually is converted from an undeveloped state to a cleared, excavated site with trucks and heavy machinery. The

visual appearance of any new facilities would depend on site location, terrain, design, and landscaping.

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

This proposal does not call for the construction of any facilities. However, as new solid waste facilities are constructed or existing facilities are modified, they will be so designed to reduce or control aesthetic impacts.

11. Light and Glare

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

Light and glare impacts may be produced by facilities resulting from the Plan. Glare impacts may come from buildings, structures, or vehicles. Glare would typically be produced during the day. Lighting is used for safety and security at solid waste facilities at night.

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

Generally light and glare impacts can be minimized so that they do not cause a safety hazard or interfere with views.

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

No existing recreational opportunities are expected to be negatively impacted.

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

Lighting can be shielded and directed so that the light is generally contained on a particular site. While this proposal does not call for the construction of any particular facilities, construction which may occur will be designed to minimize light and glare impacts. Shielded street lighting would be used to avoid excessive back lighting. These lights would consist of devices which direct light toward the subject area and avoid sending light great distances from the roadway..

12. Recreation

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

The county has a considerable amount of land area that is used for park or open space purposes. Some designated recreation opportunities include municipal parks, golf courses, ball and soccer fields, play fields, swimming pools, and hiking trails. Some informal recreational uses include fishing, hiking, jogging, bird watching, and boating.

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

It is anticipated that no existing recreational uses will be displaced.

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

No existing recreational opportunities are expected to be negatively impacted.

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 this site? If so, generally describe.

In 1978, Snohomish County and the Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation jointly initiated the Snohomish County Cultural Resource Inventory. This inventory identifies places and objects of historic significance. The majority of identified properties are located in cities and small towns and communities within the county.

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

Historically, Snohomish County has experienced a wide variety of human activity and use, including tribal settlements, early commercial trading areas, shipbuilding, logging, farming and mining. The earliest inhabitants of Snohomish County were likely nomadic bands of Paleo-Indians. There is archaeological evidence that certain areas of the county have been inhabited for more than 1,000 years and possibly up to 10,000 years.

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

Snohomish County does not currently have a cultural resources preservation/management policy. The County does have review and compliance responsibilities mandated by state and federal laws for activities that could impact properties listed on the National or State Registers of Historic Places. New solid waste facilities affected geographic areas will be reviewed for compliance.

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.

Snohomish County is served by a network of interstate freeways, state highways, county and city roads. Interstate 5 is the largest highway and runs north-south through the western, developed part of the county. Interstate 405 also serves the south county area,

meeting I-5 at the Swamp Creek interchange. Major state highways include SR-99, SR-525, SR-527, and SR-9 (all north-south roads), and SR-532, SR-530, SR-92, SR-2, and SR-522 (generally east-west routes).

The county maintains a system of arterials, collectors, and local access streets throughout the unincorporated areas, while the cities and towns maintain similar facilities within their own jurisdictions. There are also some privately owned and maintained roads, mainly serving individual developments such as trailer parks, apartments, and some subdivisions.

The more heavily developed parts of the county, including many of the larger cities, are experiencing increasing levels of traffic congestion during peak travel periods. A number of intersections have reached low levels of service (a measure of congestion and traffic flow) during the peak hour, and the County's Road Ordinance (Title 26B SCC) has consequently placed restrictions on further land development in surrounding areas. In rural areas there is far less congestion, and roads are generally adequate to handle present and projected traffic demands. Safety problems exist on roads around the county. Some of these are due to increasing levels of traffic, while others are the result of older roadway sections, which do not meet current design standards.

Snohomish County is undertaking a number of programs and projects to alleviate congestion and safety problems within the unincorporated areas. In addition, the County and the cities and towns have 6-year road improvement programs, which are updated annually. These programs prioritize road improvement needs and assign available funds to areas with the greatest need.

Roads are an important part of the solid waste system, and nearly every road in the County plays a role. Collection trucks utilize local neighborhood streets to provide curbside pickup service and then use collectors and arterials to reach recycling and transfer stations. Transfer trucks mainly use arterials and the freeways to haul waste from transfer stations to the intermodal facility, where waste is placed on trains.

Burlington Northern/Santa Fe Railroad serves Snohomish County with several main lines. One follows the Puget Sound coastline from King County to Everett and from there goes north to about 132nd Street NE, where one branch heads northwest to Stanwood and another goes northeast to Darrington. A second line comes up the SR-9 corridor to Lake Stevens. The third begins in Everett and goes east up the Skykomish River valley, eventually passing through the tunnel beneath Stevens Pass. Burlington Northern/Santa Fe operates freight trains on this system; AMTRAK provides passenger service on the same lines. The Union Pacific Railroad provides freight service into Seattle.

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

Three public transit agencies provide service within Snohomish County. They are Community Transit, Everett Transit, and Metro. However, Everett Transit, with some exceptions, provides service exclusively within the Everett city limits. Metro provides vanpools for a number of King County residents commuting to Snohomish County employers as well as limited subscription transit to the Boeing Company facility in southwest Everett. Community Transit provides the bulk of transit service in unincorporated Snohomish County.

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

New facilities, if constructed, will require employee-parking spaces. The total number of parking space will be determined by the size and activities of the facilities, and be in compliance with the County's development codes.

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).

New facilities, if constructed, may require new roads or improvements to existing roads. Roads that may be constructed or improved could be both public and private.

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

Although water and air transportation are available, they are not needed to transport waste. Truck and rail is currently used to move solid waste within and outside the county. The County operates a solid waste intermodal facility in Everett, where containers of solid waste arrive from the County's recycling and transfer stations and is transferred to trains for shipment to eastern Washington. There have been discussions about replacing the existing Everett Recycling and Transfer Station, and one possible option would be to construct a new station near the intermodal facility in order to eliminate having to truck the waste from this station.

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

New or expanded waste handling facilities are likely to generate additional vehicle trips. At this time it is not possible to predict the number of trips, because no specific facilities are proposed.

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

A goal of the Plan is to reduce the number of vehicle trips made to transfer stations by reducing individual self-haulers and by reducing the amount of waste generated.

The construction and operation of particular solid or moderate risk waste facilities may potentially have transportation impacts by changing routes used by garbage haulers going to and from transfer stations. If so, the projects will go through open planning, permitting, and environmental review processes.

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.

Improved solid waste facilities and operations will make garbage collection service more efficient. Construction and operation of solid or moderate risk waste facilities may increase the need for emergency services, especially fire and medical. This is discussed in more detail in the environmental health section (B.7).

This proposal does not call for the construction of any such facilities. If such facilities are constructed, the proposals will go through opening, planning, permitting, and environmental review processes.

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

If particular solid or moderate risk waste facilities are constructed or modified, impacts on public services will be assessed, and measures to address those impacts will be developed on an affected geographic area specific basis.

16. Utilities

a. Utilities currently available at the site shown in bold: (i.e., electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

Electricity, natural gas, water, telephone, sanitary sewer, and refuse service are available in the urbanized areas of Snohomish County.

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.

If facilities are constructed, they will require electricity, water, and telephone services. Except for small rural drop boxes, they will also require sanitary sewer service. Based on experience at existing facilities, no new facilities are expected to significantly change service requirements. Service providers include Puget Sound Energy for electricity and natural gas; GTE, AT&T, MCI and several others for telephone; and water and sewer by the County.

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: *Rubin Yu*

Reviewed By: *Lorna Smith*

Date Submitted: *10 January 2000*

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

Generally, this plan update does not call for the construction of specific facilities, although it does indicate the types of facilities that may be required in the six and twenty year planning horizons. It is likely that facilities will be built while this update is in effect. Therefore, the following information is provided for general background purposes and where possible to assess the potential impacts of programs, policies, and facilities that may result from the plan. The plan itself generally has no environmental impacts.

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 Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan update, in and of itself, will not directly impact water, air, production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances, or noise. If the Plan update is approved, project level environmental review would occur for SEPA-related projects and actions. The purpose of the Plan update is to conform to Washington State requirements. RCW 70.95.110 requires that solid waste plans be kept current and formally updated every six years.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are identified in the accompanying SEPA checklist. However, any SEPA action related to the Plan's implementation will include the following mitigation measures at a minimum.

a) Measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth:

Construction Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been developed to reduce or control erosion. These mitigation measures are generally accepted practices recommended and/or approved by state and local agencies such as the Department of Ecology and used by the construction industry to reduce impacts to earth during construction. Some typical construction BMPs to reduce or control erosion are described below:

- Erect silt fences around disturbed soil areas on a site to contain eroded sediment on site.
- Protect disturbed soil areas or soil stockpiles by using jute matting, erosion netting, plastic, or hay over the exposed surface.
- Use temporary diversion facilities such as culverts, sand trenches, or french drains to direct surface water runoff away from exposed slopes.
- Scarify slopes to reduce runoff volumes.
- Direct storm water runoff into temporary settling basins prior to release of storm water from a site.
- Use sediment traps such as check dams, hay bales,
- Minimize extent of clearing, limit duration of soil exposure, and revegetate disturbed soil areas as soon as practical.

Specific erosion control mitigation measures would be determined on a case-by-case basis during environmental review of any new construction or significant modification of solid waste or moderate risk waste facilities. In addition, any new or improved facility would be required to control storm water runoff that typically has the greatest potential to cause erosion.

For any new construction of or significant modification of solid waste or moderate risk waste facilities, Public Works will go through planning and SEPA review processes to assess environmental impacts and provide mitigation measures to meet all the federal, state, and local requirements.

b) Measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air:

Construction BMPs exist for controlling dust and include some of the following measures:

- Water may be used to control dust on the site, but care should be taken to avoid the use of water where sediment runoff could enter sensitive areas.
- Construction access points should be stabilized by building rock spill entrance/exit pads.
- To reduce offsite transport of dust, vehicle tires should be washed prior to leaving the site.
- Trucks transporting cut or fill material should be covered to eliminate particles of dirt or dust blowing off during transport.
- Dirt, dust, and debris should be removed from roads surrounding construction sites with a street sweeper.

Implementation of this plan will have a positive effect on air quality. Potential programs, policies, and facilities outlined in the plan would:

- Reduce the use of toxic chemicals that may give off vapors when used or disposed
- Reduce the use of burning as a method to dispose of moderate risk and solid waste
- Reduce the numbers of individuals who self-haul their solid waste to one of the System's solid waste recycling and transfer stations, thereby reducing vehicular emissions along the haul route and at existing solid waste facilities.

In addition to the factors cited above, waste reduction and recycling efforts would reduce emissions from production of aluminum, paper, glass, and other materials. Vehicle emissions would be increased in residential and commercial areas due to additional collection trucks. However, these impacts would be insignificant in frequency and scale, and largely evened out by a reduction in the amount of solid waste that must be hauled, and thus a reduction in vehicle use for hauling of waste.

c) Measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts:

During construction, BMPs would be used to control surface water runoff. Some examples of these measures include:

- Install erosion control measures prior to clearing and grading.
- Stabilize construction access points.
- Control runoff over exposed slopes through the use of swales, french drains, or trenches.
- Revegetate disturbed areas as soon as practical.

At transfer stations, tipping floors and compactor areas must be drained to a wastewater treatment plant to capture and treat leachate from waste.

Plan goals would benefit water quality by reducing the use of toxic chemicals, reducing the illegal disposal of moderate risk and solid wastes, and by encouraging additional waste prevention and recycling efforts.

The proposal is designed to improve water quality by reducing the use of toxic chemicals, reducing the illegal disposal of moderate risk and solid wastes, and by encouraging additional waste prevention and recycling efforts.

This plan update does not call for the construction of any particular facilities, nevertheless, it is likely that facilities will be built while this update is in effect.

d) Measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards:

Some of the goals of the plan are to reduce the use of toxic chemicals and reduce the illegal disposal of moderate risk and solid wastes. Implementation of these goals will have a beneficial impact on environmental health.

In terms of operating facilities, the County has implemented a safety plan to control environmental health hazards. For example, staff receives training in identifying and handling particular wastes, such as toxic and medical waste. Measures such as site security, fencing, containment buildings, etc. are used to control waste on a particular site. This program has reduced incidents at existing facilities such as transfer stations.

e) Measures to reduce or control noise impacts:

This proposal does not call for the construction of any particular solid or moderate risk waste facility. If such facility is constructed, the County will seek to mitigate any noise impacts, and go through a full and open planning and permitting process.

Measures to reduce or control noise would be considered during the design and construction of new facilities in compliance with the Snohomish County Noise Ordinance, and all applicable federal, state, and local requirements.

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

The adopted Plan will have no direct impact on plants, animals or marine life. SEPA actions implementing the Plan will undergo project-level environmental review and contain the following mitigation and commitments contained in the accompanying SEPA checklist at a minimum.

SEPA review process will be used to list the wildlife species known to be on or near the affected geographic areas.

The programs, policies, and facilities described in the Plan are designed to improve environmental quality by reducing the use of toxic chemicals and the illegal disposal of moderate risk and solid waste. For each of these programs, policies, and facilities separate environmental review will occur. This will help to improve wildlife habitat. Mitigation measures for enhancing wildlife habitat on specific sites would be developed as solid or moderate risk waste projects are proposed. These measures must conform to ESA, critical areas, and other applicable regulations.

Threatened and endangered plant species may occur within the county. Prior to construction of any new solid or moderate risk waste facility it will be necessary to survey the project area to determine the presence or absence of threatened or endangered plant species.

Construction of new solid waste facilities and/or modification of the existing facilities will include the use of native plants in landscaping. Where possible, native vegetation will be preserved.

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

Energy and natural resources will not be adversely impacted as a result of updating the Solid Waste Comprehensive Management Plan. SEPA actions could occur as a result of the adopted Plan. Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are identified in the accompanying SEPA checklist.

There are several aspects of the plan that will conserve energy. These include waste reduction and recycling programs. Waste reduction programs are aimed at reducing the generation of products that will require disposal. This results in less energy to transport and dispose of the waste. For example, reducing the amount of packaging material results in less waste material. Recycling programs also benefit energy use. Recycled

glass, metal, and paper typically require less energy when they are used to produce new products as compared with raw materials.

Any new proposed facilities would be constructed in accordance with requirements for energy conservation. For example, new buildings would use energy conserving measures such as insulation in the walls and ceilings and double-paned windows. Past experience has shown that, in practice, this is not a significant health problem.

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?

Actions to implement the updated Plan could impact resources. The accompanying SEPA checklist provides analysis of potential impacts that could occur if specific actions are undertaken.

Many sites around the county would be classified as having environmentally sensitive areas. According to the County's Critical Area Ordinance, the following areas are considered sensitive: streams, wetlands, geologically hazardous areas (erosion, landslide, volcanic, seismic, and mine hazard areas), and fish and wildlife habitat.

ESA and Wetlands

Snohomish County contains a wide variety of wildlife habitats, including forests, wetlands, lakes and streams, and marine waters. These habitats support diverse populations of wildlife, providing recreational opportunities for local residents and an economic base for fishing, recreational, and forest product industries.

Increasing interest has been focused in recent years on wetlands and the rate at which they are being filled or drained. Snohomish County's climate and geography have created a wide variety of wetlands scattered across the landscape, ranging from tiny pockets to the large expanses of the Snohomish River delta. These features are valuable as wildlife habitat; they also filter out water pollution and help provide natural control of flooding.

The programs, policies, and facilities described in the Plan are designed to improve environmental quality by reducing the use of toxic chemicals and the illegal disposal of moderate risk and solid waste. For each of these programs, policies, and facilities separate environmental review will occur. This will help to improve wildlife habitat. Mitigation measures for enhancing wildlife habitat on specific sites would be developed as solid or moderate risk waste projects are proposed. These measures must conform to ESA, critical areas, and other applicable regulations.

Any construction of new solid waste facilities and/or modifications of existing facilities

would require wildlife protection measures in accordance with Critical Area Regulations and all other local, state, and federal regulations.

Historic and Cultural Sites

Snohomish County does not currently have a cultural resources preservation/management policy. The County does have review and compliance responsibilities mandated by state and federal laws for activities that could impact properties listed on the National or State Registers of Historic Places. New solid waste facilities affected geographic areas will be reviewed for compliance.

Recreation

The county has a considerable amount of land area that is used for park or open space purposes. Some designated recreation opportunities include municipal parks, golf courses, ball and soccer fields, play fields, swimming pools, and hiking trails. Some informal recreational uses include fishing, hiking, jogging, bird watching, and boating.

It is anticipated that no existing recreational uses will be displaced, and no existing recreational opportunities adversely impacted.

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 updated Plan will not directly impact land and shoreline uses. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are identified in the accompanying SEPA checklist.

Waste handling facilities must comply with the General Policy Plan and zoning requirements. During the environmental review and permitting process, County staff will ensure that future facilities would be compatible with existing and projected land use plans. The Solid Waste Management Plan is compatible with the overall General Policy Plan.

The County ensures that the future construction and operation of particular County solid or moderate risk waste facilities will be compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans. This proposal does not call for the construction of any such facilities. Any facilities built will comply with comprehensive planing and zoning requirements, attain any necessary conditional use permits, and meet all other state and local requirements.

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

The adopted updated Plan will not directly impact transportation or utilities. Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are contained in the accompanying

SEPA checklist and include the following minimum mitigation measures and commitments.

A goal of the Plan is to reduce the number of vehicle trips made to transfer stations by reducing individual self-haulers and by reducing the amount of waste generated.

The construction and operation of particular solid or moderate risk waste facilities may potentially have transportation impacts by changing routes used by garbage haulers going to and from transfer stations. If so, the projects will go through open planning, permitting, and environmental review processes.

If particular solid or moderate risk waste facilities are constructed or modified, impacts on public services will be assessed, and measures to address those impacts will be developed on an affected geographic area specific basis.

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

None. The proposal will not conflict with any local, state, or federal laws, but will conform to all applicable requirements and regulations



Appendix B

This appendix contains material from the:

- 1989 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, and
- 1993 Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan

While most of the content of these plans has become obsolete as a result of this 2000 Plan, the following portions remain applicable. These portions should be seen as providing general policy interpretation and guidance only, and it should be recognized that specific factual information may be outdated.

1989 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan

Chapter 15—Special Wastes

This chapter summarizes the current programs and policies for the management of special wastes not addressed in Chapters 13 and 14. The special wastes discussed in this chapter are solid wastes that, because of their waste handling characteristics, toxicity, or volume, require special handling separate from most other municipal refuse. Special wastes discussed in this chapter include:

- Waste tires
- Infectious waste
- Asbestos
- Dredge spoils
- Contaminated soil
- Agricultural waste
- Incinerator sludge residues
- Miscellaneous special wastes

Regulations affecting solid waste handling in Snohomish County are set forth in Snohomish Health District (SHD) ordinance EHD 8-30, Regulations Governing Solid Waste Handling. These rules and regulations govern the handling, storage, collection, transportation, treatment, utilization, processing, and final disposal of all solid waste within Snohomish County. Other state and federal regulations that may also apply to the special wastes discussed are referenced as necessary.

Information presented in this chapter on dry cell batteries summarizes data and waste management policies developed during preparation of the Draft Snohomish County Hazardous Waste Management Plan (HWMP) for moderate risk waste (MRW), November 1989. Moderate risk waste is waste that can be hazardous to human health, wildlife, or the environment, but is not currently regulated by Ecology because it is of household origin or because it is generated in small quantities. The policies and programs for dry cell batteries discussed in this chapter were developed to be consistent with state priorities for hazardous waste management as defined in Chapter 70.105.150 RCW and the County's overall goals and objectives for MRW management.

Waste Tires

In 1985, the Washington State Legislature determined there is an imperative need to anticipate, plan for, and accomplish effective storage, control, recovery, and recycling of discarded vehicle tires. To accomplish this goal the state authorized formation of a Vehicle Tire Recycling Account funded through a tax levied on retail sale of new replacement vehicle tires equal to \$0.12 per \$100 worth of new tires sold.

The Waste Not Washington Act (Chapter 4.31, Laws of 1989 passed in March 1989, requires that vendors of new replacement tires collect a fee of \$1.00 per tire. The vendor retains 10% of this fee to cover the cost of proper management of the tires collected by the vendor. The remainder of the fee goes to Ecology for several purposes related to proper tire disposal including local pilot programs for tire shredding and recycling, enforcement programs, public information, and marketing studies for recycled tires.

Waste Tire Quantities

Ecology estimates that there are approximately four million unwanted tires generated each year in the state. In King County, it was estimated that waste tires are generated at a rate of approximately 0.9 tires per person per year (King County Solid Waste Management Division, Proposed Solid Waste Management Plan, Technical Appendix E, July 1989). Assuming the King County generation rate and a 1989 Snohomish County Planning Department population estimate of approximately 430,000 individuals, the number of waste tires generated in Snohomish County each year is approximately 387,000. Assuming no change in generation rate, this quantity could increase to approximately 700,000 per year by the year 2020 as a result of population growth in the county.

Tire Piles

Tire piles are a concern to state and local public health officials primarily because of the possibility of fire. A fire in a consolidated tire stockpile is nearly impossible to extinguish, creates severe air pollution, can contaminate surface and groundwater, and leaves large quantities of ash and residue that may be toxic and must be disposed of. A secondary concern related to tire piles in Washington State is that they serve as a breeding area for mosquitoes.

The SHD regulates waste tire piles having more than 800 tires according to SHD ordinance EHD 8-30-420. Under this ordinance, owners or operators of tire piles with 800 or more tires must obtain an SHD permit to operate the tire pile and must:

- Control access to the tire pile by fencing
- Limit the tire pile to a maximum of 1/2 acre in size
- Limit the height of the tire pile to 20 feet
- Provide for a 30-foot fire lane between tire piles
- Provide onsite fire control equipment

Infectious Waste

Infectious waste is defined in Snohomish County under Snohomish Health District Regulation EHD 8-30-100 as:

Waste from medical and intermediate care facilities, research centers, veterinary clinics, other similar facilities and persons which may contain pathogens or other biologically active materials in sufficient concentrations that exposure to the waste directly or indirectly, creates a significant risk of disease as determined by the Health Officer.

The definition then specifically includes such medical wastes as blood and blood products, surgical and autopsy wastes, sharps and dialysis unit wastes, discarded biologicals, and equipment that has come into contact with microbial agents.

Handling, Storage and Disposal

Handling, storage, and disposal of infectious waste in Snohomish County are regulated under EHD 8-30-240. Enforcement of these regulations is performed by the SHD. County policies regarding handling and disposal of infectious waste are described in the document *Infectious Waste: A Guide for Medical Waste Generators in Snohomish County*, published by the SHD (1989).

In general, infectious medical wastes must be categorized, segregated, and packaged separately from other noninfectious waste in containers that are clearly labeled "biohazard" or "infectious waste." Sharps must be packaged in rigid, impervious containers designed for this purpose. Liquid infectious waste may be disposed of directly into the sanitary sewer provided this practice is acceptable to the local sewer utility. The SHD maintains the right to require treatment of any liquid infectious waste prior to release into a sanitary sewer system if treatment is deemed necessary to protect the public health. Disposal of liquid infectious waste into a septic tank/drain field system is not recommended.

Treated infectious waste, with the exception of sharps, liquids, and waste that is grossly contaminated with body fluids, may be disposed of into the general solid

waste stream. However, the SHD recommends notifying the solid waste disposal company providing service of the presence of these materials in the waste. The SHD recommends that sharps be disposed of by incineration or after treatment, by direct non-compacted haul to the landfill.

Solid Waste Management Division policy for handling untreated medical waste that is identified in dumpsters, or at the landfill, is to photodocument the presence of the waste, identify the generator if possible, and arrange for the SHD to contact the generator and require development of new or improved management techniques by the generator.

Treatment of Infectious Waste

Except as noted above, infectious waste must be rendered noninfectious through treatment prior to disposal. Infectious waste treatment methods recognized by the SHD include steam sterilization, incineration, chemical disinfection, gas/vapor sterilization, irradiation, or thermal inactivation. The SHD requires monitoring of treatment facilities and equipment, such as temperature and biological monitoring, to ensure adequate treatment of the infectious waste.

No studies have been conducted in Snohomish County to estimate the percent of total infectious waste treated by any of the approved methods (see Future Infectious Waste Management, below). However, a recent study of King County hospitals, clinics, medical laboratories, and veterinary clinics indicated that the most common treatment methods used by these types of facilities are incineration or onsite steam sterilization, followed by offsite disposal with a firm that frequently performs incineration or steam sterilization. Reference Wayne L. Trunberg, An Examination and Risk Evaluation of Infectious Waste in King County, Washington, Seattle-King County Department of Public Health, Seattle, Washington, March 18, 1988.

Asbestos

Asbestos-containing waste is defined in Snohomish County in SHD Regulation EHD-8-30-100 as:

Any waste that contains more than 1% asbestos by weight and that can be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder when dry, by hand pressure.

Asbestos Quantities

Asbestos quantities disposed of in Snohomish County were estimated through analysis of monthly asbestos receipts received at the Cathcart Landfill from January 1986, to February 1989 (see Current Disposal Policies below). An average of 347 tons per year (or 28.9 tons per month) of asbestos waste were received at the landfill. During the peak month, the landfill received approximately 478 tons of

asbestos wastes. However, the available data indicate that more typical monthly asbestos quantities received at the landfill are between zero and 50 tons per month.

Current Disposal Policies

Handling and disposal of asbestos-containing solid waste is regulated under EHD 8-30-230. Under this regulation, persons removing asbestos-containing materials from any location must contact Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Authority (PSAPCA) prior to the removal for information and instructions concerning removal and disposal. Asbestos materials must be wetted down during removal and the wet asbestos wastes sealed into leak-tight containers or placed in one or more plastic bags with a combined thickness of at least 6 mils and identified with a warning label.

Dredge Spoils

Dredge spoils are generated whenever sediments are removed from open water. There have been no studies quantifying the total amount of dredge spoil generated in the county. Recent concerns have focused over the disposal of dredge spoils that may be generated by construction activities planned for the proposed Navy Homeport facility in Everett. Negotiations regarding this activity are being carried on by the SHD and the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Current Disposal Methods

Options for the disposal of dredge spoils generated in Snohomish County are limited to open water disposal, landfill in a special purpose landfill (as defined in EHD 8-30-100), or disposal as a hazardous waste depending on quality (as discussed below). Dredge spoils of any quality are not accepted for disposal in the County system in quantities greater than 10 cubic yards, primarily because of capacity. Quantities less than 10 cubic yards will be accepted if they are classified as inert solids (as discussed below) and if they have been dewatered adequately to meet criteria specified under the U.S. EPA paint filter test (see Federal Register, Vol. 50, No. 83, Tuesday, April 30, 1985).

Dredge spoils must be tested in Snohomish County for quality prior to identifying acceptable disposal methods. Quality testing must include measurement of total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH), total polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), flammability, and extraction procedure (EP) toxicity for metals. Laboratory procedures for these tests are defined in the Washington State Dangerous Waste Regulations, WAC 173-303. Dredge spoils with contaminant concentrations less than 10% of the Washington State standard for dangerous wastes are considered inert solids and are acceptable for disposal as general fill in the county or for open

water disposal contingent upon approval by the U.S. Corp of Engineers (which has jurisdiction over open water disposal sites in the State of Washington), National Marine Fisheries, the Washington State Department of Wildlife, Ecology, and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Dredge spoils that are not suitable for open water disposal but with contaminant concentrations that do not exceed state dangerous waste criteria are considered to be "problem wastes" in the county as defined in the Washington State Minimum Functional Standards for Solid Waste Handling, WAC 173-304, definition 616, and also in EHD 8-30-100. Problem wastes may be disposed of, by approval of the SHD, into a permitted landfill. However, there are no currently existing landfills in the county that will accept this type of waste. Generators wishing to dispose of dredge spoils designated as problem wastes through landfilling would be required to construct and permit a problem waste landfill, or find an approved landfill site outside the county.

Dredge spoils with contaminant concentrations exceeding the state dangerous waste criteria are considered to be dangerous wastes and must be disposed according to the state Dangerous Waste Regulations, WAC 173-303. There are no permitted dangerous waste disposal sites in Snohomish County. The nearest dangerous waste disposal facility is located in Arlington, Oregon, and is operated by Chemical Waste Management, Inc.

Contaminated Soil

Waste soil is generated through numerous construction and excavation activities occurring throughout the county. There have been no studies to date estimating the total amount of waste soil available for disposal in the county.

Current Disposal Methods

Disposal of soil in Snohomish County is dependent upon whether the soil is classified as an inert solid or as a problem waste in accordance with SHD ordinance EHD 8-30. Inert wastes are considered to be noncombustible, non-dangerous solid wastes that retain their physical and chemical structure under the conditions of disposal and include materials such as rock, solidified concrete, and brick. A "problem waste" soil is defined under EHD 8-30-100 as:

Soils removed during general excavation, the cleanup of a remedial action site, or a dangerous waste site closure or other cleanup efforts and actions which contain harmful substances but are not designated (as Washington State) dangerous wastes (in accordance with WAC 173-303).

Persons excavating soil must contact the SHD to determine the need for analytical testing prior to disposal. Soil believed to be inert may be acceptable for landfilling without testing, as discussed below. Soil suspected of containing a potentially hazardous material, such as heavy metals, petroleum-based or halogenated hydrocarbons, pesticides, chlorinated hydrocarbons, or other toxic chemicals, will require testing.

As discussed for dredge spoils above, soil quality testing must include, at a minimum, extraction procedure (EP) toxicity, total petroleum hydrocarbons, flammability, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Soils contaminated with oils suspected of containing chlorinated hydrocarbons may also require testing for total halogens and PCBs. Testing criteria for soils believed to be contaminated with substances other than gasoline, diesel fuel, or oil are determined on a case-by-case basis.

Soils with less than 10 percent of the Washington State standard for dangerous waste are considered to be inert solids and are acceptable for disposal as general fill or landfilling. Soils with contaminants in excess of 10% of the dangerous waste standards that are not dangerous waste may be disposed of at any permitted landfill.

Agricultural Waste

Agricultural waste is defined in EHD 8-30-100 as “wastes on farms resulting from the production of agricultural products including but not limited to manures and carcasses of dead animals weighing each or collectively in excess of fifteen pounds.” Agricultural wastes are also generally considered to include crop residues.

Disposal of “animal waste” in Snohomish County, which includes but is not limited to manures, dead animals, and agricultural wastes, is regulated under EHD 8-30-280, Animal Waste Handling. Solid waste regulations in the county do not, however, apply to manures or crop residues produced by agricultural businesses that are returned to the soil “at rates which do not exceed agronomic rates.”

Current Waste Management Practices

Agricultural waste management in Snohomish County has not been studied to any great extent and detailed information regarding current waste management is not available. Conversations with the SHD indicate that agricultural wastes are not believed to be a significant solid waste disposal problem in the county. The most significant issue the SHD is confronted with is usually related to odor control when a farmer applies manure to agricultural land that is adjacent to a housing development. However, as long as the manure is being properly applied using standard agricultural techniques, the SHD has no enforcement authority under current regulations.

Animal carcasses that require disposal in the county are most often collected and taken to a rendering plant. There are three rendering plants in the State of Washington. However, most animal carcasses are processed at Seattle Rendering. Animal carcasses more than one day old are usually not acceptable for rendering. In this case, the SHD requires the carcasses be disposed by burial in accordance with general sanitation practices as stated in the Washington State Administrative Code (WAC) 248-50-120. Animal carcasses must be buried so that every part of the carcass is covered by at least 2 feet of soil, buried no closer than 100 feet from any well, spring, stream, or other surface water, and in a place not subject to overflow. In all cases of death by communicable disease, the carcass, if disposed by burial, must be thoroughly enveloped in unslaked lime to control pathogens.

The most significant manure source in the county is from dairy farms. The typical mature dairy cow produces approximately 15 gallons per day of manure wash water (King County Proposed Solid Waste Management Plan, Technical Appendix E, July 1989). Conversations with the SHD and the Washington State University Cooperative Extension Service indicate that approximately 50% of the dairy farms in the county collect their waste manure in storage ponds and apply it to pasture land at times when runoff potential is reduced. The majority of this waste is, therefore, land applied during the spring, summer, and fall months when there is less rainfall. Dairy farms without storage ponds will frequently apply sludge to the land during all seasons.

Surface water contamination may result from improper application of animal manure to farmland as a result of stormwater runoff. Monitoring and control of surface water contamination is the responsibility of the Washington State Department of Ecology. Landowners responsible for surface water quality violations will generally be given time to correct the problem before enforcement actions will be taken by the state. The Soil Conservation Service and the Washington State Cooperative Extension may make recommendations to farmers regarding best management practices for disposal of their animal wastes.

Crop residues are most often returned to the land following harvest. The most common agricultural technique used is to turn the plant stubble under after harvest. The SHD does not believe there to be any significant burning of crop residues. However, should a farmer desire to burn agricultural waste, a permit for the burn must be obtained from the local fire marshal and the burn itself is regulated according to standards issued by the Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Authority.

Incinerated Sludge Residues

Both the cities of Lynnwood and Edmonds, Washington, in Snohomish County, incinerate sludge that is generated through wastewater treatment. Small quantities of incinerated sludge residues (i.e., ash) that are generated are commonly disposed as solid waste.

The Solid Waste Management Division requires that samples of the incinerated sludge residue be collected on an annual basis for testing to determine the acceptability of the ash for disposal through the solid waste management system. At least two ash samples must be collected. Each sample must be composited on a 24-hour basis by collecting one-hour grab samples. The samples are to be collected in one-liter glass jars, sealed, and labeled for transport to an established laboratory for analysis.

The Solid Waste Management Division requires that each composite sample be analyzed for quality using the following tests:

- Extraction procedure (EP) toxicity
- Fish bioassay
- Rat bioassay
- pH (in a 1:1 slurry)
- Total halogenated hydrocarbons
- Total polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
- United Nations International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) metals

The generator is responsible for collection and analysis of the ash samples. It is the policy of the Solid Waste Management Division not to accept any incinerated sludge residue for disposal prior to completion of this screening. The Solid Waste Management Division reserves the right to refuse disposal of incinerated sludge residues if, for any reason, it believes the nature of the solid waste has been misrepresented or that sampling and analysis have been conducted in an inappropriate manner.

Miscellaneous Special Wastes

There are several wastes and waste types that are not acceptable for disposal through the Snohomish County solid waste management system that require special handling or alternative disposal methods.

Wastes that the Solid Waste Management Division will not accept for disposal include organic/carbonaceous material [as defined in the Washington State Dangerous Waste regulations WAC 173-303-104 (3)(e)], materials removed from grease traps, and crankcase oil-saturated or fiberglass resin-saturated rags.

Wastes that require special handling or alternative disposal methods include asbestos wastes (discussed earlier) and toxic wastes. The SHD defines toxic waste in EHD 8-30-100 as:

Wastes having the property to cause or significantly contribute to death, injury, or illness of man or wildlife. This includes but is not limited to pesticides, wood treating preservatives, paints, heavy or toxic metals and used oils.

SHD regulations EHD 8-30-230 prohibit the disposal of toxic waste in the household waste collection system, a public sewer system, onsite sewer system, the surface or ground water, the surface of the ground, or underneath the ground. Substantially empty non-restricted used pesticide containers and latex paint containers that are free of liquids are excluded from this regulation and may be disposed as general household waste. Used crankcase oil must be recycled through existing service stations or other facilities that collect used oil for reprocessing.

Disposal of toxic waste is generally regulated under the Washington State Dangerous Waste Regulations (WAC 173-303). However, some toxic wastes, such as those produced by households and conditionally exempt small quantity generators are excluded from regulation under WAC 173-303. It is anticipated that disposal of these excluded toxic wastes will be managed through implementation of the Snohomish County HWMP for MRW. This plan includes provisions for collection and disposal of household and small business MRW that is not otherwise being currently managed. Implementation of the plan is expected to occur over a five-year period assumed to begin in 1991 per requirements in the Washington State Hazardous Waste Disposal Act RCW 70-105.

Enforcement

Enforcement of solid waste management regulations is important to ensure that public health and the environment are protected and that nuisances associated with the management of solid waste are minimized.

The Snohomish Health District (SHD) is the primary regulatory authority in solid waste management in Snohomish County. The SHD covers the entire county, including the 19 cities and towns, but not including the tribal lands within the Tulalip Indian Reservation. The SHD's Regulations Governing Solid Waste Handling

(EHD 8-30) cover storage, collection, transfer, and disposal of solid waste. In addition, through a permit and approval system, SHD regulates the construction and operation of all solid waste facilities in the county.

Enforcement Review

The SHD divides its solid waste activities into two areas: facilities inspections (including permit review) and complaint response. The facilities inspection component of the program does not require a substantial enforcement effort because it is relatively stable and predictable. The SHD monitors or has the following facilities under permit:

Drop Boxes	6
Transfer Stations	3
Woodwaste Landfill	3
Closed or Abandoned Landfills....	25
Sludge Use/Disposal Facilities	4

These facilities require periodic inspections that can be scheduled, managed, and budgeted with a high degree of certainty.

In contrast to permitting and inspections, however, complaints are often difficult and time-consuming to resolve, and they have been increasing during recent years. The numbers of complaints are expected to continue to increase and to require public health resources beyond those currently available. The SHD currently has 4.0 full-time personnel responsible for solid waste operations. In 1987 the SHD received 1,047 complaints regarding solid waste. These complaints have risen steadily since 1981 and show no indication of decreasing (Figure 16-4). They also are spread throughout the county, including many urbanized areas with readily available collection services (Figure 16-5). The current enforcement system is based upon legal action, which occasionally necessitates court appearances by SHD personnel. The reliance of the enforcement system on court-oriented legal action creates SHD legal expenses and an inefficient use of staff time.

In 1988, the SHD's solid waste activities were partially funded by a landfill assessment of \$0.185 per ton of solid waste received at County landfills. Late in 1988, the SHD Board of Health adopted Resolution 88-56, which increased this assessment to \$0.53 per ton of waste received at County landfills. This increase is dedicated to funding solid waste regulation and enforcement activities of the SHD and should generate approximately \$190,000 of revenue for this purpose in 1989, its first year of impact.

Enforcement Needs

In order of priority and implementation, the following institutional enforcement changes should be made to improve the existing enforcement system and to reduce the reliance on expensive court-oriented legal actions:

- Mandatory collection of solid waste be established countywide
- The SHD be granted the authority to issue citations to offenders without the necessity of a court appearance
- The SHD be given the ability to place liens on properties that are solid waste nuisances for the cost of abating those nuisances

Mandatory Countywide Collection

The CSWMP Update has recommended adoption of mandatory collection for all urbanized areas of the county (see Chapter 9 for further details). However, a broader application of mandatory collection in response to the priorities above would not be inconsistent with the policies of this plan. It would, however, be considerably more difficult to implement mandatory collection countywide because of the need for the County to establish mandatory collection districts (see Chapter 9 for more discussion about this process) in areas of relatively sparse population. Because the County would become the ultimate collector of user fees from those not complying with the requirement to pay for collection service, this could become a significant administrative problem for the County.

Right to Issue Citations and Lien Property

Effective enforcement of solid waste and nuisance abatement ordinances in the county requires a streamlined process to remedy situations in violation of these ordinances. Current law often requires a cumbersome court-based process to correct a violation of SHD regulations, which significantly increases the cost of enforcement and diminishes the effectiveness of SHD inspectors. A simpler mechanism is needed for remedying these problems. The two enhancements of SHD authority stated above—the rights to issue citations and to lien property—would simplify the SHD's role and enhance its effectiveness in efficiently discharging its solid waste-related responsibilities.

1993 Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan

Chapter 2—Program Description and Priorities

Costs, Goals and Objectives

The key to assigning priorities in this Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan was cost effectiveness. Ongoing economic and budget uncertainties prevent the County from committing extensive resources to MRW management, yet at the same time, it recognizes that it has a growing MRW problem, which must be handled. Thus, this Plan emphasizes these cost-effective strategies:

1. The “three Rs,” and other options in line with State HW management priorities listed in Chapter 70.105.150 RCW:
 - (a) reduction — reducing amounts of hazardous materials needed to get jobs done
 - (b) reuse — employing durable goods, creating in house and participating in out-of-house reuse programs for hazardous materials, such as solvents, lubricants and coatings, and exchanging hazardous materials with other entities through such auspices as this state’s Industrial Materials Exchange (IMEX) program
 - (c) recycling — creating in-house and participating in out-of-house programs for hazardous materials
 - (d) treatment — creating in-house programs, or contracting for out-of-house services to detoxify hazardous materials, and
 - (e) Disposal — using county or contracted services to safely dispose of materials.
2. Educational programs:
 - (a) Dollar for dollar, these can potentially change the behavior of more people, and avoid more MRW-related problems than any other option.
 - (b) They build public and business awareness about MRW hazards, and outline and demonstrate how to avoid using toxic products through process changes and product substitutions.
 - (c) They complement the County’s and State’s priority system for handling MRW.

The priorities assigned represent the relative value of each activity listed below, as decided by the County Council. We presently intend to undertake those activities rated “high” priority. It must be stressed, however, that budget uncertainties prevent the assurance that this intent will be translated into action. We plan to pay

for the majority of the moderate risk waste program through solid waste tipping fees. Therefore, any given program's impact upon tipping fees, as well as the total tipping fee which must be charged (includes costs for all solid waste related activities, as well as moderate risk waste program) will be examined at least annually to determine which of the high priority activities will be undertaken.

It is also important to note that the activities shown, as well as their priorities, represent the Council's thinking at this point in time. Different activities may be undertaken, and different priorities assigned, so long as the new activities and priorities reflect an attempt to solve MRW related problems outlined elsewhere in this plan in a cost effective manner. We foresee that cost effectiveness will remain a prime criterion, and so long as the limited funds available are used for expenditures, which return the greatest reduction in MRW, related problems, the County will make those expenditures.

Finally, it must be recognized that the Snohomish Health District has played a vital role in this plan's development, and will continue to play such a role in the plan's implementation. Many of the activities outlined in this plan will be undertaken by both the Solid Waste Management Division and by the Health District. While the role of the Health District is identified for specific activities, it is our intent that the District will be involved in all activities with significant public health implications. Furthermore, although enforcement of moderate risk waste laws and regulations are not explicitly mentioned elsewhere in this plan, the plan considers such enforcement to be necessary. The Health District is the agency, which has and will continue to enforce these regulations

Following are two charts that show ongoing and possible future activities planned under auspices of this plan. The first chart shows activities undertaken during the first year of this plan (1992) along with their costs.

The second chart is a summary chart which lists the plan's program options for the years 1993-1997 by category, priority, estimated cost and impact. Those activities prioritized as "high" are the ones this plan suggests are undertaken. A more complete description of each program and its priority follows this chart. Following the program description is a discussion of the goals and objectives of the plan. These goals and objectives were used to develop the program alternatives.

1992 Solid Waste Management Division Programs

<u>Cost</u>	<u>Program</u>
\$ 28,600....	Preparation of MRW Plan
\$497,300 ...	Household Collection Events
\$115,700 ...	Oil and antifreeze drop-off program
\$ 20,100....	Public Information and Education
\$ 27,500....	.5 FTE to coordinate collection, drop-off, and PIE program

Snohomish County Draft Moderate Risk Waste Plan Program Priorities, Costs, Impacts

PROGRAM	REC. PRIORITY	ESTIMATED COSI (in \$ thousands)				IMPACTS						
		1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	Waste Reduction	Recycle Reuse	Disposal	House Hold	Small Quantity Generator	
A. Education, Information, and Promotion Programs												
A.1. Public Outreach	H											
A.1.a. Public Outreach Coordination (1 FTE)	H	55	57.8	60.6	63.7	66.9	X	X	X	X	X	X
A.1.b. Community Workshops, Events, and Exhibits*	H	16	16.8	17.6	18.5	19.4	X	X	X	X	X	X
A.1.c. Newsletter Inserts, etc.	H	5	5.3	5.5	5.8	6.1	X	X	X	X	X	X
A.1.d. Mass Public Information- magnets, bus cards, etc.	H	9	8	8.4	8.8	9.3	X	X	X	X	X	X
A.1.e. Public Media Presentations	L	2.7	2.8	3	3.1	3.3	X	X	X	X	X	X
A.2. Telephone Information*	H	14.6	15.3	16.1	16.9	17.7	X	X	X	X	X	X
A.3. Directories of Recycling and Disposal Services*	H	8.3	7.0	7.4	7.7	10.6	X	X	X	X	X	X
A.4. Small Business Technical Assistance Programs and Workshops*	H	5.5	5.8	6.1	6.4	6.7	X	X	X	X	X	X
A.5. Support Activities for Public and Private Schools	M	18.8	19.7	15	15.8	16.5	X	X	X	X	X	X
A.6. Product Labeling*	M	4.7	4.9	5.2	5.4	5.7	X	X	X	X	X	X

*denotes Health District involvement or responsibility

NEW
PROGRAM **PRIORITY** **ESTIMATED COST** **IMPACTS**
(in \$ thousands)

PROGRAM	PRIORITY	ESTIMATED COST (in \$ thousands)					Waste Reduction	Recycle Reuse	Disposal	House Hold	Small Quantity Generator
		1993	1994	1995	1996	1997					
A.7. Product Point-of-Sale Materials*	L	6.9	7.2	7.6	8	8.4	X	X	X	X	
A.8. Participation Decals and Bumper Stickers	L	7.2	7.6	7.9	8.3	8.8	X	X	X	X	
B. Waste Reduction											
B.1. Business Guide to Alternative Materials and Waste Minimization Techniques*	H	13.8	10.0	10.5	11	16.8	X	X	X	X	
B.2. Household Guide to Alternative Products and Waste Minimization Techniques*	H	8.3	8.7	9.2	9.6	10.1	X	X	X	X	
B.3. SQG Activities Coordination* (1 FTE)	H	55	57.8	60.6	63.7	66.9	X	X	X	X	
C. Waste Recycling and Reuse											
C.1. Drop-off sites for Used Oil & Antifreeze*	H	151.2	121.5	127.6	134	140.7	X	X	X	X	
C.2. Dry Cell and Button Cell Battery Recycling	M	27.5	28.9	30.3	31.8	33.4	X	X	X	X	
D. Proper Disposal											
D.1. HH MRW Collection Events*	H	597.7	627.6	659	691.9	726.5	X	X	X	X	

*denotes Health District involvement or responsibility

PROGRAM **REC. PRIORITY** **ESTIMATED COSI** **IMPACTS**
 (in \$ thousands)

PROGRAM	REC. PRIORITY	ESTIMATED COSI (in \$ thousands)					IMPACTS					
		1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	Waste Reduction	Recycle Reuse	Disposal	House Hold	Small Quantity Generator	
D.2. MRW Collection and Disposal Studies (in conjunction with E.1. below)* D.2.a Study year-round disposal options for both HH's and SOG's, including feasibility of MRW Collection Facilities at existing and planned Recycling and Transfer Stations* D.2.b. Pilot program for SOG year-round disposal*	H							X	X		X	
	H	75						X	X		X	
	H	8	5	3	1	0		X	X		X	
D.3. Vector Grit Study - undertaken by cities and towns*	H	10							X			
D.4. Central Collection Facility *	L	1445	688.8	723.2	759.4	797.4		X	X		X	
E. Miscellaneous Programs												
E.1. Interim SOG Study, Coordination, and Advisory Panel (in cooperation with Sno. Health District)* E.1.a. Completion/Revision of SOG Plan Elements*	H	2	2.1	3	2.3	2.4	X	X	X		X	
E.2. In-House Program*	H	1	.6	.7	1	.8	X	X	X		X	
E.3. Code Assessment*	H	5	(1.5 County, 3.5 Sno. Health Dist)				na	na	na	na		
E.4. Public Agency Coordination*	H	2	2.2	2.5	2.3	2.4	X	X	X		X	
E.5. Solid Waste Load Check*	H	10	10.5	11	11.6	12.2			X		X	
E.6. Freon Program	H	10					na	na	na		na	

*denotes Health District involvement or responsibility

PROGRAM	REC. PRIORITY	ESTIMATED COSI (in \$ thousands)					IMPACTS				
		1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	Waste Reduction	Recycle Reuse	Disposal	House Hold Generator	Small Quantity Generator
E.7. MMCG Permit System*	L	20	55	57.8	60.6	63.7			X		X
E.8. Periodic Business Inspections (1FTE)*	L	20	55	57.8	60.6	63.7	X	X	X		X

*denotes Health District involvement or responsibility

A. Education, Information, and Promotion Programs

A.1.a Public Outreach Coordination [1 FTE] Priority: High

One FTE is needed to coordinate the public outreach elements of this plan, specifically, Information, Education, Promotion and others.

A.1.b Community Workshops, Events, and Exhibits Priority: High

An ongoing series of community workshops to be held alone, or in conjunction with other environmentally-related or civic events, using a permanent traveling exhibit. These activities will keep hazardous waste problems and solutions (reduction, recycling, reuse and proper disposal), in front of different segments of the public over the 5-year planning period. The Health District will be involved in designing and implementing this program, and while its primary audience is expected to be households, smaller businesses will also likely be reached.

This program is labor and material-intensive, and although comparatively expensive, should reach large numbers of people. As a result it has been given a high priority.

A.1.c Newsletters, Inserts. etc. Priority: High

Hazardous waste information will be included in the County's solid waste newsletter, The Sorter Reporter, and attempts will be made to insert similar material in mailings sent by relevant trade groups, solid waste haulers, solid waste, and water and sewer districts. As direct mail, this is a cost-effective means to reach large numbers of people.

A.1.d Mass Public Information - Informational magnets, bus cards. etc. Priority: High

The County's Recycling Program already enjoys success with informational magnets and bus cards. While somewhat more expensive to produce than informational literature, the impact on the mass audience seems to be significant. Two informational magnets, one for households and one for small quantity generators will be produced and distributed. If possible, bus cards and other means of publicity will also be used.

A.1.e Public Media Presentations and Announcements

Priority: Low

Contact with the media would be maintained during the 5-year planning period so as to keep households and small businesses aware of the hazardous waste problem and programs.

This was given a low priority because, although it is relatively inexpensive, the information provided would necessarily be sketchy. While publicity concerning the problem would be generated, the informational benefit provided would be minor and has relatively little use.

A.2 Telephone Information

Priority: High

As awareness of hazardous waste problems increases, the Division anticipates that County residents and businesses will have questions about dealing with hazardous materials. DOE has materials available as well as a toll free (1-800-RECYCLE) number to provide information on a statewide basis. Therefore this activity will include (a) acquisition from DOE and preparation, if necessary, of brochures that answer the most-asked hazardous waste questions, and (b) setting up a telephone receptionist on a full-time basis, or part-time, supplemented by an answering machine, to promptly provide answers concerning local questions and brochures for calling parties, and to develop a mailing list for the Division's future use. The Health District will aid the Division in preparing brochures, and be available, as needed, to provide information of a more technical nature.

Although relatively expensive, this activity will provide specific information to parties desiring to change their behavior in a timely manner. As a result it has been assigned a high priority.

A.3. Recycling and Disposal Services Directories

Priority: High

People who generate hazardous wastes often want to dispose of them properly, but don't know how. Directories will educate them to a new range of options. Where possible, the directory will be adapted from other jurisdictions; if necessary, it will be developed specifically for Snohomish County. The Health District will aid in preparation of the directory. It will list how and where people can safely dispose of hazardous wastes, provide a guide for disposal of wastes by those businesses which are not eligible to participate in household collection events, and by those householders who don't wish to leave those wastes in their homes until the next scheduled collection event.

A.4. Small Business Technical Assistance Programs and Workshops [Chamber of Commerce and association-sponsored)
Priority: High

Hazardous waste reduction, recycling and safe disposal will be promoted through introductory-level programs and more in-depth, business category-specific workshops. In order to ensure that businesses see these programs as voluntary, and to optimize the value of County efforts, where possible programs will be sponsored by and held under the auspices of Chambers of Commerce, trade groups and other business organizations. Where more in depth information is desired, the Health District will provide this service. This program enables the Division and Health district to inform members of interested groups who want to change their behavior, but don't know how.

A.5. Public and Private Schools Support Activities
Priority: Medium

An effective means of minimizing future hazardous waste problems is educating school children about them now. Various curricula in this area are now available. The least expensive option for the Division is to review and recommend a curriculum for Snohomish County schools, such as DOE's Away with Waste Program; the more expensive option is for the Division to adapt its chosen curriculum, and make it available to the schools. In either case, the curriculum would be teamed with other solid waste educational efforts in the schools, such as handouts, assemblies, "Green Cleaning" kits, etc.

While also a useful activity, curriculum development was given only a medium priority because of its relatively high initial cost.

A.6. Product Labeling
Priority: Medium

Product labeling would be a variation on product point-of-sale materials. The County would supply retailers with labels, which they would affix to hazardous products. The labels would show the product's composition and degree of toxicity, and identify less hazardous materials which consumers could choose instead. The labels would be developed in cooperation with the Health District.

Product labeling poses logistical problems, and may encounter resistance from retailers. As a result the activity has been assigned a medium priority.

A.7. Product Point-of-Sale Materials
Priority: Low

Informational handouts would be made available at retail outlets where hazardous materials are sold, to explain the materials' ingredients, proper use, how they may be recycled, and safe disposal techniques. Because there is considerable question as to whether the right information will get to the right people at the right time, this activity has been given a low priority.

A.8. Participation Decals and Bumper Stickers
Priority: Low

These items can be used to increase the awareness of hazardous waste as a problem, and to recognize those residents and businesses that have taken steps to ameliorate the problem. Impact of this option is uncertain and therefore it has been given a low priority.

B. Waste Reduction

B.1. Business Guide to Alternative Materials and Waste
Minimization Techniques
Priority: High

The Division, with the help of the Health District, would either produce or adapt a publication on business hazardous materials use and disposal alternatives. As Technical Assistance Programs and Workshops (A.4 above), this business guide is seen as a cost-effective means of supplying in-depth information to our audience.

B.2. Household Guide to Alternative Products and Waste
Minimization Techniques
Priority: High

This would be a similar publication as that described in B.1, but would be oriented to households, rather than businesses.

B.3. Small Quantity Generator (SQG) Activities Coordination
Priority: High

The Division sees this item as vital for the success of the SQG elements of this Plan. One full-time employee (FTE) will work solely as the linchpin for the Small Quantity Generator segment of the MRW program. This effort could potentially include producing written materials (activities A.1c, d & e, 3, 5, 6, 7 & 8 and B.1 & 2), and serving as the contact person for communication with business groups

(activities A.4 and E. 1). If permanent disposal options for small quantity generators can't be easily provided, this effort will also include playing a central role in identifying a permanent disposal strategy for minor and major commercial generator's (activities D.2 & E.1). If requested by individual businesses and as time permits, this individual will also visit businesses to provide moderate risk waste management advice. Finally, this effort will also coordinate the County's in-house moderate risk waste program (activity E.2). This individual will serve on an ongoing basis as the primary contact with Health District personnel for SQG elements of the plan.

C. Waste Recycling and Reuse

C.1. Drop-off Sites for Used Oil and Antifreeze Priority: High

The successful, current County oil and antifreeze collection program will be maintained, and additional collection sites added. The ultimate goal is to eliminate improper disposal of used oil and antifreeze, which account for nearly 40% by weight of Snohomish County's MRW. Despite the high cost of this activity, it is a vital element in this Plan. The Health District will inspect and permit these sites in accordance with state regulations. Furthermore, if state regulations change this program and the facilities that support it will also change to meet the new regulations.

C.2. Dry Cell and Button Cell Battery Recycling Priority: Medium

Staff will work cooperatively with retailers to develop and implement a means of collecting and disposing of these batteries. Point-of-purchase disposal bins will most likely be used for collection. Although dry cell and button batteries are recognized by some researchers as a significant moderate risk waste problem, no recycling program for these batteries exists in the U.S., and this option was given only a medium priority because of the relatively high costs associated with a successful collection and disposal program.

D. Proper Disposal

D.1. Household MRW Collection Events Priority: High

The County will continue its events for collecting and disposing of household MRW. The budget shown does not include disposal costs associated with the collection of latex paints. Despite its high cost, the program is quite successful,

and represents the only disposal method for most household-generated MRWs. The Health District will, as they have in the past, aid in planning and implementing these events, and will have personnel on site to oversee the public health aspects of them.

D.2. MRW Collection and Disposal Studies (in conjunction with E.1. below)
Priority: High

In many cases, people are unwilling or unable to safely store waste until a disposal option becomes available. The following activities will result in year-round opportunities for both householders and small quantity generators to dispose of MRW in an environmentally acceptable manner. The Health District will participate in these disposal studies.

D.2.a. Study Year-Round Disposal Options for Householders and SQGs.
Priority: High

The optimum program would enable householders and small quantity generators to dispose of MRW as they generate it, thereby minimizing their unsafe storage and disposal. This activity will assess year-round disposal options, and include exploring the feasibility of (1) locating MRW collection facilities at existing recycling and transfer stations, (2) locating a more sophisticated central MRW facility at any proposed new facilities, and (3) studying feasibility of a separate facility. Facilities that would be used by SQGs will be examined in conjunction with activity E.1. below.

Although useful, retrofitting at least two of the three existing recycling and transfer stations would likely be expensive or impossible in light of space constraints. Nevertheless, adding such a collection facility at the third station could be feasible, and including such facilities in future stations could also be feasible.

D.2.b. Pilot Program for SQG Year-Round Disposal
Priority: High

This activity will be conducted in conjunction with activity E.1. The intent is to work with industry and trade groups, and set up a rotating series of small quantity generator collection events, with the goal of enabling SQGs to regularly dispose of their waste, at a frequency suitable for each industry group.

Presently, County hazardous waste collection events do not provide disposal opportunities for small quantity generators, because we expect the private sector to provide them. If it has not done so by the second year that this Plan is in effect,

and if no other options appear feasible, the County may enter the SQG disposal arena, but only after examining the relative merits of private sector run versus public sector run small quantity generator disposal, and how each option can be coordinated with neighboring counties.

D.3. Vactor Grit Study - active participation by cities and towns
Priority: High

Vactor grits are the sometimes hazardous materials removed from catch basins and swept off streets. Their safe disposal poses a problem for the County and for cities and towns that sweep their streets and/or siphon their catch basins. This item must be addressed, which means assessing the quantity and toxicity of materials generated, then determining solutions and estimated costs. The cities and towns will work in conjunction with the County and the Health District to complete the study. The County will coordinate a resolution of this problem with the Cities and Towns.

D.4. Central Collection Facility for Households & Minor/Major
Commercial Generators
Priority: Low

A central collection facility would collect, temporarily store, and arrange for the safe disposal of wastes originating in both households and MMCGs. Starting and operating such a facility for would be costly, and other disposal options are already available. We are exploring permanent collection at transfer stations, as the County continues its household collection events, and private sector commercial disposal services handle output from minor and major commercial generators.

E. Miscellaneous Programs

E.1. Interim Small Quantity Generator Study, Coordination and Advisory Panel
(in cooperation with the Snohomish Health District)
Priority: High

An interim SQG advisory panel, consisting of members recommended by SWAC, nominated by the County Executive, and appointed by the County Council, and representing the needs of small quantity generators throughout the county, will be organized to help the County revise the SQG elements of the MRW Plan, scheduled for implementation by the fourth year (1995) of the Plan, (see activity E.1.a). They will also aid in undertaking and coordinating aspects of the plan that deal with SQG disposal, inspection, and permitting, and funding for these activities. The cooperation of the business community is vital to the success of these elements.

The Solid Waste Management and Health District staffs will work with this interim panel to study options, develop a realistic SQG plan and implement the program.

E.1.a. Completion/Revision of SQG Plan Elements
Priority: High

Snohomish County recognizes that small quantity generators may desire services beyond those presented in this plan. The Interim SQG Advisory Panel (activity E.1) will address this possibility, and develop additional programs and funding options for extra SQG services, which may include on-site visits to small businesses in the County to provide technical assistance in moderate risk waste management. These small quantity generator elements will be completed in 1995, and if significant, be reviewed and approved in accordance with Dept. of Ecology guidelines.

E.2. In-House Program
Priority: High

Snohomish County operations generate hazardous wastes. State law requires that counties have in-house MRW programs. To minimize County liability, we must develop and implement methods of source reduction, recycling, waste reduction, treatment and safe disposal. The Division will review County operations to provide advice in these areas.

E.3. Code Assessment
Priority: High

We must review, assess, and revise the Snohomish County Code as well as the Health District's Regulations Governing Solid Waste Handling to create language that results in reduction and safe disposal of hazardous wastes. Ordinances and regulations are our basis for enforcing the MRW plan. Division staff, Health District personnel and a Deputy Prosecutor will cooperatively undertake this activity.

E.4. Public Agency Coordination
Priority: High

Many elements of the moderate risk waste plan involve numerous public agencies including the County, Health District, Sewage Districts, PUD and others. The thrust of this activity is to encourage coordination among these agencies in relation to moderate risk waste management. Because of this activity's low cost, and the need for interagency cooperation, this activity has been given a high priority.

E.5. Solid Waste Load Check
Priority: High

Snohomish County is required, by the Rabanco waste export contract and Klickitat County conditional use permit, to have a load check program that prevents transport to and disposal of moderate risk and hazardous wastes at the Klickitat County disposal site. In cooperation with the Health District, the Division will develop and implement a means of systematically examining solid waste loads to meet the contract and permit requirements.

E.6. Freon Program
Priority: High

As of June 1992, federal and state laws prohibit venting CFC compounds such as Freon into the atmosphere. The Division does not accept appliances containing Freon (refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners) at transfer stations, and instead refers the public to a list of environmental and appliance companies for disposal. If illegal dumping of these appliances increases as a result of the County's policy of not accepting them, and if private enterprise does not provide the service of accepting these appliances, then we will research, analyze, and suggest alternative means of ensuring their safe disposal.

E.7. Major and Minor Commercial Generators Permit System
Priority: Low

This activity would develop and implement a permit program for MMCGs located within the county. The program could enable the County to create:

- (a) a more complete data base of commercial hazardous waste use and disposal within the county,
- (b) an intracounty "cradle-to-grave" system for tracking it, and
- (c) a variable fee that would be charged to minor and major commercial generators based on the quantity and/or toxicity of waste generated, which would fund hazardous waste programs.

This activity was given a low priority because of its uncertain need and high cost.

E.8. Periodic Business Inspections
Priority: Low

Under this activity, all businesses which generate hazardous waste would be periodically visited to determine how the business handles and disposes of that

waste with the goal of educating business owners on how to deal with moderate risk waste. Enforcement would only occur if there were imminent danger or inaction in correcting inappropriate storage and disposal methods.

Plan Costs and Comparisons

The following chart summarizes the total cost of the plan, and compares that cost with the present MRW programmatic costs borne by SWMD, as well as MRW programmatic costs which will occur in the future in the absence of this plan. These total plan costs are based upon the individual project cost of the projects to be implemented; those rated as high priority.

**Table 2-1
Cost Impact and Comparison**

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1997</u>
Expected Tonnage (1)	285K	290K	304.5K	319.7K	335.7K	352.5K
Future Cost, no plan @ 5% growth (2)	689.2	786.2	825.5	866.8	910.1	955.6
Plan Cost	-	973.9	1037	1028.4	1056.2	1114.7
Present Cost/Ton	2.42	-	-	-	-	-
Future Cost/Ton (no plan)	-	2.71	2.71	2.71	2.71	2.71
Plan Cost/Ton	-	3.36	3.40	3.22	3.14	3.16

1. Assumes tonnage will increase 5% annually
2. Includes approx. \$97,000 increase in Collection Event costs resulting from increased tonnage and traffic

Goals and Objectives of Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan

The overall goal of the Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan is to reduce to zero the quantity of MRW being landfilled or entering surface or groundwaters. In attempting to accomplish this goal three broad goals for the management of MRW in the County were jointly developed and identified by the SWMD, Health District, and SWAC. These are:

Goal 1: Develop an MRWMP that addresses and moves toward solving community MRW problems within the 5-year planning period.

Goal 2: Assure that MRW management alternatives serve both the urban and rural areas, and address expected population and business growth areas.

Goal 3: Create MRW management alternatives that are consistent with the State Hazardous Waste Management Priorities as defined in Chapter 70.105.150 RCW:

- a. Waste prevention
- b. Waste recycling
- c. Physical, chemical, and biological treatment
- d. Incineration
- e. Solidification and stabilization
- f. Landfill

Specific objectives for meeting the goals of the plan are:

Objective 1: Increase the awareness of the Snohomish County citizens and businesses regarding the hazards of MRW and the proper MRW disposal methods.

Objective 2: Reduce the quantity of MRW generated in Snohomish County.

Objective 3: Reduce the quantity of MRW that is improperly disposed of by households and MMCGs.

Objective 4: Decide whether additional regulatory and disposal mechanisms are necessary to accomplish Objectives 2 and 3 above, and if so, to develop a regulatory framework that will implement the MRWMF in an equitable manner for participating jurisdictions, county residents, and members of the local business community.

Objective 5: Define and coordinate agency responsibilities for accomplishing the objectives of the plan.

Chapter 3

Estimated Staff Needs

The SWMD and SHD have arrived at estimated staffing needs by using the detailed cost estimates provided in HWMP Technical Memorandum 6. We estimate that four full-time staff — three for the Solid Waste Management Division and one for Snohomish Health District — will be needed to implement this stage of the MRWP. Of these, the one SHD staff will implement compliance and other District activities, and the three SWMD staff will implement all other plan elements. Current staff (1 FTE) will coordinate and implement primarily household education, information, promotion and collection activities. One (new) FTE will coordinate small quantity generator-related activities, and one (new) FTE will staff the telephone hotline and provide other educational support. Completion of SQG plan elements will determine if additional staffing will be needed after that time.

The staff needs estimated here does not include volunteer or contracted service staff for the County's periodic household MRW mobile collection events. These activities require large numbers of staff.

Regulatory Requirements

Regulatory requirements for this Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan involve permitting and compliance. The Health District will take primary responsibility for both of these activities. The SHD will also regulate collection events and facilities.

The current MRWMP does not call for any mandates beyond those presently in place. Later developments may, however, result in the need for additional enforcement activities. Authority for enforcing compliance with any existing and/or future federal, state, County, and Health District regulations will rest with the Snohomish Health District.

In summary, the District will undertake those programs identified in Chapter 2, enforcement activities necessary for compliance with existing and future regulations, and other MRWMP related activities with significant public health implications.

Chapter 5

Hazardous Waste Management Services

A number of hazardous waste management brokerage businesses provide services to generators for all types of hazardous waste. These businesses arrange for the transport, treatment, and disposal of hazardous waste and will often provide waste testing services, documentation, and regulatory information. These companies are usually permitted to transport waste to a permitted TSD or to store these wastes until they can be transported to a TSD for final treatment or disposal.

Emergency Response

Response to an accidental discharge of hazardous materials is provided through cooperative effort by local fire districts, law enforcement agencies, local emergency coordinators, and others.

When a spill or other release of hazardous material is identified, local officials first contact the fire district in the afflicted jurisdiction. The fire district provides first response to assess the state of the emergency, cordon off the area (if necessary), identify responsible parties, and coordinate cleanup. Each fire district may be assisted in this task by local law enforcement agencies, local government officials,

and either the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) or the South Snohomish County Emergency Service Coordinating Agency (ESCA). DEM and ESCA do not provide field services during emergency response operations. DEM and ESCA instead provide management assistance to responding agencies for activities such as identifying responsible parties and coordinating with private enterprise for spill cleanup.

Snohomish County agencies do not perform spill cleanup. If a responsible party can be identified, local fire districts will request that the responsible party provide spill management and cleanup. If management and cleanup is not provided by the responsible party, local fire districts may contract with private enterprise for cleanup and bill the responsible party. If cost recovery is not obtained from the responsible party, county taxes or other available revenue resources are called on for payment of cleanup costs.

Household MRW Collection Events

Snohomish County residents have had opportunities to participate in county household MRW collection events held since May 1986. The roundups started out as one-day events, but have become 12-day events held twice annually at different locations around the county. These events were discussed earlier on pages 3-1 and 3-2.

Other MRW Management Services

The Snohomish Health District and Dept. of Ecology provide an information hot line to Snohomish County residents for disposing and recycling of MRW. The District receives approximately five to ten calls a month. Depending on the waste type and volume, the District instructs callers to use up the material if possible, wait for local household hazardous waste collection event (if one is scheduled), or call a local TSDF and arrange to drop off the waste at their facility. Callers are also provided with information on how to safely store the waste until it can be properly disposed.

Other options that are available for the management of specific MRW types from households and businesses include automotive service stations and other auto-related businesses. For example, several service stations and automotive-related businesses in Snohomish County accept small quantities of waste oil and anti-freeze from households. In addition, a number of retail outlets, and a few recycling centers, purchase lead-acid batteries from households and businesses. A list of these services is available by telephone from the Dept. of Ecology.

Increasingly stringent environmental standards regarding the disposal of waste oil are negatively affecting the availability of waste oil recycling services to households. Service stations have begun refusing to accept household waste oil because

they are concerned that their material could become contaminated with hazardous wastes, such as spent solvents, and result in added liability and expense for disposal of their

To investigate this concern, service stations in Snohomish County were contacted and asked if they currently accept motor oil from households. Service stations that store waste motor oil in underground storage tanks generally refuse to accept motor oil from households because of the large volume of oil that could potentially be contaminated. Other service stations indicated that they do accept waste motor oil from households, but that they watch what is being disposed and charge for any waste oil that they do accept to offset increasing costs charged by waste oil recyclers.

Regulatory Framework

Current Agency Roles and Responsibilities

Local agency roles and responsibilities for MRW management are not well defined. All of the following have some involvement: Solid Waste Management Division, Snohomish Health District, local water districts, local sewer districts, the Public Works Department's Storm and Surface Water Management group, and the Community Development and Planning Department's Drainage Review and Water Resources groups.

The key roles are currently played by the SWMD and SHD. As discussed previously, the Solid Waste Management Division takes the lead role in preparing the Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan. In addition, it has sponsored (or co-sponsored) and generally organized all MRW collection events in the County to date. These have included single day events in 1986, 1987, 1988 and 1989, and multiple day events held twice annually throughout the county in 1990, 1991 and 1992.

In addition, the SWMD currently provides residents with nearly three dozen drop-off sites for used oil, antifreeze and automotive batteries throughout the County, a used paint exchange program, and other related programs.

The Snohomish Health District, which has developed regulations related to the disposal of toxic wastes in the County, is the official enforcement agency in the County. In addition, the Health District is currently providing a number of public services that are directly and indirectly related to MRW management. Some of these activities are:

- Investigation of complaints concerning the improper disposal of household and small business hazardous wastes, education of violators, and if necessary,

enforcement action using existing health district toxic waste regulations (primarily EHD 8-30)

- Education of the public in response to inquiries concerning hazardous waste management and disposal
- Participation in the planning and implementation of household hazardous waste collection events and provision for representatives at events to lend assistance and oversee the public health aspects of the events
- Representation at emergency management meetings concerning Superfund Amendments Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title 3 standards and response to chemical emergencies
- Assistance in developing the Moderate Risk Waste Management Plan through attendance at meetings of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee and Hazardous Waste Management Ad Hoc Subcommittee, providing recommendations, and review and comment on draft plans and draft technical memorandums and reports.

Various municipalities and private enterprise also play a role in MRW management.

Regulations

Federal, state, and local regulations affect MRW management in Snohomish County. A brief overview is provided here. A detailed list and descriptions of specific federal, state, and local regulations pertaining to MRW are provided in HWMP Technical Memorandum 1.

MRW regulations apply to both household hazardous substances and small quantities of hazardous waste that minor and major commercial generators produce. The primary Washington State MRW law is the Hazardous Waste Management Act (RCW 70.105), which requires each local government, or combination of contiguous local governments, to prepare a hazardous waste management plan for MRW generated or present within the jurisdiction. This law also directed DOE to prepare the Washington State Dangerous Waste Regulations (Chapter 173-303 WAC). The Dangerous Waste Regulations incorporate the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act regulations pertaining to hazardous waste management (Subtitle C Hazardous Waste Management). Household MRW is exempt by definition from the Dangerous Waste Regulations (WAC 173-303-071(3)(c)).

Minor and major commercial generators that produce hazardous waste in Washington are conditionally exempt from the Dangerous Waste Regulations if they generate dangerous waste in quantities less than 220 pounds per month or per batch, or extremely hazardous waste in quantities less than 2.2 pounds per month

or per batch. A conditionally exempt minor and major commercial generator can lose this exemption and become a regulated generator if the waste quantity accumulated on-site exceeds, at any time, these quantity exclusion limits for any single waste or combination of wastes.

In order to comply with WAC 173-303-070(8), minor and major commercial generators in Washington are required to dispose of hazardous wastes either by treating or disposing of the waste in an onsite facility or ensuring delivery to an off-site facility. Disposal of "toxic waste" into the Snohomish County system, in any quantity, is not permitted as defined under Snohomish County Ordinance EHD-8-30-230.

State policy regarding the siting and construction of permanent MRW collection facilities is described in the 1990 issue paper prepared by Dept. of Ecology, entitled Regulating Household Hazardous Waste and Moderate Risk Waste Fixed Collection and Storage Facilities. This paper states that MRW produced by households and conditionally exempt small quantity generators is regulated as solid waste because it is not, by definition, regulated as hazardous waste. This distinction implies that any facility collecting or storing MRW produced by households or conditionally exempt SQGs is regulated by solid waste laws, including the Minimum Functional Standards for Solid Waste Handling (WAC 173-304).

There are several important implications of this regulatory interpretation. The first is that co-location of solid and MRW collection facilities appears to be acceptable to DOE. This policy, if unchanged in the future, may greatly ease the burden on local governments when attempting to site and permit MRW collection facilities.

A second important implication is that this policy inherently assumes that collectors must be able to verify that only non-regulated MRW is accepted at collection facilities. If state-regulated dangerous or extremely hazardous waste is accepted, a facility is "subject to, and in violation of, the Dangerous Waste Regulations." Dept. of Ecology has not, at this time, defined what level of verification will be acceptable to the agency. It is likely that verification requirements could include certification by facility users that the waste originated in a household, or for minor and major commercial generators, that they have exempt status and are not exceeding the quantity exclusion limits. Some local enforcement capability may also be required.

Municipalities which collect and dispose of household MR wastes are exempt from federal and state hazardous waste management regulations under RCRA and WAC 173-303, but this exemption is subject to various limitations. A municipality is exempt if all the wastes collected are exempt and no hazardous waste from a

regulated generator is mixed with the exempt wastes. If these wastes are mixed, the entire mixture is regulated under both RCRA Subtitle C and WAC 173-303. Also, as mentioned above, if a municipality receives waste from a regulated generator, the municipality can become subject to federal and state hazardous waste regulations. Once these wastes are removed, the municipality may requalify for conditionally exempt status. It should also be stressed that exemption from regulations developed under RCRA does not negate a municipality's financial liability under either RCRA or the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Finally, it should be noted that requirements for fixed facilities are detailed by DOE in their publication "Limited Fixed Facility Guidelines WDOE 92-13".

Although collection events for hazardous waste produced by households are not subject to federal and state hazardous waste regulations, DOE recommends using the same controls and procedures contained in the dangerous waste regulations for the management of this type of program.

In addition to the Washington State Dangerous Waste Regulations, municipalities must, as stated above, also comply with CERCLA and the SARA. CERCLA was originally promulgated in 1980, but was amended in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments Reauthorization Act. SARA does not contain an exclusion from liability for household MRW or an exclusion based on the amount of waste generated. Potential liability under SARA exists whether the wastes are collected as part of a community's regular solid waste collection services and disposed of in a solid waste landfill or collected as part of a special collection program and taken to a hazardous waste landfill. The importance of this issue to a municipality considering operation of a collection facility or collection program is that the municipality will always retain "ownership" of the waste under SARA, no matter how it is handled, transported, or disposed.

Local regulation of MRW in Snohomish County is currently limited. In general, county agencies rely on state and federal regulations regarding hazardous waste management. However, Snohomish Health District regulation EHD 8-30-230 contains a section that specifically prohibits the disposal of toxic wastes through household collection systems, sewers, septic systems, surface water or groundwater, or on the surface or under the ground. Enforcement of EHS 8-30-230 by the Snohomish Health District is currently on a response-to-complaint basis. The Snohomish County Code, Chapter 7.41.040, also limits disposal of hazardous or potentially hazardous waste at disposal sites without approval of the health officer and the director. Regulated sources, quantities, and waste types are not specifically defined in either ordinance.



Appendix C

Chapter 7.34 SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7.34.010 Committee formation.

The Snohomish county solid waste advisory committee is established, to be comprised of a county-wide group of representatives of municipalities, citizens, and industry, to assist in the development of programs and policies concerning solid waste handling and disposal and to review and comment upon proposed rules, policies, or ordinances prior to their adoption. (Added Ord. 85-042, § 2, May 15, 1985).

7.34.020 Composition of committee.

Membership of the solid waste advisory committee shall be as follows:

(1) Regular Members. The solid waste advisory committee shall consist of:

(a) One member from each city and town in Snohomish county which is a signatory to the effective county comprehensive solid waste management plan, to be nominated by the legislative authority for that municipality and appointed by the county council.

(b) One member from each city or town in Snohomish county which has its own comprehensive solid waste management plan, to be nominated by the legislative authority for that municipality and appointed by the county council.

(c) Five members, each representing the unincorporated area of one of the five county council districts. The five members shall be recommended by the executive and appointed by the county council. The executive shall recommend candidates representing a spectrum of citizens, public interest groups and businesses. Candidates shall be residents of Snohomish county or firms licensed to do business in Snohomish county.

(d) Four members shall be selected, two to represent commercial solid waste collection firms, one voting and one non-voting; and two to represent commercial recycling firms, one voting and one non-voting. These members shall be recommended by the executive and appointed by the county council.

(e) One ex officio, non-voting representative from the Snohomish county solid waste division.

(f) One ex officio, non-voting representative from the department of ecology.

(g) One ex officio, non-voting representative from the Snohomish health district.

(2) Auxiliary Members. The regular membership of the solid waste advisory committee may appoint auxiliary members for a specific time period to serve on the committee in a non-voting capacity, for the purpose of providing specific information, technical advice, information of a general nature which is pertinent to the committee's activities or any

other form of assistance which will aid the committee in carrying out its purposes.

(3) Term of Office. Terms of office for regular members shall be for a two-year period from the date of appointment, whether the member is appointed at the commencement of an initial term or at a point thereafter. (Added Ord. 85-042, § 2, May 15, 1985; Amended Ord. 90-059, as amended, May 9, 1990; Amended Ord. 96-097, § 1, Jan. 15, 1997, Eff date Jan. 26, 1997).

7.34.030 Chairperson.

The committee shall be chaired by a chairperson and assisted by a vice-chairperson. Both shall be elected by the committee from within the committee membership and shall serve for a period of one year. (Added Ord. 85-042, § 2, May 15, 1985; Amended Ord. 96-097, § 2, Jan. 15, 1997, Eff date Jan. 26, 1997).

7.34.040 Role of the committee.

The committee shall:

(1) Coordinate the exchange of information on solid waste and resource recovery issues between Snohomish county and the municipalities, citizens and industries of Snohomish county.

(2) Provide policy recommendations to Snohomish county on solid waste and resource recovery issues which reflect both the needs and most appropriate use of resources of the citizens of Snohomish county that meet the requirements of safe, cost effective and environmentally acceptable solid waste disposal and recovery.

(3) Review and provide comments on plans prepared by the solid waste division of the Snohomish county department of public works for implementing features of the solid waste management program, including disposal and recovery operations.

(4) The committee will adopt and submit to Snohomish county its annual goals and objectives and an annual progress report. (Added Ord. 85-042, § 2, May 15, 1985).

7.34.050 Meetings.

(1) The solid waste advisory committee shall meet as required to carry out the purposes of the committee. Meetings may be held at various locations within the county with written notification to the membership and chairperson designating the time and place of such meetings. Meetings shall be held not less than quarterly. A quorum shall consist of two-fifths of the regular voting members on the committee. A majority of members who cast a vote will pass a motion, except for the adoption or amendment of by-laws.

(2) By-laws may be adopted or amended at a regular meeting of SWAC by a two-thirds vote of approval provided at least a quorum is present and that 1) the amendments or adoptions have been submitted

in writing at the previous SWAC meeting; and 2) the full membership has been given at least three weeks notice with copies of the text of all proposed amendments. Absent members may vote in writing on amendments or adoption of by-laws. Votes in writing must be received prior to the meeting at which the vote is taken. (Added Ord. 85-042, § 2, May 15, 1985; Amended by Amended Ord. 90-059, May 9, 1990; Amended Ord. 96-097, § 3, Jan. 15, 1997, Eff date Jan. 26, 1997).

7.34.060 Minutes and support staff.

The Snohomish county department of public works shall provide support staff, as necessary, for the meetings of the committee. (Added Ord. 85-042, § 2, May 15, 1985).

Chapter 7.35 SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

7.35.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to establish a comprehensive county-wide program for solid waste handling and solid waste recovery and/or reclamation which will prevent land, air and water pollution and conserve the natural, economic, and energy resources of the county. To do so requires effective control of the disposal of all non-exempted solid waste generated and collected within the unincorporated areas of Snohomish county at a site or sites consistent with its comprehensive plan.

Snohomish county desires to exercise its right to provide facilities to control the disposal of all solid waste generated and collected within the unincorporated areas of its borders and to permit the incorporated municipalities of the county to use its facilities and to further implement its comprehensive plan by providing for the use of either public or privately owned solid waste facilities. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983; Amended Ord. 90-019, May 14, 1990).

7.35.020 Definitions.

- (1) "Agricultural wastes" means waste resulting from the production of farm or agricultural products including manures;
- (2) "Approval" or "approved" by the county executive or authorized designee means an approval given after all other permitting processes have been completed;
- (3) "Ashes" means the residue of burning of combustible materials;
- (4) "Authorized designee" means the director of the department of public works of Snohomish county unless by order of the county executive another public official shall be designated to carry out such duties under this chapter;
- (5) "Board of health" means the board of health of the Snohomish health district;

- (6) "Chapter" shall mean chapter 7.35 SCC and amendments thereto;
- (7) "Collecting agent" means any person involved in the collection and disposal of solid waste generated in the unincorporated areas of Snohomish county;
- (8) "Composting" means the controlled microbial degradation of organic waste yielding a nuisance-free product;
- (9) "Comprehensive Plan" or "Snohomish County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan" means the plan heretofore adopted by Snohomish county by Resolution No. 82-004 adopted January 11, 1982 and approved by the department of ecology and any amendments thereto governing, among other things, the disposal of solid waste in Snohomish county;
- (10) "Council" means the county council of Snohomish county;
- (11) "Department of ecology" means the Washington state department of ecology;
- (12) "Director" means the director of the Washington state department of ecology;
- (13) "Disposal site" means an approved site or sites where any final treatment, utilization, processing, or deposition of solid waste is permitted and occurs. This includes, but is not limited to, transfer stations (included as part of the disposal system of the county), sanitary landfills, incinerators, composting plants, and the location of a facility for the recovery of energy resources from solid wastes or the conversion of the energy in such wastes to more useful forms or combinations thereof;
- (14) "Garbage" means and includes all putrescible wastes, except sewage and body wastes, including vegetables, animal offal and carcasses of dead animals, but not including recognized industrial by-products, and shall include all such substances from all public and private establishments and from all residences;
- (15) "Hazardous wastes" means and includes, but is not limited to explosives, medical wastes, radioactive wastes, pesticides and chemicals which are potentially harmful to the public health or the environment;
- (16) "Health district" means the Snohomish health district;
- (17) "Health officer" means the health officer of the Snohomish health district;
- (18) "Incineration" means the controlled combustion of solid waste that yields satisfactory nonputrescible residues and air effluents;
- (19) "Incinerator" means a furnace and associated building designed to burn solid wastes under controlled conditions of more than 50-pounds-per-hour capacity;
- (20) "Industrial wastes" means waste by-products of manufacturing and/or processing operations;
- (21) "Nuisance" means unlawfully doing an act, or failing to perform an act which act or omission either unreasonably annoys, or injures, or unreasonably endangers the comfort, repose, health or safety

of others or unlawfully interferes with, obstructs or could obstruct any navigable waterway or any publicly travelled place or unreasonably renders other persons, acting in good faith, insecure in their actions or the use of their property;

(22) "Open burning" means the burning of solid wastes in an open area, or pile, or in a barrel or furnace with inadequate controls which yields an unsatisfactory residue and an unsatisfactory air effluent;

(23) "Permit" means a solid waste disposal site permit issued by the Snohomish health district at a site consistent with the comprehensive plan and approved as such by the county executive or authorized designee;

(24) "Person" is an individual, firm, association, co-partnership, political subdivision, government agency, municipality, industry, public or private corporation, or any other entity whatsoever;

(25) "Processing" means the conversion of solid waste into a useful product or otherwise prepares solid waste for sale and reuse;

(26) "Putrescible material" means any organic material which will decompose and may give rise to foul-smelling, offensive products;

(27) "Reclamation" means the disposal process in which there is hand and/or mechanical segregation of solid waste for sale and reuse, including source separation. Materials which can be removed through reclamation include but are not limited to newsprint, cardboard, aluminum, glass, plastics and ferrous metal. Reclamation does not include combustion of solid waste or preparation of a fuel from solid waste;

(28) "Reclamation site" means a location used for the processing or the storage of reclaimed material;

(29) "Recycling" means a method of reclamation;

(30) "Resource recovery facility" means a facility for the recovery of energy resources from solid wastes or the conversion or processing of solid waste to a more useful form or a combination thereof;

(31) "Sanitary landfill" means a method of disposing of solid waste on land without creating nuisances or hazards to public health or safety, by utilizing the principles of engineering to confine the solid waste to the smallest practical area, to reduce it to the smallest practical volume, and to cover it with a layer of earth at the conclusion of each day's operation or at such more frequent intervals as may be necessary;

(32) "Solid waste" means all putrescible and non-putrescible wastes, whether in solid or in liquid form, except liquid-carried industrial wastes and sewage, and including garbage, rubbish, ashes, industrial wastes, swill, demolition and construction wastes, abandoned vehicles or parts thereof, discarded home and industrial appliances, manure, digested sludge, vegetable or animal solid and semi-solid wastes, dead animals, and other discarded solid and semi-solid materials;

(33) "Solid waste handling" means the storage, collection, transportation, treatment, utilization, processing, and final disposal of solid waste;

(34) "Special wastes" means those solid wastes which require special handling either due to their posing a potential health hazard, or due to their bulky or abrasive nature which could damage transfer equipment, and which are designated as "special wastes" by the authorized designee;

(35) "Transfer station" means a staffed, fixed, supplemental, collection/transportation/disposal facility, used by collection agents, or other persons or route collection vehicles to deposit solid wastes into a larger transfer vehicle for transport to a disposal site. This does not include a detachable container or solid waste drop box. Any transfer station currently in use by Snohomish county or hereafter created by it is part of the Snohomish county solid waste disposal system;

(36) "Woodwaste" means a by-product resulting from the handling and processing of wood, including, but not limited to, hog fuel, sawdust, shavings, chips, bark, small pieces of wood, stumps, limbs, or any other material composed largely of wood which has no significant commercial value at the time in question, but shall not include slash developed from logging operations unless disposed of on a different site. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983; Amended Ord. 92-055, May 27, 1992).

7.35.030 Disposal of solid waste by county.

The county shall acquire adequate disposal sites and facilities or contract for the disposal of all solid waste generated and collected in Snohomish county and the municipal corporations situated therein, to the extent such other jurisdictions enter into and maintain interlocal agreements with the county for this purpose. Such disposal sites, facilities and contracts shall be consistent with the comprehensive plan, and all federal, state and local requirements, including, but not limited to, comprehensive land use planning, zoning, fire protection, water pollution prevention, air pollution prevention, and the consideration of esthetics. Disposal site acquisition within in the county shall be consistent with, and may be conditioned upon compliance with, all requirements of SCC 7.35.060. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983; Amended Ord. 90-019, May 14, 1990).

7.35.040 Operation of solid waste disposal sites by county.

The Snohomish county public works department shall be the operating authority for all solid waste disposal sites owned or operated by Snohomish county. The director of the public works department shall prepare operating rules for such solid waste disposal sites, which rules shall govern days and hours of operation, disposal fees charged, and acceptable solid waste products. The county reserves the right to provide in said operating rules that certain solid wastes, such as special wastes,

wood waste, or wastes based on source, type, or volume, shall not be accepted, or only conditionally accepted, at sites owned or operated by the county. The public works department may designate different disposal sites for different types of wastes, for different types of vehicles, for customers authorized or not authorized by the director for credit billing, and/or for customers who do or do not hold valid utilities and transportation commission certificate permits. In making such designations the department, upon adoption of appropriate standards, may exempt charitable organizations, state subdivisions, or other classes of users which would suffer undue hardship without an exemption. The operating rules for such sites shall be consistent with this chapter and with regulations promulgated by the board of health. Operating rules prepared by the director shall comply with all interlocal agreements entered into by the county. Where practicable, the operating rules shall be prepared in consultation with the solid waste advisory committee and with those cities or towns containing solid waste transfer facilities affected by the operating rules.

Rules establishing disposal fees will be effective only upon adoption by the county council. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983; Amended Ord. 92-055, May 27, 1992).

7.35.050 Interlocal operations.

Solid waste disposal sites owned or operated by the county shall be available to accept solid wastes generated and collected in municipal corporations situated within Snohomish county and solid wastes generated in other counties: PROVIDED, That with the exception of vector wastes collected from storm water facilities by both private and municipal agencies, the governing bodies of such jurisdictions enter into or maintain interlocal agreements with the county council and comply with the conditions contained therein and herein. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to modify in any way any existing interlocal agreements between Snohomish county and the incorporated municipalities of Snohomish county. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983; Amended Ord. 96-065 § 1, Sep. 11, 1996, Eff date Sep. 22, 1996).

7.35.060 Establishment and operation of solid waste disposal sites.

No disposal site in Snohomish county, whether acquired publicly or privately, shall be established, altered, expanded or improved, or hereafter operated or maintained without prior compliance with the following:

- (1) The disposal site shall be as designated by the county in accord with its comprehensive solid waste management plan; and
- (2) The disposal site shall be constructed, operated and maintained in accord with terms of permit from the health district and such other permits as are required by law; and

(3) The disposal site shall be approved by conditional use permit as required by the County Code and in all respects comply with chapter 43.21C RCW; and

(4) The proposed operation shall be a sanitary landfill, composting plant, incinerator, or resource recovery facility constructed and operated in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, statutes, rules and regulations. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983).

7.35.070 Exempt operations.

Only such solid waste operations as are exempt from the permit requirements and other regulations of the Health District are exempt from the provisions of this chapter; PROVIDED, That such operation may be subject to prosecution under SCC 7.35.120 and 7.35.130 or otherwise subject to civil and/or criminal prosecution for the maintenance of a nuisance or a violation of any provision of the Snohomish County Code not contained in this chapter. Any exempted solid waste operation must be established, maintained, managed and/or operated in compliance with all other requirements of local, state or federal health rules.

The following shall remain exempt from the operation of this chapter, provided that this exemption shall not affect any authority of the health district to control, through permits or otherwise, any of the following solid waste disposal operations.

(1) Dumping or depositing solid waste generated by a single family or household produced incidental to routine household activities onto or under the surface of the ground owned or leased by that family or household.

(2) Wrecking automobiles and parts thereof including storage and handling facilities, minor reclamation of scrap metal, glass, discarded clothing, paper, and their associated facilities which leads to resale or reuse of said material.

(3) Depositing soil, rock, tree stumps, gravel, broken concrete, broken asphalt, and similar inert wastes onto the surface of the ground whereby such depositing is to be temporary in nature, graded, and otherwise worked to fill an existing depression or low area of ground.

(4) Depositing agricultural solid waste onto or under the surface of the ground when said waste is being utilized primarily for fertilizer or a soil conditioner, or is being deposited on ground owned or leased by the person responsible for the production of said waste, as long as depositing such waste does not create a nuisance.

(5) Depositing sewage and/or sewage sludge onto or under the surface of the ground at a disposal site which has otherwise been issued a permit by a local, state or federal agency to be operated, maintained or managed for that purpose.

(6) Depositing hazardous waste onto or under the surface of the ground at a disposal site which has otherwise been issued a permit by a

local, state or federal agency to be operated, maintained or managed for this purpose.

(7) Establishment and operation of a woodwaste landfill site. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983).

7.35.080 Reclamation.

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit or inhibit reclamation of solid waste at reclamation sites so long as otherwise conducted in accord with applicable laws, rules and regulations. A reclamation site shall be subject to permit requirements of the health district. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983).

7.35.090 Solid waste disposal site permit — Regulations.

Adoption of regulations governing the establishment, alteration, expansion, improvement, operation and maintenance of all solid waste disposal sites within the county and applying for processing, reviewing, and suspending permits therefor is within the jurisdiction of the health district. Such regulations set procedures, standards and conditions for the issuance of solid waste disposal site permits designed to assure that disposal sites and facilities are located, maintained and operated in a manner so as to properly protect the public health, prevent air and water pollution, and avoid the creation of nuisances. Such regulations are consistent with, but may be more stringent than, the minimum functional standards adopted by the Washington state department of ecology (chapter 173-301 WAC), and the guidelines for sanitary landfill design and operation adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983; Amended Ord. 90-019, May 14, 1990).

7.35.100 Nonconforming sites and facilities.

Nonconforming sites and facilities within the county shall comply with the health district's regulations applicable to nonconforming sites. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983; Amended Ord. 90-019, May 14, 1990).

7.35.110 Abandoned sites.

All existing solid waste disposal sites within the county which are abandoned shall be compacted, covered and reseeded in compliance with the regulations of the health district. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983; Amended Ord. 90-019, May 14, 1990).

7.35.120 Unlawful disposal of solid waste.

It is unlawful for any person to dump or deposit or permit the dumping or depositing of any solid waste onto or under the surface of the ground or into the waters of this state except at a solid waste disposal site for which there is a valid permit; PROVIDED, That nothing herein

shall prohibit a person from dumping or depositing solid waste resulting from his own activities onto or under the surface of ground owned or leased by him when such action does not violate statutes or ordinances, or create a nuisance. Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983).

7.35.125 Unlawful to remove solid waste from county.

Except as permitted by state law or exempt by virtue of this chapter, it is unlawful for any collecting agent or other person to deliver or deposit any solid waste generated and collected within the unincorporated areas of the county outside the borders of Snohomish county. This section shall be effective July 1, 1984. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983).

7.35.130 Unlawful burning of garbage.

It is unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to burn any garbage or solid waste containing garbage, or to burn any other waste materials of a type that creates an offensive odor, except in an incinerator for which there is a valid permit issued pursuant to this chapter and as permitted by the regulations of the Puget Sound air pollution control agency. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983).

7.35.140 Penalties.

Any person, firm or corporation which violates or refuses to or fails to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and liable to punishment as provided in SCC 1.01.100. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to exempt an offender from any other suit, prosecution, or other penalty otherwise provided by law. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983).

7.35.150 Public nuisance.

Any solid waste disposal site hereafter established, altered, expanded, improved, operated or maintained in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter and/or as a nuisance as defined in SCC 7.35.020 is unlawful and a public nuisance. The prosecuting attorney may take such steps or commence such legal or civil actions as are necessary to abate such nuisances and to restrain and enjoin further unlawful acts. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983).

7.35.160 Severability.

If any portion of this chapter, its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the act and the application of the provisions to other circumstances is not affected. (Added Ord. 83-151, § 1, Dec. 28, 1983).

Chapter 7.37 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT GRANTS

7.37.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to establish a grant program to aid the county's solid waste management program by supporting recycling and the prevention and remediation of illegal dumping and littering, and to provide aid to the poor and infirm by providing relief from solid waste disposal costs for certain organizations which help members of these groups. (Added Ord. 92-104, Sept. 2, 1992; Amended Ord. 94-100, § 2, Oct. 26, 1994).

7.37.020 Definitions.

The definitions listed in chapter 7.41 SCC shall apply to this chapter unless the context requires another meaning. (Added Ord. 92-104, Sept. 2, 1992; Amended Ord. 94-100, § 2, Oct. 26, 1994).

7.37.030 Grants to certain not for profit charitable organizations.

(1) All grants made under this section shall be based on the amount of waste which must be disposed of.

(2) Total annual disbursements made under this grant program shall not exceed the amount budgeted by council for this program.

(3) Recycling Grants. The director shall develop and implement a grant program designed to reimburse certain charitable organizations for disposal costs incurred by disposing of waste generated within the county on a regular and ongoing, rather than one time basis. To be eligible to receive a grant a charitable organization must, on an annual basis, file the following information with the director:

(a) Proof that the Internal Revenue Service recognizes the organization as one which is nonprofit and charitable;

(b) Current articles of incorporation filed with the Washington secretary of state showing that the primary charitable purpose of the organization is one of providing aid to the poor or infirm;

(c) A description of the organization's business operations showing that the organization's primary form of doing business is processing donated and abandoned goods for resale or reuse;

(d) A verification that all waste for which disposal grants will be sought will be generated solely within the borders of Snohomish county.

The director may require additional documentation if the director has concerns as to the organization's tax status, primary charitable purpose, or primary form of doing business. Before awarding a grant the director must find that the charitable organization is contributing to the county's recycling effort by processing used and abandoned goods for resale and reuse, and that the organization has satisfied the above requirements.

(4) Grants to Other Not for Profit Charitable Organizations. The director shall develop and implement a grant program designed to reimburse certain charitable organizations for disposal costs incurred by

disposing of waste generated within the county associated with constructing or rehabilitation housing for the poor. To be eligible to receive a grant a charitable organization must file the following information with the director:

(a) Proof that the Internal Revenue Service recognizes the organization as one which is nonprofit and charitable;

(b) Current articles of incorporation filed with the Washington secretary of state showing that the primary charitable purpose of the organization is one of providing aid to the poor or infirm;

(c) A description of the organization's charitable activities showing the primary activity is constructing or rehabilitating housing to be occupied by the poor;

(d) A verification that all waste for which disposal grants will be sought will be generated solely within the borders of Snohomish county;

(e) Verification that all recyclables will be removed from the waste to be disposed of; and

(f) A report, in a format specified by the director, explaining how the construction or rehabilitation project was designed and implemented to facilitate the separation of recyclables, and how the project could have been designed and implemented to more easily facilitate the separation of recyclables.

The director may require additional documentation if the director has concerns as to the organization's tax status, primary charitable purpose, or primary form of doing business. Before awarding a grant the director must find that the charitable organization has satisfied the above requirements. (Added Ord. 92-104, Sept. 2, 1992; Amended Ord. 94-100, § 3, Oct. 26, 1994).

7.37.032 Illegal dumping and littering prevention and remediation grants.

(1) All grants made under this section shall be based on the amount of illegally deposited waste which must be disposed of.

(2) Total annual disbursements made under this grant program shall not exceed the amount budgeted by council for this program.

(3) Grants to Landowners. The director shall develop and implement a grant program designed to reimburse those landowners who must pay disposal costs to the county for disposing of waste illegally deposited upon their lands. Before a grant is made the following conditions must be met:

(a) The grantee must notify the Snohomish health district of the illegally deposited waste, and comply with any conditions imposed by the health district designed to reduce future illegal deposit of waste.

(b) The grantee must notify the director in writing of the nature and quantity of waste being disposed of, and certify that the waste was not generated by the landowner but instead was deposited

upon his lands by parties unknown to the landowner and without the landowner's permission.

(c) The grantee must certify to the director that the land upon which the waste was illegally deposited was either public land or not fenced, not posted, and available to the public for recreational purposes at the time of the deposit of the waste, and is currently public land or unfenced and available to the public for recreational purposes, and will remain so for one year after receipt of the grant.

The director may require additional documentation if the director has concerns as to whether the above requirements have been met. Before awarding a grant the director, based on the information provided by the grantee and by and to the health district, must find that the waste was illegally deposited, that conditions imposed by the health district to minimize future illegal deposit of waste have been met by the grantee, and that the land upon which the waste was illegally deposited was and is currently public land or available to the public for recreational purposes.

(4) Grants to Groups and Individuals. The director shall develop and implement a grant program designed to reimburse those groups or individuals who must pay disposal costs to the county for disposing of waste illegally deposited upon public lands or upon lands available for public recreation. Before a grant is made the following conditions must be met:

(a) The grantee must notify the Snohomish health district of the illegally deposited waste.

(b) The grantee, or if the grantee is a group an individual representing the group, must notify the director in writing of the nature and quantity of waste being disposed of, and certify that the waste was not generated by the group or its members, or individual seeking the grant.

(c) The grantee, or if the grantee is a group an individual representing the group, must certify to the director that the land upon which the waste was illegally deposited was either public land or not fenced, not posted, and available to the public for recreational purposes at the time the waste was removed.

The director may require additional documentation if the director has concerns as to whether the above requirements have been met. Before awarding a grant the director, based on the information provided by the grantee and by and to the health district, must find that the waste was illegally deposited and that the land upon which the waste was illegally deposited was either public land or available to the public for recreational purposes. (Added Ord. 94-100, § 4, Oct. 26, 1994).

7.37.040 Severability.

If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of these rules or the

application of the provisions to other persons or circumstances is not affected. (Added Ord. 92-104, Sept. 2, 1992; Amended Ord. 94-100, § 4, Oct. 26, 1994).

Chapter 7.41 OPERATING RULES AND DISPOSAL FEES FOR SNOHOMISH COUNTY SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL SITES

7.41.010 Definitions.

As used in this chapter unless context requires another meaning:

- (1) "Bulky waste" means large items of refuse, such as appliances, furniture, and other oversize wastes which would typically not fit into reusable or disposable containers.
- (2) "Clean wood" means dimensional lumber and wood pieces typically resulting from the demolition or construction of buildings, and wood pieces gathered as a by-product or waste from the manufacture of wood products which do not contain laminates or glues, and which have not been painted or treated with stain preservatives.
- (3) "Contract hauler" means any person engaged in the business of solid waste handling under the authority of the Washington utilities transportation commission or under contract with any corporate municipality of the state of Washington.
- (4) "Commercial" means any solid waste brought to a Snohomish county solid waste disposal site for disposal by company, corporation, business, firm, association, sole proprietorship, partnership, municipality, political subdivision, or government entity.
- (5) "Compacted waste" means any solid waste whose volume has been reduced through mechanical means by compression from the original state.
- (6) "Dangerous waste" means any solid waste designated as dangerous waste by the department of ecology under chapter 173-303 WAC.
- (7) "Demolition debris" means solid waste, largely inert waste, resulting from the demolition or razing of buildings, roads and other man-made structures. Demolition waste consists of, but is not limited to, concrete, brick, bituminous concrete, wood and masonry, composition roofing and roofing paper, steel, and minor amounts of other metals like copper. Plaster (i.e., sheetrock or plaster board) or any other material, other than wood, that is likely to produce gases or a leachate during the decomposition process and asbestos wastes are not considered to be demolition waste for the purposes of this regulation.
- (8) "Director" means the director of the Snohomish county department of public works or his/her designated representative.
- (9) "Disposal site" means the location where any final treatment, utilization, processing, or deposition of solid waste occurs.

(10) "Garbage" means unwanted animal and vegetable wastes and animal and vegetable wastes resulting from the handling, preparation, cooking and consumption of food, swill and carcasses of dead animals, and of such a character and proportion as to be capable of attracting or providing food for vectors, except sewage and sewage sludge.

(11) "Hard-to-handle waste" means any waste material which is difficult to transfer, transport, or dispose of at county disposal sites without special processing including, but not limited to tires, fly ash, sheetrock, shingles, plywood squares, concrete, boulders, and stumps.

(12) "Hazardous waste" means any waste material defined as hazardous pursuant to Federal Public Law 94-580 (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act) or as later amended and regulations thereunder, including explosives, medical wastes, radioactive wastes, pesticides, chemicals, burning materials, and other materials.

(13) "Health officer" means the health officer or his/her representative of the Snohomish health district.

(14) "Liquid" means a substance that flows readily and assumes the form of its container but retains its independent volume.

(15) "Moderate Risk Waste" means:

(a) hazardous waste that is generated in smaller quantities than those regulated by the department of Ecology under the Dangerous Waste Regulations (Chapter 173-303 WAC) less than 2.2 pounds (1 kg.) of extremely hazardous waste per month, and below 220 pounds (100 kg.) of dangerous waste per month, and/or;

(b) any household-generated hazardous waste, such as paints, solvents, thinners, pesticides, corrosives, cleaners, auto maintenance products and cosmetics.

(16) "Person" means any individual, firm, association, partnership, political subdivision, government agency, municipality, industry, public or private corporation or any other entity.

(17) "Senior citizen" means any permanent resident of Snohomish county who is 60 years of age or older.

(18) "Small quantity generator" means a business which generates less than 220 pounds of hazardous waste or 2.2 pounds of extremely hazardous waste per month and does not accumulate more than 2,200 pounds of hazardous waste.

(19) "Solid waste" means all putrescible and nonputrescible solid and semisolid wastes, including but not limited to garbage, rubbish, ashes, industrial wastes, swill, demolition and construction wastes, abandoned vehicles or parts thereof, and discarded commodities. This includes all liquid, solid and semisolid, materials which are not the primary products of public, private, industrial, commercial, mining and agricultural operations. Solid waste includes but is not limited to sludge from wastewater treatment plants and septage, from septic tanks, wood waste, dangerous waste, and problem wastes.

(20) "Uncompacted waste" means any solid waste in a loose condition, not compressed by mechanical means.

(21) "Wood waste" means solid waste consisting of wood pieces or particles generated as a by-product or waste from the manufacturing of wood products, handling and storage of raw materials and trees and stumps. This includes but is not limited to sawdust, chips, shavings, bark, pulp, hog fuel, and log sort yard waste, but does not include wood pieces or particles containing chemical preservatives such as creosote, pentachlorophenol, or copper-chrome-arsenate.

(22) "Scavenging" means the removal of materials at a disposal site, or interim solid waste handling site without the approval of the owner or operator and the jurisdictional health department.

(23) "Salvaging" is a recovery process in which there is hand and/or mechanical segregation of solid waste to recover materials for sale and/or reuse and is done in a controlled and organized manner.

(24) "Yard waste" means plant material (leaves, grass clippings, branches, brush, flowers, roots, etc.); organic debris commonly thrown away in the course of maintaining yards and gardens, including sod; and other biodegradable material approved by the director. It excludes food waste, plastics and synthetic fibers, lumber, any wood or tree limbs over six inches in diameter or 10 feet long, and soil contaminated with hazardous waste. (Added Ord. 90-022, May 14, 1990; Amended Ord. 93-134, Dec. 15, 1993, Eff date Dec. 25, 1993; Ord. 95-069, § 2, August 23, 1995, Eff date Sept. 1, 1995; Amended Ord. 98-129, § 1, Nov. 23, 1998, Eff date Dec. 10, 1998).

7.41.020 Solid waste disposal fee schedule.

(1) All persons using county-operated solid waste disposal sites shall pay the service fees set forth in this chapter. Listed fees are subject to applicable taxes.

(2) Services fees for solid waste disposal shall be based upon measured weights whenever possible. In the absence of weight information, service fees shall be based upon the cubic yard; except that all passenger cars shall be charged a flat rate regardless of weight or volume.

(3) In the absence of exact measurements of weight or quantity, the estimate of the director shall be final and binding on the user.

(4) Service fees for materials determined by the director to be bulky or hard-to-handle wastes or other wastes not on the accepted list but which have already been deposited, shall be based upon the schedules in SCC 7.41.020(6).

(5) Service fees do not apply to specific source separated recyclable materials accepted by county-operated solid waste disposal sites for recycling, except for those materials for which specific fees have been designated in SCC 7.41.020.

(6) Service fees for urban and rural transfer stations and drop boxes for the disposal of mixed solid waste shall be as follows:

- (a) Passenger cars - \$14.58
- (b) Fees based on weight - \$89.00 per ton/\$14.58 min. fee
- (c) Pickups, station wagons, vans, etc. - \$16.17 per cubic yd./\$16.17 min. fee
- (d) Commercial compacted - \$27.03 per cubic yd.
- (e) Hard-to-handle - \$200.00 per ton

(7) Service fees for separated yard debris shall be the same as those listed in subsection (6).

(8) Service fees for disposal of clean wood, except Christmas trees between December 26 and March 31, at those county facilities which have designated containers for clean wood collection shall be as follows:

- (a) Passenger cars - \$13.00
- (b) Fees based on weight - \$79.00 per ton/\$13.00 min. fee
- (c) Pickups, station wagons, vans, etc. - \$14.25 per cu. yd./\$14.25 min. fee

(9) Service fees for disposal of Christmas trees between December 26 and March 31 shall be \$5.00 per tree. Regular service fees shall apply at all other times.

(10) Service fees for disposal of vector wastes at the Vector Waste Decant Facility at the Cathcart Landfill shall be as follows:

- (a) A flat fee of \$31.11 per trip shall be the minimum fee.
- (b) In addition to the flat fee, a fee of \$56.50 per ton of solid material.

(c) All users of the Vector Decant Facility will establish a credit account with the Solid waste Management Division in accordance with the provisions of Section 7.41.030. No cash will be accepted at this facility.

(d) After six months of operation and at six month intervals thereafter, and after review of revenue and expenditure data, the County Executive may, after notifying the County Council, increase or decrease either the flat fee or the per ton fee for vector waste in order to ensure sufficient revenue is generated to operate the vector waste decant facility at the lowest possible cost to the user.

(11) Service fees for the disposal of hazardous waste at the Fixed Moderate Risk Waste Facility by small quantity generators shall be based on the actual disposal cost to the County of the materials offered for disposal plus a \$1.50 per gallon or \$.20 per pound surcharge for handling and processing. There is no service fee for the disposal of household generated hazardous waste at this facility. (Added Ord. 92-115, Oct. 12, 1992; Amended Ord. 93-134, Dec. 15, 1993, Eff date Dec. 25, 1993; Ord. 95-069, § 1, August 23, 1995, Eff date Sept. 1, 1995; Amended Ord. 96-066 § 1, Sep. 11, 1996, Eff date Sep. 22, 1996; Amended Ord. 98-129, § 2, Nov. 23, 1998, Eff date Dec. 10, 1998).

7.41.022 Solid waste disposal emergencies.

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of SCC 7.41.020, the county executive is delegated the authority to reduce or eliminate any or all disposal fees under the following conditions:

(a) a state of emergency for all or part of Snohomish county has been declared by a state or federal official empowered to declare such an emergency, and

(b) the event leading to the state of emergency results in the necessity for residents to quickly and safely dispose of solid wastes in order to maintain the public health and safety.

(2) This reduction or elimination of fees shall be made, where practicable, only after consultation with the council, and shall under no circumstances last longer than 30 days without formal council approval. The county executive shall provide written notification of the reduction or elimination of fees to the council and the department of finance. (Added Ord. 93-134, Dec. 15, 1993, Eff date Dec. 25, 1993).

7.41.030 Special fee provisions — Credit billing.

(1) All service fees shall be collected in cash by site attendants at the time of use; PROVIDED, That the director may authorize credit billing.

(a) Authorization for credit billing may be granted only upon a written request in advance for such service.

(b) All invoiced fees shall be due and payable to the Snohomish county treasurer within 20 days of the invoice date. Payment shall be mailed to the Snohomish County Department of Finance, Mail Stop 610, Everett, Washington 98201. Interest shall be charged at the maximum rate allowed by state law on past due balances. A service fee of \$10.00 per month may be charged accounts that have past due balances.

(c) The director may suspend use privileges for a credit customer who fails to pay within 20 days of billing.

(d) Except for not-for-profit charitable organizations eligible for those grants described in chapter 7.37 SCC, no authorization for credit billing shall be granted without the posting of an irrevocable payment bond secured in the name of Snohomish county by the person for whom credit billing is requested. The amount of such bond shall be equal to three times the estimated average monthly usage charge. The amount of such bond may be changed by giving 30 days' notice by the director to reflect actual usage.

(2) Service fees for split or chipped tires at facilities without scales shall be based upon the cubic yard and shall be the same as those specified for commercial compacted wastes. At facilities with scales, the service fees based on weight for split or chipped tires shall be the same as those for commercial compacted wastes.

(3) Service fees for whole tires shall be triple the fees specified for commercial compacted wastes.

(4) Service fees for bulky and hard-to-handle wastes, where the facility is large enough to accept them, shall be based upon the cubic yard or fraction thereof, and shall be the same as the fees specified for commercial compacted wastes, provided there shall be a minimum fee of \$40.00 for all bulky and hard-to-handle wastes. At facilities with scales, the service fees for bulky and hard-to-handle wastes shall be \$200.00 per ton, with a minimum fee of \$40.00. (Added Ord. 90-022, May 14, 1990; Amended Ord. 92-111, Oct. 7, 1992; Amended Ord 95-022, § 1, June 7, 1995, Eff date June 24, 1995).

7.41.040 Special fee provisions — Senior citizens.

(1) Any senior citizen may make application for a senior citizen solid waste disposal fee card on forms established by the director.

(2) Any such application shall be accompanied by proof of age and residency, and a certification in the following form:

I, _____, certify under penalty of perjury that I and my spouse (if any) had a gross combined annual income of less than \$12,700.00 per year during the preceding calendar year.

(Applicant)

Documents acceptable to establish proof of age and residency include, but are not limited to, a valid Washington state drivers license, a Snohomish county real property tax statement, a voter registration card, or a property tax receipt.

(3) Upon approval of the application, the senior citizen shall receive a senior citizen solid waste disposal fee card. The card shall be non-transferable and its use shall be restricted to those named on the card for individual use. Each card shall be valid for a calendar year and may be reviewed annually.

(4) The card shall authorize 20 uses in any calendar year or remainder thereof and shall allow senior citizens holding a valid card to use any solid waste disposal site in accordance with operating rules developed by the director. The card shall be restricted to a per use volume of up to four covered containers not exceeding 30 gallons each or the equivalent thereof at a per use cost of \$2.00.

(5) At any time, the director or his/her designee may require proof of identity for any individual using a card. Any use of a card by an unauthorized individual or for waste other than that generated by the holder shall be sufficient cause for revocation and any card so used may be immediately seized by the director. (Added Ord. 90-022, May 14, 1990; Amended Ord. 93-134, Dec. 15, 1993, Eff date Dec. 25, 1993).

7.41.042 Secured loads — Additional charge.

All loads arriving at any county solid waste facility shall be covered or secured so as to prevent any solid waste being transported from unintentionally falling or being blown out of the vehicle.

(1) After June 30, 1994, any vehicle arriving at a solid waste facility which contains waste that is not covered or secured shall be charged an additional fee as follows:

(a) for vehicles with gross vehicle weights up to and including 8,000 pounds, the additional charge shall be \$5.00.

(b) for vehicles with gross vehicle weights over 8,000 pounds, the additional charge shall be \$10.00.

(2) Until June 30, 1994, the operator of any vehicle meeting the conditions described in (1)(a) or (b) of this section shall be issued a written warning alerting the operator to the requirements of this section.

(3) All monies collected under this section shall be placed in an unsecured loads additional charge account.

(4) The unsecured loads additional charge account shall be disbursed no less often than quarterly, and shall be used by the solid waste management division only for the purposes of reducing and remediating littering and illegal dumping. (Added Ord. 93-134, Dec. 15, 1993, Eff date Dec. 25, 1993).

7.41.050 Types of wastes that are acceptable and unacceptable.

(1) Demolition debris shall not be accepted at any of Snohomish county's landfill sites delivered in vehicles licensed over 8,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight (GVW). Dirt, rocks, or other dense materials shall not be accepted at any transfer station.

(2) Whole and split tires in loads of five or more shall be accepted only at the landfill and the transfer stations.

(3) Stumpage and land clearing debris shall not be accepted at any disposal site delivered in vehicles licensed over 8,000 lbs. GVW.

(4) Any load of waste deemed to be dangerous or potentially dangerous by the director or the health officer shall not be disposed of at any disposal site without prior approval of the health officer and the director.

(5) Septic tank pumpings, sludges and liquid waste shall not be accepted at any disposal site except in emergency circumstances and with the approval of the health jurisdiction and the director.

(6) Wood waste shall not be accepted at any disposal site except in emergency circumstances and with the approval of the health jurisdiction and the director.

(7) Commercial, contract haulers and/or compacted waste loads greater than five tons or five cubic yards shall not be accepted at drop box facilities without the prior approval of the director.

(8) Hazardous wastes shall not be disposed of in Snohomish county without prior approval of the health officer, the department of

ecology, and the Snohomish county council. (Added Ord. 90-022, May 14, 1990).

7.41.060 Violations.

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to enter into any county solid waste disposal site, without authority of the director, during non-operating hours.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose of solid waste within a county solid waste facility without paying the applicable fees as established by this chapter.

(3) Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be punished as provided in SCC 1.01.100. (Added Ord. 90-022, May 14, 1990).

7.41.070 Unlawful to scavenge.

(1) Scavenging by any persons at any Snohomish county solid waste disposal site is forbidden. Any violation of this provision shall be considered a violation of RCW 36.58.020 and any persons found guilty of a misdemeanor.

(2) Salvaging at any Snohomish county solid waste disposal site shall be allowed only when the person conducting such operation has, by formal contractual agreement, received permission from the director. (Added Ord. 90-022, May 14, 1990).

7.41.600 Effective date.

This chapter shall take effect and be in full force and effect from and after August 1, 1990. (Added Ord. 90-022, May 14, 1990).

7.41.900 Severability.

If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of these rules or the application of the provisions to other persons or circumstances is not affected. (Added Ord. 90-022, May 14, 1990).

Chapter 7.42 RESIDENTIAL COLLECTION OF SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLABLES IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF THE COUNTY

7.42.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is to define levels of single-family and multi-family residential solid waste and recycling services which shall be provided to households in areas serviced by solid waste collection companies operating in unincorporated portions of Snohomish county. (Added Ord. 89-114, September 27, 1989; Amended Ord. 90-199, § 1, November 28, 1990; Amended Ord. 98-002, § 1, Feb. 11, 1998, Eff date Feb. 23, 1998).

7.42.020 Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter:

(1) "Single-family dwelling" means any residential unit receiving solid waste collection service as an individual unit and the dwelling is billed for solid waste collection service as an individual unit.

(2) "Multi-family structure" means any residential structure designed for occupancy by two or more families living independently of each other receiving solid waste collection service as an entire structure or complex and the structure or complex is billed for solid waste collection service as a whole and not by individual dwelling units.

(3) "Urban/suburban service zone" means those areas of the unincorporated county that have been designated as such in figure 2-1 of the Recycling Element of the Snohomish County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, December 1989.

(4) "Recycling service zone" means those areas of the unincorporated county that have been determined to be suitable to receive certain collection services for recyclables and other materials, in accordance with section 7.42.040, and have been officially so designated by motion of the county council or by directive of the director of the solid waste management division, in accordance with SCC 7.42.030.

The criteria used to determine the boundary of the recycling service zone shall be population density and distribution, and, in particular, serviceability factors, with attention being paid to the following:

(a) whether the area is contained within a U.S. Census Bureau designated urbanized area for the most recent census;

(b) whether the area is adjacent to an area meeting criteria (a) above and has a population density of at least 200 persons per square mile;

(c) whether, if the area is not adjacent to (a) above, the area has a population greater than 4,000 persons within a contiguous area and a population density of at least 200 persons per square mile;

(d) whether other factors pertaining to serviceability make it possible to provide services to additional residences at similar costs as for residences in other areas of unincorporated county which already have established collection services.

(5) "Yard debris service zone" means those areas of the unincorporated county that have been determined to be suitable to receive certain collection services for yard debris, in accordance with section 7.42.040, and have been officially so designated by motion of the county council or by directive of the director of the solid waste management division, in accordance with SCC 7.42.030.

The criteria used to determine the boundary of the yard debris service zone shall be similar to those used to determine the recycling service zone and, in particular, serviceability factors.

(6) "Yard debris" means plant material including, but not limited to, grass clippings, leaves, branches, brush, flowers, roots, windfall fruit, vegetable garden debris, and weeds commonly created in the course of maintaining yards and gardens, and through horticulture, gardening, landscaping, or other similar activities as well as other biodegradable materials approved for yard debris pickup by the director of the solid waste management division, after consultation with composting facilities and the Snohomish health district. Yard debris collection shall also include clean holiday trees and jack-o-lanterns. It excludes rocks, sod, soil, plastics and synthetic fibers, treated dimensional lumber, any woody materials over four inches in diameter or three feet in length, pet wastes, as well as other materials prohibited by the director of the solid waste management division pursuant to the authority of SCC 7.42.030(2).

(7) "Collection company" and "solid waste collection company" means a solid waste collection company which services unincorporated areas of Snohomish county, is regulated by the Washington utilities and transportation commission, and operates under a G permit.

(8) "Bulky materials" means large items generated by residences, such as appliances, furniture, and other oversize materials, which would typically not fit into collection containers used for recyclables, yard debris or garbage. (Added Ord. 89-114, September 27, 1989; Amended Ord. 90-199, § 2, November 28, 1990; Ord. 95-004, § 21, Feb. 15, 1995, Eff date Feb. 27, 1995; Amended Ord. 98-002, § 2, Feb. 11, 1998, Eff date Feb. 23, 1998).

7.42.030 Authority delegated to the director of the solid waste management division.

(1) The director of the solid waste management division shall, periodically review changes in population density as reported by the Snohomish county department of planning and development services, and serviceability factors. Based on this review and consultation with collection companies the director may recommend to the county council significant modifications to the recycling and yard debris service zones. Significant modifications are single modifications which affect over 800 residences. The director of the solid waste management division may officially designate minor modifications of the recycling or yard debris service zones, based upon serviceability factors and consultation with the solid waste collection company. Minor modifications include modifications which affect less than 800 households, such as extending the zone to include newly developed subdivisions.

Requests to the director for minor modifications may be initiated by citizens, staff, the collection company, or any other interested party and should be based on population density, serviceability and economic factors. Minor modifications to the zone by the director will be mutually agreed upon by the division and the solid waste collection company

within whose franchise area the modification is proposed, and shall be communicated in writing to the county council member within whose district the modification has been made and the Washington utilities and transportation commission.

(2) The director may designate the materials which are to be collected as recyclables, yard debris or garbage. In determining the status of such materials the director shall consider health issues, environmental and economic factors, public demand, the material's compostability and ability to be recycled, the quantity of materials in the waste stream, and standards for processing facilities and equipment. (Added Ord. 90-199, § 3, November 28, 1990; Ord. 95-004, § 22, Feb. 15, 1995, Eff date Feb. 27, 1995; Amended Ord. 98-002, § 3, Feb. 11, 1998, Eff date Feb. 23, 1998).

7.42.040 Services to be provided.

Each solid waste collection company shall be responsible for providing the following services in unincorporated Snohomish county, with the described features, for their service area within the areas designated:

(1) Within the urban/suburban service zone, all services provided in the recycling service zone and the yard debris service zone shall be provided.

(2) Within the recycling service zone, the following services will be provided:

(a) All single-family and multi-family garbage collection services will be offered only in combination with recycling collection service. Rates will be established for these combined services by the Washington utilities and transportation commission.

(b) Recycling collection for single-family dwellings shall be provided weekly from each dwelling, preferably on the same day as garbage collection, unless the collection company can demonstrate to the county that an alternative collection schedule can result in the same or higher levels of participation and recovery. Recycling collection for multi-family residences shall be at least once every two weeks, unless the collection company can demonstrate to the county that an alternative collection schedule can result in the same or higher levels of participation and recovery.

(c) Solid waste collection companies shall offer and provide single-family dwellings, at a minimum, the collection services listed below. All single-family residential garbage collection services offered within the recycling service zone shall include recycling collection.

(i) Weekly mini-can, one-can, two-can, and three-can, or comparable garbage collection service.

(ii) Monthly mini-can and one-can collection, or comparable service.

(iii) Recycling only service.

(d) The following materials from single-family dwellings and multi-family structures shall be collected when properly prepared and meeting the material description as specified by the solid waste management division and the solid waste collection company:

- (i) Newspaper;
- (ii) Mixed paper;
- (iii) Corrugated cardboard;
- (iv) Metal food and beverage cans and clean aluminum foil;
- (v) Glass food and beverage containers;
- (vi) PETE #1 plastic bottles;
- (vii) HDPE #2 plastic bottles.

Other recyclable materials, such as scrap metals, other plastics or used motor oil, may be collected if mutually agreed to by the director of the solid waste management division and the solid waste collection company. Fees determined to be reasonable by the Washington utilities and transportation commission may be charged for this service.

(e) Prior to February 1, 1998, a recycling container or containers to hold the materials designated for collection shall be provided to each single-family residential dwelling upon request. After February 1, 1998, a recycling container or containers shall be provided automatically to all new single-family residential dwelling customers, within the recycling service zone, unless the resident requests to not receive the container.

(f) Recycling containers to hold the materials designated for collection shall be provided to each multi-family structure or complex, unless the complex owner or manager chooses not to utilize the recycling component of the combined recycling and garbage service.

(g) Recycling containers shall be sufficient in number and type to hold all recyclables accumulated between collections.

(3) Within the yard debris service zone, the following services will be provided:

(a) Yard debris collection services shall be provided to all single-family dwellings and multi-family structures that request such services. Services to be offered include:

(i) Yard debris collection service, as a separate and optional service, for garbage collection service customers.

(ii) Yard debris only collection service.

(b) Solid waste collection companies are not required to provide a container for yard debris collection but may do so at their option. Yard debris shall be collected either bundled or containerized. Residents shall have the option of providing their own reusable container so long as such containers meet specifications set by the solid waste collection company.

(c) Collection companies shall collect yard debris when properly prepared as specified by the solid waste management division

and the collection company. The collection service shall be provided at least twice monthly, from March through October, and monthly from November through February.

(d) Fees determined to be reasonable by the Washington utilities and transportation commission may be charged for this service.

(4) Other Services.

(a) Solid waste collection companies shall offer bulky materials collection service, for reuse, recycling, or disposal, both inside and outside the recycling service zone. Solid waste collection companies are encouraged to develop innovative and cost effective routing and services which periodically provide for bulky materials collection throughout their service area.

(b) Solid waste collection companies may, at their option and in select areas, provide optional recycling and yard debris collection services outside the recycling and yard debris collection zones. Rates for these services shall be established by the Washington utilities and transportation commission.

(5) Additional Service Features.

(a) Processing and marketing of all source-separated recyclable and compostable materials collected shall be provided such that no more than 5 percent by weight of the collected material may be landfilled. In case of an emergency or absolute inability to recycle the collected materials, a larger percentage may be landfilled with the formal consent of the county council.

(b) Recycling and yard debris collection containers made of plastic shall be manufactured using a percentage of post consumer recycled materials, if available and competitively priced.

(c) Promotional strategies shall be employed by collection companies to reasonably and regularly inform and notify each single-family and multi-family customer of the inclusion of recycling collection service and charges in combination with garbage collection service. Promotional strategies shall also be employed to regularly inform each customer and residence of proper material preparation, collection schedules, and the availability of mini-can, yard debris collection and other services.

(d) Solid waste collection companies are asked to provide the division with promotional and educational materials for review and comment prior to production and distribution to customers. This does not include short messages on billings. The division will review materials for content and accuracy of information, and consistency with materials prepared by the county. (Added Ord. 98-002, § 4, Feb. 11, 1998, Eff date Feb. 23, 1998).

7.42.050 Report to council on effectiveness of program.

By September 1, 1998, the executive will report to the council on the effectiveness of the single-family curbside, yard debris and multi-

family recycling programs and the dome drop-off program. If necessary, the executive will make recommendations designed to meet the goals of the waste prevention and recycling element of the comprehensive solid waste management plan and improve the effectiveness of residential recycling services. (Added Ord. 89-114, September 27, 1989; Amended Ord. 90-004, § 2, February 14, 1990; Amended Ord. 90-199, § 7, November 28, 1990; Amended Ord. 98-002, § 6, Feb. 11, 1998, Eff date Feb. 23, 1998).

7.42.060 Notification of rate changes.

(1) Solid waste collection companies shall submit for review and comment, to the division and the Washington utilities and transportation commission, any planned notification to customers pertaining to proposed or approved rate and/or service changes, prior to its production and distribution.

(2) When seeking rate adjustments from the Washington utilities and transportation commission, solid waste collection companies shall notify the division and affected cities within the franchise area. The division and cities will be provided with a list of each existing required service and its related existing and proposed rate. Solid waste collection companies shall also submit a copy of the tariff filing to the county simultaneously with submission of such documents to the Washington utilities and transportation commission. The county requests these documents to minimize staff work and to knowledgeably interact with the WUTC and solid waste collection company, and not for the purposes of asserting any rate setting authority, which rests with the WUTC. (Added Ord. 98-002, § 7, Feb. 11, 1998, Eff date Feb. 23, 1998).

7.42.070 Reporting.

The solid waste collection companies shall provide regular and accurate reports of data on all collection services as determined necessary by the director of the solid waste management division for evaluating the effectiveness of solid waste and recycling programs and the progress towards the goals stated in the comprehensive solid waste management plan. Solid waste collection companies shall also provide the county with accurate and up-to-date rates which have been approved by the WUTC for all required services. (Added Ord. 90-199, § 9, November 28, 1990; Amended Ord. 98-002, § 8, Feb. 11, 1998, Eff date Feb. 23, 1998).

7.42.080 Effective date.

The major services required in this chapter are effective by and after:

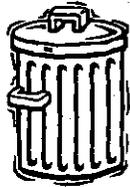
(1) Curbside collection of recyclables with combined garbage/recycling service rates from single-family dwellings (SCC 7.42.040)--August 1, 1990.

(2) Curbside collection of yard debris from single-family dwellings (SCC 7.42.040)--March 1, 1991.

(3) Collection of recyclables from multi-family residences (SCC 7.42.040)--August 1, 1991. Combined garbage and recycling service rates-- May 1, 1998.

(4) Collection of yard debris from multi-family residences (SCC 7.42.040)--August 1, 1991.

(5) Collection of bulky materials--May 1, 1998. (Added Ord. 89-114, September 27, 1989; Amended Ord. 90-004, § 3, February 14, 1990; Amended Ord. 90-067 (as amended), May 14, 1990; Amended Ord. 90-199, § 10, November 28, 1990; Amended Ord. 98-002, § 9, Feb. 11, 1998, Eff date Feb. 23, 1998).



Appendix D



SERVICE DATE

AUG 30 2000

STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203

August 30, 2000

Mr. Jeff Kelley-Clarke
Snohomish County Public Works
Solid Waste Division
2930 Wetmore Ave., Suite 101
Everett, WA 98201-4044

RE: Snohomish County Solid Waste Management Plan TG-001105

Dear Mr. Kelley-Clarke:

The Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) has completed its review of the Snohomish County Draft Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan December 1999 (Plan). The Plan is unique and well done, and its arrangement is innovative.

After reviewing the Cost Assessment and the clarifications submitted by the County, which need to be bound with the final plan, Staff believe the Plan will not have any impacts on ratepayers in Snohomish County. The County has large reserves of cash and valuable real estate that will allow the solid waste system in Snohomish County to function without impairment for the next six years.

The Plan states that "haulers are expected to establish garbage service rates" in Section 2 - Page 36 under heading 1.A.5.a. Staff call your attention to the King County Superior Court Case 94-2-25014-1, where the court decided that only the Commission had the authority to establish rates. We suggest that you modify this language to conform with the rules haulers must operate under.



Letter to Snohomish County
August 30, 2000
Page 2

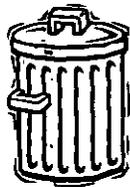
Staff hope this review is helpful in finalizing Snohomish County's Plan. Please direct any questions or correspondence about the Commission plan review process to Deborah Reynolds, telephone (360) 664-1255 or e-mail dreynold@wutc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Carole J. Washburn
Executive Secretary

cc: Peter Christiansen, Department of Ecology, SWFA Program
Cullen Stephenson, Solid Waste and Financial Assistance Program Manager



Appendix E

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, Snohomish County and each of the Cities and Towns executing this Agreement are authorized and directed by Chapter 70.95 RCW to prepare a Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, and are further authorized by Chapter 39.34 RCW to enter into an Interlocal Agreement for the administration and implementation of said Plan; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County has prepared a Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, including a recycling element, for the county and cities and towns of the county, said plan providing for the contingency that the City of Everett may elect not to be included in said plan; and

WHEREAS, providing the most effective and efficient control of solid waste generated in Snohomish County, including its cities and towns, requires use of the solid waste disposal system established by the county and the comprehensive plan of the county to the fullest extent possible;

NOW, THEREFORE, Snohomish County and the undersigned cities and towns agree as follows:

1. Definitions. For the purposes of this Memorandum, the following definitions apply:

1.1 "City"/"Town" means a City or Town in Snohomish County, Washington.

1.2 "Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan" or "Comprehensive Plan" means the Snohomish County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, including a recycling element, as adopted by Snohomish County Motion No. 90 - 052, and as amended from time to time.

1.3 "County" means Snohomish County, Washington.

1.4 "Interlocal Agreement" means this Interlocal Agreement Regarding Solid Waste Management.

1.5 "Person" means an individual, firm, association, partnership, political subdivision, government agency, municipality, industry, public or private corporation, or any other entity whatsoever.

1.6 "Solid Waste" means solid waste as defined by RCW 70.95.030 (16) and WAC 173-304-100 (73) with the exception of wastes excluded by WAC 173-304-015.

1.7 "Solid waste handling" means the management, storage, collection, transportation, treatment, utilization, processing, and final disposal of solid wastes, including the recovery and recycling of materials from solid wastes, the recovery of energy resources from such wastes or the conversion of the energy in such wastes to more useful forms or combinations thereof, and as such term may be modified by amendments to RCW 70.95.030(17).

1.8 "System" means all facilities for solid waste handling owned or operated, or contracted for, by the County, and all administrative activities related thereto.

2. Responsibilities for Solid Waste Disposal. For the duration of this Interlocal Agreement, the County shall be responsible for the disposal of all Solid Waste generated within unincorporated areas of the County and within each of the Cities and Towns signing this Agreement to the extent provided in the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. The County shall not be responsible for disposal of nor claim that this Agreement extends to Solid Waste that has been eliminated through waste reduction or waste recycling activities in conformity with the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

3. Comprehensive Plan. For the duration of this Interlocal Agreement, each City and Town shall participate in the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan prepared and periodically reviewed and revised every five years pursuant to chapter 70.95 RCW. For the duration of this Interlocal Agreement, each City and Town authorizes the County to include in the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan provisions for the management of solid waste generated in each City and Town.

4. City Designation of County System for Solid Waste Disposal. In the ordinance authorizing and approving this Interlocal Agreement, each

City and Town shall designate the County System for the disposal of all Solid Waste generated within the corporate limits of that City or Town, and within the scope of the Comprehensive Plan, and authorize the County to designate a disposal site or sites for the disposal of such Solid Waste generated within the corporate limits of that City or Town except for recyclable and other materials removed from solid waste by reduction or waste recycling activities under the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. This designation of the County System shall continue in full force and effect for a period of twenty years after the date of this Interlocal Agreement. The designation of the County in this section shall not reduce or otherwise affect each City's and Town's control over Solid Waste collection as permitted by applicable state law.

5. Enforcement. The County and the Snohomish Health District (SHD) shall be the entities primarily responsible for enforcement of laws and regulations requiring persons to dispose of Solid Waste at sites designated by the County. Each City and Town shall cooperate with the County and SHD to aid the County and SHD in their enforcement efforts. For the duration of this Agreement, each City and Town shall maintain in effect an ordinance providing that any person that disposes of Solid Waste generated within that City or Town at a location other than a site designated by the County will be guilty of a misdemeanor. To the extent legally possible, the County and the SHD shall be responsible for bringing enforcement actions against persons violating state statutes, SHD regulations or County ordinances relating to the disposal of Solid Waste at sites designated by the County. However, in instances in which the County and the SHD lack legal authority to bring an enforcement action for the enforcement of applicable laws or regulations, and a City or Town possesses that authority, the SHD or the County may request that the City or Town may bring such enforcement action. The County shall pay for all costs incurred by a City or Town in bringing an enforcement action at the County's request for the enforcement of laws or regulations relating to the disposal of Solid Waste. Upon the request of the County, each City or Town may commence and prosecute procedures to revoke licenses or franchises previously granted by the City or Town to persons who the County and the SHD determine are violating laws relating to the disposal of Solid Waste; and the County shall indemnify any City or Town that takes such action in accordance with paragraph 7 of this Interlocal Agreement.

6. Waste Reduction and Recycling. The Cities and Towns and the County agree to cooperate to achieve the priorities for waste reduction, waste recycling and energy recovery set forth in the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

7. Indemnifications.

7.1 Except as provided below, the County shall indemnify and hold harmless and defend each City and Town against any and all claims arising out of the County's operations of the System, and the right to settle those claims, recognizing that all costs incurred by the County thereby are System costs which must be satisfied from disposal rates. In providing a defense for a City or Town, the County shall exercise good faith in that defense or settlement so as to protect the City's or Town's interests. The County agrees to indemnify the participating Cities/Towns in the event that any cost was held not to be a proper cost to the system, whether caused by the misfeasance, malfeasance or intentional misconduct or wrongdoing of an officer or agent of the County or due to any other cause or liability which a court held not to be a proper charge to the system. For the purposes of this paragraph, "claims arising out of the County's operations" shall include claims arising out of the ownership, control or maintenance of the System, but shall not include the claims arising out of collection of solid waste within a City or Town prior to its delivery to a disposal site designated by the County or other activities under the control of a City or Town.

7.2 If the County acts to defend a City or Town against a claim, that City or Town shall cooperate with the County.

7.3 For purposes of this section, reference to a City or Town and to the County shall be deemed to include the officers, agents and employees of any party, acting within the scope of their authority.

8. Duration. This Interlocal Agreement shall continue to be in full force and effect for twenty years from the date of this Agreement, unless terminated as described in the following paragraph.

9. Revision, Amendment, Supplementation or Termination. This Interlocal Agreement shall be reviewed by the parties every five years in conjunction with the review of the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. The terms of the Agreement may be revised, amended or

supplemented, or the Agreement as a whole may be terminated upon the agreement of both the County and a number of Cities and Towns signatory to this Interlocal Agreement whose residents at the time of revision, amendment, supplementation or termination total at least 60% of the total residents of such Cities and Towns. Any revision, amendment, supplement or termination shall be in writing, signed by the chief executives of the County and the agreeing Cities and Towns, and authorized by ordinance of the County and applicable City or Town. No revision, amendment, supplementation or termination shall be adopted or put into effect if it impairs any contractual obligation of the County.

10. Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

10.1. Pursuant to RCW 70.95.165 (3) and RCW 39.34.030(4) a Solid Waste Advisory Committee is hereby established for the purpose of providing active assistance and participation in the drafting of the Snohomish County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, and any amendments thereto, and for the purpose of rendering advice to Snohomish County regarding the administration and implementation of said Plan.

10.2 Membership of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee shall be as follows:

(1) Regular members. The Solid Waste Advisory Committee shall consist of:

(a) One member from each City and Town in Snohomish County which is a signatory to the effective County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, to be nominated by the council from that City or Town and appointed by the County Council.

(b) Five members selected, one representing the unincorporated area of each of the five County Council districts. The five members will be recommended by the Executive and appointed by the County Council. The Executive will provide candidates representing a wide spectrum of citizens and public interest groups and businesses who are residents of, or who are

representatives of firms licensed to do business in Snohomish County.

(c) Four nonvoting representatives from the recycling and waste management industry who are representatives of firms licensed to do business in Snohomish County. These members shall be recommended by the Executive and approved by the County Council.

(d) One ex officio, nonvoting representative from the Solid Waste Management Division.

(e) One ex officio, nonvoting representative from the Department of Ecology.

(f) One ex officio, nonvoting representative from the Snohomish Health District.

(2) Auxiliary Members. The regular membership of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee may appoint auxiliary members for a specific time period to serve on the Committee in a nonvoting capacity, for the purpose of providing specific information, technical advice, information of a general nature which is pertinent to the Committee's activities or any other form of assistance which will aid the Committee in carrying out its purposes.

(3) Term of Office. Terms of office for regular members shall be for a two-year period from the date of confirmation of appointment by the Council, whether the member is appointed at the commencement of an initial term or at a point thereafter.

10.3. Meetings. The Solid Waste Advisory Committee shall meet as required to carry out the purposes of the Committee. Meetings may be held at various locations within the County with written notification to the membership and chairman designating the time and place of such meetings. Meetings shall be held not less than quarterly. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the members on the Committee. A majority of the total voting membership of the Committee is required to pass a motion.

11. Miscellaneous.

11.1 No waiver by any party of any term or condition of this Interlocal Agreement shall be deemed or construed to constitute a waiver of any other term or condition or of any subsequent breach whether of the same or of a different provision of this Interlocal Agreement.

11.2 This Interlocal Agreement is not entered into with the intent that it shall benefit any City or Town not signing this agreement, and no other person or entity shall be entitled to be treated as a third party beneficiary of this Interlocal Agreement.

11.3 Acceptable disposal options for special wastes shall be as provided by SCC 7.35 as now adopted and amended from time to time.

This Interlocal Agreement has been executed by the parties shown below and is dated as of the _____ day of _____, 1990.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY

WILLIS TUCKER
County Executive

APPROVED BY ORDINANCE NO. _____