



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF
WATER AND WATERSHEDS

AUG 26 2011

Mr. Ken Windram
Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board
10108 North Atlas Road
Hayden, Idaho 83835

Re: Regional Toxics Task Force

Dear Mr. Windram,

I am writing regarding the Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force which is being assembled in response to recently issued NPDES permits in the State of Washington. We want to provide our perspective on the Task Force and to encourage your utility's participation as a task force member. As you know, the recently issued State of Washington NPDES permits to Spokane River dischargers require participation in a cooperative effort to create a Task Force. The goal of the Task Force is to develop a comprehensive plan to bring the Spokane River into compliance with applicable water quality standards for PCBs. The permit language also states that the Task Force membership must include other interested parties in addition to the NPDES permittees. The permits require that the Task Force provide the Department of Ecology with details regarding the organizational structure and other governing procedures of the Task Force by November 30, 2011.

We plan to update the Idaho Spokane River NPDES permits and provide a public notice of the draft permits later this year. Permit conditions related to toxic issues are yet to be determined but the permits will likely have similar requirements with respect to monitoring and best management practices as specified in the Washington permits.

Similar to the dissolved oxygen issue, we believe the Idaho dischargers have a role in solving water quality issues concerning toxic pollutants in the Spokane River basin. On Tuesday, September 13th, an initial meeting will be held to discuss formation of the Regional Toxics Task Force, facilitated by Don Martin of our office. We encourage your utility's participation as a stakeholder on the Task Force because we believe your participation will help to achieve the goals of the task force including, ultimately, achieving water quality standards for PCBs in waters of the State of Idaho, the State of Washington, and the Spokane Tribe of Indians. We also believe your participation may result in a more consistent, coordinated approach to addressing this watershed-wide water quality issue across jurisdictional boundaries and reduce duplication of effort.

We look forward to working with you and other Spokane River stakeholders on this important issue. If you have any questions regarding the Task Force please call me at (206) 553-1906. You may also

call Mike Lidgard at (206) 553-1755, or Don Martin at (208) 665-0458, particularly regarding the initial meeting in September 2011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Bussell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Michael A. Bussell
Director

cc: Daniel Redline, Regional Administrator, IDEQ Coeur d'Alene
Barry Burnell, Administrator, Water Quality Division, IDEQ
Kelly Susewind, Manager, Water Quality Program, Department of Ecology



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AUG 26 2011

Mr. Sid Fredrickson
Wastewater Superintendent
City of Coeur D'Alene
City Hall, 710 East Mullan
Coeur D'Alene, ID 83814-3958

Re: Regional Toxics Task Force

Dear Mr. Fredrickson,

I am writing regarding the Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force which is being assembled in response to recently issued NPDES permits in the State of Washington. We want to provide our perspective on the Task Force and to encourage your utility's participation as a task force member. As you know, the recently issued State of Washington NPDES permits to Spokane River dischargers require participation in a cooperative effort to create a Task Force. The goal of the Task Force is to develop a comprehensive plan to bring the Spokane River into compliance with applicable water quality standards for PCBs. The permit language also states that the Task Force membership must include other interested parties in addition to the NPDES permittees. The permits require that the Task Force provide the Department of Ecology with details regarding the organizational structure and other governing procedures of the Task Force by November 30, 2011.

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Michael A. Bussell
Associate Director

cc: Daniel Redline, Regional Administrator, IDEQ Coeur d'Alene
Barry Burnell, Administrator, Water Quality Division, IDEQ
Kelly Susewind, Manager, Water Quality Program, Department of Ecology
James Bellatty, Eastern Regional Office, Department of Ecology



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AUG 26 2011

Mr. Terry Werner
Public Services Director
408 North Spokane Street
Post Falls, Idaho 83854-7538

Re: Regional Toxics Task Force

Dear Mr. Werner,

I am writing regarding the Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force which is being assembled in response to recently issued NPDES permits in the State of Washington. We want to provide our perspective on the Task Force and to encourage your utility's participation as a task force member. As you know, the recently issued State of Washington NPDES permits to Spokane River dischargers require participation in a cooperative effort to create a Task Force. The goal of the Task Force is to develop a comprehensive plan to bring the Spokane River into compliance with applicable water quality standards for PCBs. The permit language also states that the Task Force membership must include other interested parties in addition to the NPDES permittees. The permits require that the Task Force provide the Department of Ecology with details regarding the organizational structure and other governing procedures of the Task Force by November 30, 2011.

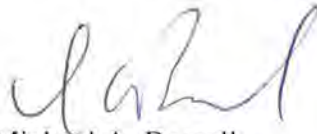
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