

Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force

May 10, 2017 | Conference Call | 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Facilitated by the William D. Ruckelshaus Center (Chris Page and Kara Whitman)

Call Attendees: * denotes voting member

Tom Agnew*—Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District
Adriane Borgias —Washington Department of Ecology
Galen Buterbaugh*—Lake Spokane Association
Doug Krapas* —Inland Empire Paper
Mike LaScuola*, Jon Shervy —Spokane Regional Health District
Lisa Manning*—Kootenai Environmental Alliance
Dave Moss*, Ben Brattebo —Spokane County
Monica Ott —City of Post Falls
Mike Peterson*—Lands Council
Elizabeth Schoedel*, Jeff Donovan —City of Spokane
Jerry White*, Rick Eichstaedt —Riverkeeper

After a round of introductions, Chris Page went over the agenda. Adriane Borgias provided comments from Ecology this morning, so the group looked a new version of the letter on the Task Force website. A meeting quorum was reached (nine out of 13 voting members in attendance).

Dave Moss explained that occasionally, some Task Force member entities have issues with collaborative letters since they are interveners on lawsuits that make certain statements not quite work for them. With a compromise on certain wording, the County could support the letter.

Rick Eichstaedt - The County, City and Riverkeeper were all instrumental in creating the Task Force. Riverkeeper is not interested in changing water quality standards, but on the goal of the Task Force to find and reduce PCBs.

Doug Krapas, who drafted the first draft of the letter, explained that the letter was intended to illustrate the discrepancy between the Toxics Substances Control Act (TSCA) and stringent water quality standards. The group cannot expect success when these are so far apart; he did not want to lose this reasoning in the letter. Adriane Borgias said Ecology has decided not to appeal EPA's November 2016 action on (Washington's) proposed water quality standards. Therefore, Ecology can't support a letter that directly asks EPA to change the water quality criterion. Other concerns were expressed about this topic, so Adriane has provided an alternative paragraph for the letter to keep the original intent without stating that the SRRTTF wants water quality standards changed.

DECISION: The Task Force approved the letter with the edits discussed and as posted on the Task Force website at <http://srrttf.org/?p=7973>.

ACTION ITEM: The letter to be sent to full Task Force to ensure the discussed edits were correctly addressed and then Ruckelshaus Center to send to EPA via online submission and by printed and mailed letter. (COMPLETE)

Next full Task Force meeting: May 31, 2017 at Spokane County Water Resource Center, 9:00am-12:30pm
The next TTWG meeting will be June 7, 2017 at the Department of Ecology from 10:00am to 12:00pm