

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT Determination of Non-Significance Vancouver Fossil Fuel Code Standards Proposal

Date: August 16, 2022

Lead Agency: City of Vancouver

Proposal: The City of Vancouver is considering amendments to Title 20 Land Use and Development Code to regulate and limit the distribution, extraction, refinement, processing or bulk movement of fossil fuels, or bulk storage of fossil fuels in Vancouver. The amendments would allow the City to lift a 2020 moratorium. The proposed code changes would limit fossil fuel and bulk fuel storage in residential, commercial, and open space zones. Within the Industrial Heavy zone the code would: prohibit new bulk fossil fuel storage and handling facilities; allow for maintenance and upgrade of existing facilities where not increasing capacity; allow conversion to cleaner fuels with limited expansion; optionally allow new cleaner fuel facilities limited in size and location; define and regulate small fossil fuel or cleaner fuel storage and distribution facilities; and establish development standards including establishing baseline capacity, seismic upgrades, mitigation for greenhouse gases, proof of financial assurance, and annual reporting. The allowance for coal and other solid fuel storage yards, and coal and biomass electricity generating facilities would be prohibited in all districts.

Location: The legislative proposal applies to Vancouver city limits.

Determination: The City of Vancouver has determined that this proposal will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030. An Environmental Checklist is available from City staff.

This determination is based on the following findings and conclusions: Uses would be prohibited in most districts in the city and where allowed in the Industrial Heavy Zoning District would be regulated according to development standards addressing size, location, operation, and health and safety.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2) and the comment period will end at 5 p.m. on August 30. Procedural appeals to the SEPA determination must be filed in writing within 14 calendar days following the end of the comment period. A City Council decision of the SEPA procedural appeal shall be final and not subject to further administrative appeal. Substantive SEPA appeals shall be filed in writing within 14 calendar days of the issuance of Councils decision.

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Signature

8/11/22 Date