## Permit Requirements: Regional Toxics Task Force

## **REGIONAL TOXICS TASK FORCE**

The permittee shall participate in a cooperative effort to create a Regional Toxics Task Force and participate in the functions of the Task Force. The Task Force should include NPDES permittees in the Spokane River, conservation/environmental interests, the Spokane Tribe, Spokane Regional Health District, Ecology, and other appropriate interests. The goal of the Regional Toxics Task Force is to develop a comprehensive plan to bring the Spokane River into compliance with applicable water quality standards for PCBs.

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To accomplish that goal, Ecology anticipates that the Task Force functions will:

- 1. Identify data gaps and collect necessary data on PCBs and other toxics on the 2008 year 303(d) list for the Spokane River.
- 2. Further analyze the existing and future data to better characterize the amounts, sources, and locations of PCBs sources and of other toxics on the 2008 year 303(d) list for the Spokane River.
- 3. Prepare recommendations for controlling and reducing the sources of listed toxics in the Spokane River.
- 4. Review proposed Toxic Management Plans, Source Management Plans, and BMPs.
- 5. Monitor and assess the effectiveness of toxic reduction measures.
- 6. Identify a mutually agreeable entity to serve as the clearinghouse for data, reports, minutes, and other information gathered or developed by the Task Force and its members. This information shall be made publicly available by means of a website and other appropriate means.

To discharge these functions the Task Force may provide for an independent community technical advisor (s) funded by the permittees, who shall assist in review of data, studies, and control measures, as well as assist in providing technical education information to the public.

By November 30, 2011, the Permittee(s) shall provide Ecology with the organizational structure, specific goals and governing documents, including funding, of the Regional Task Force.

If Ecology determines the Regional Toxics Task Force is failing to make measurable progress toward meeting applicable water quality criteria for PCBs, Ecology would be obligated to proceed with development of a TMDL in the Spokane River for PCBs or determine an alternative to ensure water quality standards are met.

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