

SPOKANE RIVER REGIONAL TOXICS TASK FORCE
MONSANTO PCB SETTLEMENT FUNDING REQUEST LETTER

January 7, 2021

Dear Spokane Area State Senators and Representatives:

We appreciated the opportunity to have met with many of you in December to discuss the Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force (Task Force) work, the \$60 million Monsanto Settlement funding added to the State General Fund, and the need for a long-term dedicated funding mechanism for addressing PCB contamination in the state.

In follow up, we are pleased to provide this more specific request. The Task Force reiterates our request that the Monsanto settlement received by the State be dedicated to a long-term fund for PCB reduction efforts. This fund can support PCB investigations and studies, monitoring, education and outreach, engineering evaluations, and remediation efforts for situations where potentially responsible parties are not readily identified. As noted in our meetings, this is a long-term problem that has taken decades to develop. It will take many years to identify and remove the PCB sources affecting water bodies in the State consistent with established water quality standards where PCBs are measured in minute concentrations, e.g. parts per quadrillion.

To support this request for dedicated long-term funding, we have developed the attached 10-year list (see Attachment1, Table 1) of projects and funding needs for the Spokane River basin, which totals over \$10 million. Additionally, we have developed a specific 2021 – 2023 biennium request (see Attachment 1, Table 2) that totals \$2 million. These project lists include priority investigations, feasibility evaluations, and other activities that will help us find and reduce PCBs in the Spokane River, consistent with our Comprehensive Plan. The proposed projects will be refined and scoped through a collaborative Task Force process as funding is provided.

Funding this request for the Spokane River basin will support implementation of strategies and technologies that can reduce public health and environmental risks posed by the presence of PCBs in the Spokane River Basin, with lessons learned that can benefit the entire state, as other basins follow our lead.

As a Task Force we remain committed to making measurable progress in reducing PCB risks and achieving the associated socio-economic and environmental benefits. Thank you very much for your support of this request. We look forward to working with you over the next several years to achieve Task Force objectives.

cc w/attachment:

Governor Jay Inslee
Senate Ways and Means Chair, Senator Christine Rolfes
Speaker of the House, Representative Laurie Jinkins
House Minority Leader, Representative J.T. Wilcox

Attachment 1

Table 1 - 10-year Funding Request

SRRTF Draft 10-Year Funding Request Washington State Legislature for Monsanto Settlement Funds			
Action/Project	Schedule	Cost/Annual	Total Cost
Long-term monitoring program	Every 2 years	\$200K	\$1000K
High flows synoptic sampling	2021-2023	\$100K	\$200K
Low flow synoptic to capture gw inputs between Spokane and Nine mile gages plus other stations upstream	2021 – 2023	\$100k	\$200K
Additional hot spots investigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biofilm in Mission Reach - GW elevation monitoring near Mission reach - Subbottom profiling to ID buried drums or transformers - known contaminated sites, targeting Aroclors 1254 and 1260 based on past production processes - review of historical records 	2021 – 2025	\$400K	\$400K
Evaluating wastewater treatment methods and materials for PCB treatment at utility scale, including engineering evaluations, trial runs, pilot testing and further evaluations	Initiate in 2021-2023 with research of available technology. Testing and evaluation to be performed in outyears	varies	\$4,500K
Evaluate stormwater to drywell connection, including Industrial parks' dry wells	2021 – 2023	\$200K	\$400K
Evaluate stormwater management strategies to	2023-2025	\$200K	\$400K



address findings from drywell and groundwater investigations			
More detailed bioaccumulation assessment - how PCBs move up to food chain	3 year study, planned for 2023-2027	\$250K	\$750K
Opportunistic sampling, e.g., additional Trent bridge piling samples	As opportunities emerge	N/A	\$15K
Building demolition and renovation control - to determine effectiveness and follow up actions	2025-2027	\$25K	\$25K
Enhanced waste disposal assistance - - to determine effectiveness and follow up actions	2025 – 2027	\$25K	\$25K
Education & Outreach activities	Annual/ongoing	\$40K	\$400K
iPCB/TSCA actions	Annual/ongoing	\$50K	\$500K
Review and update Comprehensive plan/adaptive management	Review and update every 2 years	\$25 - 100K	\$250K
Program management, facilitation and technical support	Annual/ongoing	\$105K	\$1050K

Total \$10,065,000



Table 2: 2021 – 2023 Biennium Funding Request

Action/Project	Total Cost
Long-term monitoring program	\$200K
High flows synoptic sampling	\$200K
Low flow synoptic to capture gw inputs between Spokane and Nine mile gages plus other stations upstream	\$200K
Additional hot spots investigation	\$400K
Work plan for evaluating wastewater treatment methods and materials for PCB treatment at utility scale	\$100K
Stormwater to drywell connection, including Industrial parks' dry wells	\$400K
Opportunistic sampling	\$10K
Education & Outreach activities	\$80K
iPCB/TSCA actions	\$100K
Review and update Comprehensive plan/adaptive management	\$100K
Program Management, facilitation and technical support	\$210K

Total \$2,000,000