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BEFORE THE WESTERN WASHINGTON GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARD

CITIZENS PROTECTING CRITICAL AREAS AND OLYMPIC STEWARDSHIP FOUNDATION, ET AL.

Case No. 08-2-0029c

Petitioner.

ORDER ON NOTICE OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE

V.

ORDER ON MOTION FOR AMICUS STATUS

JEFFERSON COUNTY.

Respondent.

This matter comes before the Board on Futurewise's Motion for *Amicus* status and Port Gamble S'Klallam and Jamestown S'Klallam Tribes' Notice of Intent to Participate in Compliance Hearing and Motions for *Amici* status.<sup>1</sup> These parties seek to support Jefferson County. Petitioner Olympic Stewardship Foundation (OSF) objects to these motions.<sup>2</sup>

### I. BACKGROUND

On November 19, 2008, the Board issued its Final Decision and Order (FDO). With the FDO, the Board found that Jefferson County's adoption of Ordinance No. 03-0317-08 did not comply with the Growth Management Act (GMA), RCW 36.70A, in several regards.<sup>3</sup> Futurewise, the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, and the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe were granted *Amici* status at the Hearing on the Merits (HOM) in support of Jefferson County as to issues raised by OSF in relationship to the designation and regulation of channel migration zones and buffers for non-fish bearing streams.<sup>4</sup> A date of May 18, 2009 was set

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These three motions were filed as a single document by Futurewise. The filing was received by the Boa rd on June 30, 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> OSF's Objection to *Amicus* Motion and Notice of Intent to Participate, filed July 2, 2009.

November 19, 2008 FDO at 44-50 Findings of Fact/Conclusions of Law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> November 19, 2008 FDO, at 5.

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by the Board for the County to take action to bring itself into compliance with the GMA, as set forth in the FDO, with a Compliance Hearing scheduled for July 15, 2009.<sup>5</sup>

Jefferson County timely filed its Statement of Actions Taken to Comply (SATC) and Petitioners Olympic Stewardship Foundation (OSF) filed its objections.<sup>6</sup> On June 30, 2009, the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe and the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe (collectively, the Tribes) filed a Notice of Intent to Participate in the Compliance Hearing. Within this same document, Futurewise and the Tribes sought *Amicus* status in the compliance proceedings.

### II. DISCUSSION

# 1. Notice of Intent to Participate

RCW 36.70A.330(2) permits a party "with standing to challenge the legislation enacted in response to the board's final order" to "participate in the [compliance] hearing." WAC 242-02-89201 provides guidelines, stating that a party seeking to participate must provide "written notice of intent to participate no later than two weeks prior to the compliance hearing" and must abide by the established briefing schedule.

The Tribes assert that they participated in the public involvement process for legislation enacted in response to the Board's FDO, the adoption of a new chapter of the County's Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO).<sup>7</sup> OSF does not dispute the Tribes participation; rather, OSF contends the Tribes failed to adhere to the briefing schedule and therefore should not be granted leave to participate.<sup>8</sup>

The Board's FDO established July 15, 2009 as the date for the Compliance Hearing. The Tribes Notice of Intent to Participate was filed on July 1, 2009, and therefore was timely.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The FDO established the following schedule for the filing of documents: June 1, 2009 Jefferson County's Statement of Actions Taken to Comply; June 18, 2009 Objections to the SATC; July 6, 2009 Jefferson County's Response to Objections.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Jefferson County's SATC, filed June 1, 2009. OSF's Response to Jefferson County's SATC, filed June 18, 2009.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Notice of Intent, at 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> OSF Objections, at 5.

From OSF's objections, it appears that they believe the briefing schedule the Tribes were to adhere to was June 1, 2009 – the day the County's SATC was due.

However, the SATC is not a brief, it is merely a jurisdiction's recitation of what it has done to achieve compliance. Since the Tribes seek to support Jefferson County, the briefing schedule it is required to adhere to is the same as for the County. The brief was filed on July 6, 2009 and was thus timely. Contrary to OSF's objections, the Tribes not only provided timely notice of their intent to participate but abided by the briefing schedule.

**Conclusion:** For the reasons noted above, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe and Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe may participate in the compliance proceedings for this matter. The Tribes participation is limited to the subject matter(s) raised during the legislative process related to the newly adopted legislation.

# 2. Amicus Status

WAC 242-02-280 allows a person whose interest may be substantially affected by a proceeding before the Board to request status as an *Amicus*. As noted *supra*, Futurewise and the Tribes were granted *Amici* status at the HOM for this matter. These *Amici* parties essentially seek to continue their status during these compliance proceedings and contend they satisfy all of the criteria for *Amici Curiae* set forth in WAC 242-02-280.<sup>9</sup> As they did with the Tribes' Notice of Intent, OSF contends the request for *Amicus* status is untimely.<sup>10</sup> In the alternative, OSF also contends Futurewise and the Tribes fail to satisfy the criteria for *Amicus* status, including identifying the specific issues to be addressed.<sup>11</sup> Since the Tribes have participation status, there is no need for the Board to address their motion for *Amici* status.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Futurewise/Tribes Motion, at 2-3.

OSF Objections, at 2
 OSF Objections, at 3-4.

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Unlike WAC 242-02-89201, WAC 242-02-280 does not establish a deadline by which *Amicus* status may be sought except to state that the brief of the *amicus curiae* must be filed no later than the time set for the filing of the brief for the party whose position the *amicus* supports.<sup>12</sup> As noted above in the Board's discussion related to the Tribes' Notice of Intent, the deadline for the *Amicus* brief was July 6, 2009, a date which was met.<sup>13</sup>

As for satisfying the criteria listed in WAC 242-02-280(2), the motion addresses the criteria and, given their *amicus* status in the prior proceedings for this matter, Futurewise clearly has familiarity with the issues and subject matter. Therefore, Futurewise is permitted to file an *amicus* brief. However, Futurewise's *amicus* status is limited to the scientific and legal basis for the channel migration zones as it pertains to the GMA and Jefferson County's actions to achieve compliance, as set forth in the Board's November 19, 2008 FDO.

Conclusion: Futurewise's Motion for Amicus status is granted.

#### III. ORDER

As set forth in the Discussions sections of this order, the Board ORDERS:

- 1. Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe may participate in the compliance proceedings of Case No. 08-2-0029c.
- 2. Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe may participate in the compliance proceedings of Case No. 08-2-0029c.
- 3. Futurewise may file an *Amicus Curiae* brief in the compliance proceedings of Case No. 08-2-0029c.
- 4. The Tribes participation is limited to the subject matter(s) raised during the legislative process related to the newly adopted legislation. Futurewise's *amicus* briefing is limited to the scientific and legal basis for the channel migration zones as it pertains to the GMA and Jefferson County's actions to achieve compliance, as set forth in the Board's November 19, 2008 FDO.

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<sup>12</sup> WAC 242-02-280(2)(d).

Tuturewise and Port Gamble S'Klallam and Jamestown S'Klallam Tribes' Response to Olympic Stewardship Foundation and Memorandum in Support of a Finding of Compliance was filed by electronic mail July 6, 2009. ORDER. ON MOTIONS FOR AMICUS STATUS AND INTENT TO PARTICIPATE

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5. Due to the inability of OSF to respond in writing to any assertions presented by Futurewise or the Tribes which are in addition to those presented by the County in their briefing, the Board will provide adequate time to OSF to address any such assertions during the compliance hearing.

DATED this 7th day of July, 2009.

William Roehl, Presiding Officer

Phone: 360-586-0260 Fax: 360-664-8975

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## WESTERN WASHINGTON GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARD

Case No. 08-2-0029c

Citizens Protecting Critical Areas and Olympic Stewardship Foundation, et al v. Jefferson County

## **DECLARATION OF SERVICE**

I, PAULETTE YORKE, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, declare as follows:

I am the Executive Assistant for the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board. On the date indicated below a copy of an ORDER ON NOTICE OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE and ORDER ON MOTION FOR AMICUS STATUS in the above-entitled case was sent to the following through the United States postal mail service:

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DATED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2009.

Bud Schindler 270 Rhododendron Lane Brinnon, WA 98320

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Paulette Yorke, Executive Assistant