

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization, or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. **You may use “not applicable” or “does not apply” only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown.** You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to **all parts of your proposal**, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for lead agencies

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B, plus the [Supplemental Sheet for Nonproject Actions \(Part D\)](#). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in “Part B: Environmental Elements” that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

A. Background [Find help answering background questions](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Apron/Taxilane Reconstruction Project

2. Name of applicant:

City of Kelso, Southwest Washington Regional Airport

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

2215 Parrott Way, Kelso, WA 98626

4. Date checklist prepared:

January 31, 2025

5. Agency requesting checklist:

City of Kelso, WA

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

The precise dates have yet to be determined, however the project is planned for construction in summer 2025 and includes four phases:

Phase 1

- Asphalt Removal
- Grading
- Storm/Underdrain Installation
- Aggregate Base Placement

Phase 2

- Asphalt Removal
- Grading
- Storm/Underdrain Installation
- Aggregate Base Placement

Phase 3

- Asphalt Removal
- Grading
- Storm/Underdrain Installation
- Aggregate Base Placement

Phase 4

- Paving
- Marking
- Hydroseeding

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

No future improvements connected to this project are anticipated.

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

A CATEX was submitted on July 26th, 2021 and was approved on August 2nd, 2021 categorically excluding the project from any further NEPA review.

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.

At this time there are no known applications and/or proposals that would directly affect the property and are pending governmental approval.

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

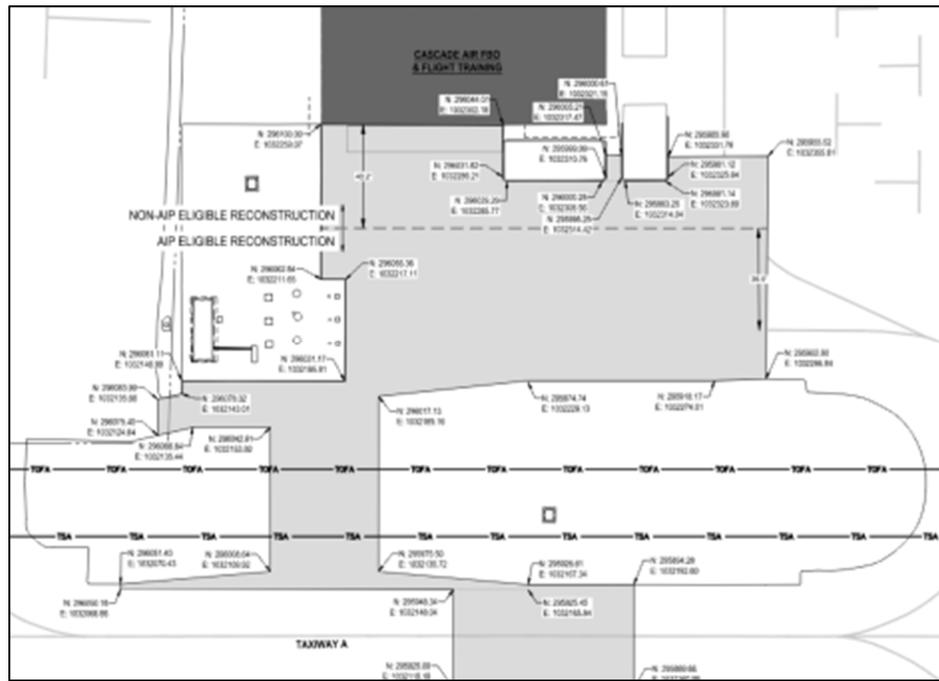
- Grading Permit
- Construction Stormwater General Permit

11. Give a brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The Southwest Washington Regional Airport (airport) is planning a full reconstruction of the General Aviation apron and taxilane, along with a 75' x 40' reconstruction of Taxiway A and drainage pipe replacement due to settling. The project will include drainage improvements to be installed at the edge of pavement in the infield. The project scope also includes application of pavement markings.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The Apron/Taxilane Reconstruction site is located just west and in front of the Fixed Based Operator, Cascade Air (2215 Parrott Way, Kelso, WA, 98626) inside the airport fence. Project plan set submitted with permit applications.



B. Environmental Elements

1. Earth [Find help answering earth questions](#)

a. General description of the site:

The project area is located inside the airport fence southwest of the Fixed Based Operator (FBO) hangar. The proposed pavement reconstruction includes the general aviation apron adjacent to the FBO hangar, the taxilane serving the apron, and a portion of Taxiway A just south of the taxilane where a failed drainage pipe has caused settling. The existing apron, taxilane, and Taxiway A consist of asphalt pavement that is cracking and raveling and in need of reconstruction. There are grass infields adjacent to the apron/taxilane area which collect the stormwater runoff from the pavement.

Circle or highlight one: **Flat** rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

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

The site is flat, with slopes not exceeding approximately 2%.

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 agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

Three borings were done in the apron/taxilane area as part of the geotechnical investigation. The borings indicated asphalt thickness in the area varies from 2 inches to 7.25 inches. The asphalt overlies aggregate base with thickness varying from 6.75 inches to 12 inches. Below the existing pavement section, soils consist of silt to sandy silt or sand.

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

There are no surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

The pavement demolition will include 1,700 SY of asphalt concrete pavement removal, 665 CY of excavation, and 116 CY of fill using existing excavated material. Reconstruction of the apron and taxilane will include import and placing of 900 CY of granular base material and 50 CY of topsoil. The grading area outside the pavement replacement is approximately 11,000 SF. The source of the granular base material and topsoil are unknown at this time.

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

No erosion is expected to occur because of clearing or construction. The project site is flat and BMP measures will be used to contain stormwater runoff. Airborne loess during summer months may be present during hot and windy days.

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

The total area of the airport property is 114.62 acres. The area of existing impervious surfaces on the airport is approximately 35 acres or 30.54%. This project will add 1,445 square feet of impervious surface resulting in a new impervious surface coverage of 30.56%.

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

During construction, BMPs will be implemented including temporary inlet protection and straw wattles.

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Emissions from heavy machinery such as excavators, bulldozers, dump-trucks, generators during their use. Approximate quantities are unknown.

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

Currently no known source.

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

None. The contractor will be required to meet federal, state and local emissions regulations.

3. Water [Find help answering water questions](#)

a. Surface Water: [Find help answering surface water questions](#)

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 Cowlitz River flows to the south about one-quarter mile west of the airport to its confluence with the Columbia River. The Coweeman River is approximately half a mile east of the airport, and flows south, joining the Cowlitz River just north of its confluence with the Columbia River.

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.

There are no activities in the proposed scope-of-work that are within 200' of either river.

- 3. Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

No fill or dredge material will be produced as a result of this project

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

No

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

The project site is not located in, and will not encroach or impact a floodplain according to the FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map for Cowlitz County Washington, effective September 30, 1988 (FEMA FIRM Map 53043C0625C).

- 6. Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

No

b. Ground Water: [Find help answering ground water questions](#)

- 1. Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

No groundwater will be withdrawn during the construction or as a result of this project. In addition, there will be no discharge to groundwater.

- 2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals...; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

No waste material will be discharged to ground during construction or as a result of this project.

c. Water Runoff (including stormwater):

- a) 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.**

Total proposed surface areas do not exceed amounts that would trigger detention facilities. Stormwater from surface runoff within the project area will be collected in catch basins in the grassed infields and routed to the existing airfield drainage conveyance system.

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

No, only stormwater runoff will be collected in the storm system.

c) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

No, the current drainage patterns will not be altered.

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

No additional measures are required.

4. Plants [Find help answering plants questions](#)

a. Check the 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
- orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

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

Approximately 11,000 SF of grass area will be disturbed and replanted. Approximately 1,445 SF of grass area will be paved.

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

None

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

None, at the completion of construction, all exposed earth surfaces will be planted in grass matching the current condition.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

None identified.

5. Animals [Find help answering animal questions](#)

- a. List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Examples include:

- Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
- Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
- Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

None specifically, the project site is within the airport fence.

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

A search of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) website for Priority Habitats and Species listed no endangered or threatened species in the airport area. The WDFW website identifies areas within the airport property as Aquatic Habitat/Wetland, but these habitat areas are not within the proposed project limits.

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

No

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

None, project area is within the airport and enhancing wildlife would pose risk to aircraft operations.

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

No known species.

6. Energy and Natural Resources [Find help answering energy and natural resource questions](#)

- 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 reconstructed apron and taxiway area will not require any energy supply.

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

No

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any.

None

7. Environmental Health [Find help with answering environmental health questions](#)

- a. **Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur because of this proposal? If so, describe.**

No. Project is replacing current pavement areas.

1. **Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.**

None that are known.

2. **Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.**

None.

3. **Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.**

Normal construction materials for paving and grading including diesel fuel, hydraulic fluid, and asphalt cement.

4. **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

None.

5. **Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.**

Implementation of WA Dept of Ecology's BMPs as well as strict adherence to OSHA policy prescribe for similar scenarios.

b. Noise

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

Project is within the Southwest Washington Regional Airport; noise associated with operating and maintaining aircraft.

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)?**

During construction, heavy equipment will be utilized which produce noise. Working hours will typically be from 7am to 5pm. No long-term noise will be created by finished project. Aircraft operations will remain the same as existing conditions.

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

Noise from the construction site is not anticipated to have any impact on current daily operation; no additional measures are proposed.

8. Land and Shoreline Use [Find help answering land and shoreline use questions](#)

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

The current and proposed use of the site is for aircraft operation within the airport. The adjacent properties are industrial and commercial use. No change in defined land as a result of this project's proposed work.

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses because of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

The site is used as a general aviation airport. No agricultural or forest land will be converted to other uses as a result of this project.

1. Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how?

No

c. Describe any structures on the site.

The airport includes a Fixed Based Operator building and several hangars, but none of these structures are within the proposed work area.

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

None.

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

Light Industrial

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

Industrial

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

Not applicable

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

No

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

None

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

None

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

None required or needed

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

Yes, activities are consistent with approved Airport Master Plan

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any.

None required or needed.

9. Housing [Find help answering housing questions](#)

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

No housing is involved with this project, proposed or existing.

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

None

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

There is no housing near the project area.

10. Aesthetics [Find help answering aesthetics questions](#)

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

No structures proposed.

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

None.

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

None required or needed.

11. Light and Glare [Find help answering light and glare questions](#)

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

None

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

No.

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

No known sources.

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

None as there are no impacts expected as a result of this project.

12. Recreation [Find help answering recreation questions](#)

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

A golf course adjacent to the airport's northwest property boundary.

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

No

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

No anticipated impacts on local recreation.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation [Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions](#)

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.

No

- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

No

- c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

None

- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

None

14. Transportation [Find help with answering transportation questions](#)

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

The existing and proposed site is served by the public street Parrott Way.

- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No, the site is not served by public transit. The closest transit line is Route 57 with a transit stop greater than 1 mile from the site.

- c. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No

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

Project will not have any impacts on water or rail transportation. Project will be phased to allow continued use of the airport for air transportation to the extent possible.

- e. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

The completed project will not generate vehicle trips. There should be no change in the number of vehicles coming and going from the site, as the new site just replaces the existing site in kind.

f. Will the proposal interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No

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

None

15. Public Services [Find help answering public service questions](#)

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

No

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

None needed.

16. Utilities [Find help answering utilities questions](#)

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

None. Electricity, natural gas, water, telephone, and sanitary sewer utilities serve the airport property, but are not located within the proposed work area.

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

None. Existing utilities will not be impacted and no new utilities are required for this project.

C. Signature [Find help about who should sign](#)

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.

X

Type name of signee: Melanie Johansen, PE

Position and agency/organization: Senior Project Manager, Century West Engineering

Date submitted: 2/7/2025

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [Find help for the nonproject actions worksheet](#)

IT IS NOT REQUIRED to use this section for project actions.

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

- **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:**

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

- **Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:**

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

- **Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:**

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?

- **Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:**

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?

- **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:**

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

- **Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:**

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