

## **KITTITAS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Arden Thomas, Water Resources Manager

January 8, 2025

Bradley Gasawski  
Kittitas County Community Development Services  
Via e-mail: [bradley.gasawski@co.kittitas.wa.us](mailto:bradley.gasawski@co.kittitas.wa.us)

RE: Response to SE-24-00034 comments

Dear Bradley,

This letter provides additional information in response to the comments we received from the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Kittitas County Public Works Engineering. Each comment is paraphrased in italics and followed by our response.

*The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation have no concerns regarding this water rights transfer. They do have concerns regarding the infrastructure development that may occur to maintain the Group A Water System classification. Should any ground disturbance occur in the future please let us know.*

Kittitas County intends to make water available to provide legal mitigation for water use by existing public Group A water systems. We do not know if any infrastructure development would be undertaken by Group A water systems. If construction is required, the water system provider would be responsible for ensuring all applicable requirements are met.

*WDFW recommends that decommissioning the unscreened irrigation diversion and associated check dam be included as part of the overall project.*


The existing diversion will continue to be utilized by the water right holder for Water Right Certificate S4-83621-J, which authorizes the diversion of 4.49 cs and 618 ac-ft/year. This water right is privately held and not associated with the Kittitas County project.

*Kittitas County Public Works Engineering identified grading and filling permit requirements.*

There is no filling or grading associated with the proposed action which is to cease the irrigation of up to 56 acres allowed by water right certificate S4-83608-J and change the purpose of use to instream flow and mitigation. Kittitas County Solid Waste is developing much of the site that used to be irrigated as a transfer station, but that is an independent project, is located within the City of Ellensburg, and has been permitted separately.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Signed by:  
  
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Arden Thomas  
Water Resource Manager, Kittitas County Public Works