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October 30, 2013

Via E-mail: <u>Jay.inslee@gov.wa.gov</u>

Governor Jay Inslee Office of the Governor PO Box 40002 Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee,

Thank you for your support of the work being done in Spokane to keep our local river clean. We appreciate the time your staff has taken to understand the unique process our community has engaged in to characterize the sources of toxics in our watershed and make progress toward meeting water quality standards.

The Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force is coordinating with Department of Ecology and EPA to accelerate cleanup actions and address toxics in the Spokane River. A wide variety of stakeholders in the Spokane River basin are collaborating on a unique approach to reduce PCBs and other pollutants in the river. This collaborative, direct-toimplementation strategy will help us identify and reduce these pollutants in the most efficient way possible.

PCB pollution is diffuse and difficult to trace. We know it isn't coming from a few point sources. A PCB Source Assessment prepared by the Department of Ecology leaves many unanswered questions about the true sources of PCB. The Toxics Task Force is currently working to identify the unknown sources of PCBs in the Spokane River and developing a cleanup plan to help meet appropriate water quality standards.

Inland Empire Paper Company fully supports the work of the Task Force and requests the next phase of funding of \$500,000. The next phase of work will:

- Identify the most effective means by which to reduce the identified sources
- Determine best management practices and implementation plans to reduce PCBs and other toxics with the goal of meeting appropriate water quality standards
- Provide necessary field monitoring, lab analysis, and data processing

Thank you in advance for your consideration. Please let us know if there are specific questions we can answer as you consider the request for funding support.

Sincerely.

Kevin D. Rasler

President and General Manager

Inland Empire Paper Co.

C: Ted Sturdevant Melissa McCabe