

April 8, 2026

Mercer Island Community Planning & Development
9611 SE 36th Street
Mercer Island, WA 98040
(206) 275-7605
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RE: MER-13 Distribution Pole Replacement (1 pole) – Shoreline Exemption

To Whom It May Concern:

PSE is seeking a *shoreline exemption* for our proposal to replace one pole on the MER-13 distribution line. Based on Mercer Island's publicly-available GIS Interactive Web Map, the pole is located in Shoreline jurisdiction (see attached site plan). The existing pole has exceeded its useful lifespan and is in need of replacement to allow PSE to continue serving safe and reliable power to customers. The scope of this necessary repair and maintenance work falls within the requirements of WAC 173-27-040(2)(b) as normal maintenance or repair of existing structures or developments, and is therefore eligible for an exemption from the shoreline substantial development permit process. As a repair and maintenance activity this proposal is also exempt from SEPA review pursuant to WAC 197-11-800(3).

The standard method for distribution pole replacement is as follows: the pole will be replaced in-kind using a similar style and size wood pole. New poles are located within three (3) feet of the existing pole. Old poles will be removed and taken offsite once all overhead attachments have been transferred by the responsible owner. Total surface disturbance for this project is estimated about 3-square-feet and total excavation is approximately 21.5 cubic feet per pole (0.8 cubic yards).

All work will occur within existing/established PSE utility corridors. Construction stormwater best management practices will be used on an as-needed basis depending on site conditions at the time of construction to protect from erosion and sedimentation. Minor brush removal and tree trimming is required for this replacement. All work will occur during reasonable hours and construction limits clearly marked.

Please see the attached application materials for details on where pole replacements and vegetation disturbance will occur. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (503) 899-7101 or at nathen.lamb@pse.com.

Sincerely,

Nathen Lamb

Municipal Land Planner | (503) 899-7101 (direct) | nathen.lamb@pse.com