



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

4601 N Monroe Street • Spokane, Washington 99205-1295 • (509)329-3400

December 14, 2010

N. Bruce Rawls, P.E.
Utilities Division
Spokane County Public Works Department
1026 W. Broadway
Spokane, WA 99260-0430

Dear Mr. Rawls:

RE: 2010 Spokane County Wastewater Facilities Plan Amendment,
Dated June 16, 2010

The Wastewater Facilities Planning Amendment for a Spokane County Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility was previously conditionally approved. At that time the Spokane River and Lake Spokane DO TMDL had not yet been approved. The selected, cost-effective alternative was described in Chapter 9. Instead of enhanced biological nutrient removal incorporating membranes reactors, the proposal now relies on chemical precipitation and filtration to remove phosphorus. The remaining treatment units are: UV disinfection, sludge thickening, digestion utilizing both aerobic and anaerobic processes for additional nitrogen removal, dewatering, odor control facilities, two pumping stations with force mains and an outfall to the Spokane River.

The Spokane River and Lake Spokane DO TMDL has now been **APPROVED**.

The 2010 Wastewater Facilities Plan Amendment satisfactorily describes how the proposed Spokane County Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility will comply with the revised load allocations. The availability of offsets and the equivalent oxygen depletion potential of the three constituents of the DO waste load allocations are satisfactorily described. The technical information for approval has been provided.

However, within the range of offsets the county Delta Elimination Plan described, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) has not decided what safety factor is appropriate and what the actual value of offsets the county has available. The value of those offsets will be determined through the offset program, which is currently under development, and will be communicated through the permit development process rather than this planning document approval.

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In accordance with RCW 90.48.110 and Chapter 173-240 WAC and on behalf of Ecology, the subject document package is found to be describing the use of all known available and reasonable methods as currently recognized in the wastewater profession to prevent and control the pollution of the waters of the state of Washington. The plan is hereby **APPROVED** as a **Wastewater Facilities Plan**.

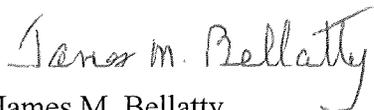
One copy of the approved document package is enclosed for your project records.

This office is to be notified immediately of any proposed changes or revisions to the approved document. Any such changes or revisions must be issued in the form of addenda, technical appendices, or supplemental reports to the original, approved package of documents and must be approved in writing by Ecology.

Ecology's review and approval of this document is only to assure compliance and consistency with the appropriate rules, regulations, guidelines, planning and design criteria, terms of the loan agreement, and/or other similar documents and is not to be construed as a quality control check. Nothing in this approval shall be construed as satisfying other applicable federal, state or local statutes, ordinances or regulations.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact me at (509) 329-3534 or Richard A. Koch the facilities engineer at (509)329-3519.

Sincerely,



James M. Bellatty
Water Quality Section Manager
Eastern Regional Office

JMB:RK:eh

Enclosure

cc: Dave Clark, P.E.; HDR Engineering Inc. – Boise
K. David Moss, P.E., Spokane County Utilities
Cindy Price, Financial Manager, WQP/FMS
Richard A. Koch, P.E.; ERO