



*STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT*

**Determination of Non-Significance**

December 20, 2023

Lead agency: Okanogan County

Agency Contact:

Pete Palmer, Director  
Okanogan County Planning & Development  
123 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, #130  
Okanogan, WA 98840  
509-422-7060  
[spalmer@co.okanogan.wa.us](mailto:spalmer@co.okanogan.wa.us)

Agency File Number: Code Amendment 2023-1

Description of proposal: Following the adoption of its Comprehensive Plan, Okanogan County is updating various sections of the Okanogan County Code, Chapter 17A, Zoning. Intent of this code amendment is to bring consistency between the adopted Comprehensive Plan and the development regulations and the zoning map. Code updates include replacing the Rural 1 (R1) zone (OCC 17A.040) with Rural 2 (R2) zone. This will also result in a map change to change the zoning designation of all the properties currently designated R1 to R2. In addition, the Rural 1 zone change to Rural 2 will support the health department requirement of a two acre minimum lot size to maintain a well head protection zone and meet onsite septic system requirements.

This revision to the code will reduce land available for development.

The water availability section of the code was revised to incorporate current statutory, regulatory, and judicial requirements. A Special Uses provision was added to the code, which adopts zoning and land use regulations specific to cryptocurrency operations, electric vehicle charging stations, wind energy facilities and solar energy facilities.

The District Use chart was updated. Proposed updates to the District Use chart change (1) certain previously permitted or conditional uses to unpermitted, (2) change certain previously permitted uses to conditional uses, (3) change certain conditional uses to permitted uses; and (4) change certain previously unpermitted uses to conditional or permitted.

Location of proposal: This is a non-site specific, non-project action. Codes will apply throughout the unincorporated Okanogan County, WA.

Name, phone, e-mail of applicant/proponent:

Okanogan County  
Contact:  
Chris Branch, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners  
123 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Okanogan, WA 98840  
509-422-7100  
[cbranch@co.okanogan.wa.us](mailto:cbranch@co.okanogan.wa.us)

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. This decision was made after review of the completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request. The lead agency incorporates by reference the December 22, 2021 Final Environmental Impact Statement for Okanogan County Comprehensive Plan, which analyzed the potential impacts of the County's Comprehensive Plan. The Okanogan County Comprehensive Plan serves as the basis for this proposal to update the Okanogan County Code, Chapter 17A, Zoning. A copy of the proposed draft zoning code, the environmental checklist, this DNS, and the December 22, 2021 Final Environmental Impact Statement for Okanogan County Comprehensive Plan may be reviewed in the Office of Planning at the address listed above or on line at: [www.okanogancounty.org](http://www.okanogancounty.org)

This determination is based on the findings and conclusions in the SEPA environmental checklist.

This DNS is not issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); however, the County has elected to provide a comment period on the DNS, which will end on January 11, 2024.

Name and Contact Information of Responsible Official:

Pete Palmer, Director  
Okanogan County  
Office of Planning & Development  
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[Spalmer@co.okanogan.wa.us](mailto:Spalmer@co.okanogan.wa.us)

There is no administrative appeal of this threshold determination. OCC 14.04.220. Appeals of this DNS must be made in connection with an appeal of the County's final decision on the proposal.

Signature



Pete Palmer, Director  
Okanogan County Office of Planning & Development

Date

12/27/23