



Federal Aviation Administration

Memorandum

Date: November 14, 2025

To: Steve Rybolt, SEA Senior ENV Program Manager

From: Laura Sample, Seattle ADO

Subject: National Environmental Policy Act Determination, Simple
Categorical Exclusion for the Industrial Wastewater Treatment
Plan Expansion project at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport
(SEA) in Seattle, WA.

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA) in Seattle, WA is proposing to expand its Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plan (IWTP) in order to support anticipated future increases in flight operations and future changes in the industrial wastewater system drainage configuration associated with planned SEA redevelopment. Specific project components include:

- Update of the existing ITWP plan and infrastructure in its current location;
- Construct an aerated gravel bed as associated infrastructure; and
- Update the adjacent Lagoon 3 site and infrastructure.

Prior to a federal action, such as funding of an Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Grant or Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) or revision to the Airport Layout Plan (ALP), FAA is required to make an environmental determination addressing the impacts of the proposed project. This project will update the ALP, and, therefore, requires environmental determination to support the federal action.

FAA Order 1050.1G, *Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures* provides eligibility for the Categorical Exclusion of Federal actions that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment, with the exception of extraordinary circumstances. Paragraph B-2.4.d. of Order 1050.1G provides eligibility for categorical exclusion for the above named project and states the following:

d) Federal financial assistance, Airport Layout Plan (ALP) approval, or FAA installation of deicing/anti-icing facilities that comply with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits or other permits protecting the quality of receiving waters, and for which related water detention or retention facilities are designed not to attract wildlife hazardous to aviation, as defined in FAA Advisory Circular 150/5200-33, Hazardous Wildlife Attractants on or Near Airports. (ATO, ARP)

A review of the proposed project and documentation supports the conclusion that there are no extraordinary circumstances associated with the project, nor is there a greater potential for one or more extraordinary circumstances or otherwise, warranting additional categorical exclusion documentation. Consequently, this project is categorically excluded from further environmental action within this Simple Categorical Exclusion.

Although the FAA has made an environmental determination for this project, there may be other state, local or federal environmental regulations that apply to this project. The sponsor should consider these other requirements before construction.

Please contact the Seattle Airports District Office if any component of the project changes from what was approved in this memorandum.

Approved by,

Laura Sample

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