

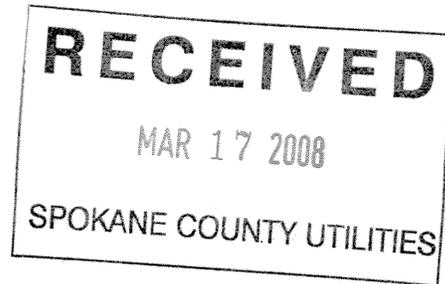


STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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

March 14, 2008

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



Dear Mr. Rawls:

RE: Spokane County Wastewater Facilities Plan Amendment – Revised Final Draft of December 2007

The Wastewater Facilities Planning document, listed above, for a Spokane County Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility has been reviewed. The selected, cost-effective alternative is described in Chapter 9. The alternative briefly consists of treatment using enhanced biological nutrient removal incorporating membranes reactors, UV disinfection, sludge thickening, digestion, dewatering, odor control facilities, two pumping stations with force mains and outfall to the Spokane River.

The package submitted includes the analysis of and technology selection for the proposed Spokane County Regional Water Reclamation Facility (SCRWRF) and the County's Delta Elimination Plan. The technology selected does satisfactorily demonstrate that SCRWRF will achieve the desired effluent quality required by the "Foundational Concepts for the Spokane River and Lake Spokane DO TMDL" and the draft Spokane River and Lake Spokane DO TMDL. The County's Delta Elimination Plan does have a diverse and robust plan providing reasonable assurances the County facility's waste load allocations in the draft Spokane River and Lake Spokane DO TMDL will be in compliance.

Currently, compliance with the phosphorus waste load allocation means the County's Water Reclamation Facilities shall comply with the following effluent limitations:

- 1) The seasonal average concentration measured at the point of discharge shall be 50 µg/L TP or less, based on the arithmetic mean of daily discharges measured between April 1st and October 31st;



Mr. Bruce Rawls
March 14, 2008
Page 2

- 2) Delta Elimination Plan objectives have been sufficiently realized to have and maintain a final equivalent TP concentration of 8 µg/L; and
- 3) The equivalent mass discharge of total phosphorus shall not exceed a seasonal average (April 1 – October 31) of 0.53 lbs/day. Compliance with effluent limitation numbers 2 and 3 above must be met at the time discharge commences from the SCRWRF and will be determined by the seasonal average (April 1 – October 31) effluent mass discharge combined with any credits from the Delta Elimination Plan.

However, the Spokane River DO TMDL hasn't been yet approved. Also, Ecology presently can give no assurances the final Spokane River DO TMDL will receive approval in a timely manner meeting the needs of Spokane County.

Therefore, in accordance with RCW 90.48.110 and Chapter 173-240 WAC and on behalf of the Department of Ecology, the subject document package is hereby only **CONDITIONALLY APPROVED** as a Wastewater Facilities Plan meeting the requirements of RCW 90.48.110 and Chapter 173-240 WAC.

The conditional approval is based on anticipated compliance with the draft Spokane River and Lake Spokane DO TMDL and on a presumption of no substantive change reducing the waste load allocations for the County's water reclamation facilities. If the final Spokane River and Lake Spokane DO TMDL includes changes that reduce the County's load allocation, the County will be required to submit an amended Wastewater Facilities Plan demonstrating how the County will comply with any reduced waste load allocations.

Additionally, while the wastewater facilities plan suggest possible effluent limitations and many of the suggestions are good, the permit's effluent limitation may or may not be the same.

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

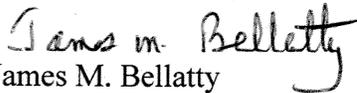
This office is to be notified immediately of any proposed changes or revisions to the approved document. Any such changes or revisions must be issued in the form of addenda, technical appendices, or supplemental reports to the original approved package of documents and must be approved in writing by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

The Department of 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.

Mr. Bruce Rawls
March 14, 2008
Page 3

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please don't hesitate to 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