



King County

Water and Land Resources Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center

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Seattle, WA 98104-3855

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March 31, 2006

David Peeler, Manager
Water Quality Program
Washington State Department of Ecology
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

RE: Annual Report for NPDES Permits WASM13001, WASM23001, and WASM33001

Dear Mr. Peeler:

With this letter, I am transmitting to you King County's report on the status of our stormwater management program (SWMP) as required under condition S10 of our Municipal Stormwater General Permits (numbers WASM13001, WASM23001, and WASM33001), which were issued on July 5, 1995 and which will continue in effect until a new permit is issued. The focus of this report is on compliance activities for calendar year 2005. The report includes a narrative piece that addresses the report elements listed in the permits as well as an appendix of tables and other information to provide more detail on the programs described in our SWMP. As a whole, our program continues very much as it was described and submitted to Ecology for approval in March, 1997 although our development standards for new development have been greatly enhanced, as described below, and the scope of our watershed wide coordination has been greatly increased.

The only portion of our SWMP still awaiting approval is the Surface Water Design Manual (SWDM). On Monday, October 25, 2004, the King County Council adopted significantly more protective updates to King County's Critical Areas, Stormwater, and Clearing and Grading Ordinances. The new ordinances went into effect on January 1, 2005. The legislation may be viewed online at <http://metrokc.gov/ddes/cao>. On January 24, 2005, two County-adopted public rules put into effect the new SWDM and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Manual (SPPM) that implement the stormwater control portions of the new ordinances. The new SWDM should completely resolve any outstanding issues of equivalency of the County's SWDM with Ecology's 1992 Stormwater Manual for the Puget Sound Basin as required under the municipal permit. The new SWDM is also designed to be equivalent to Ecology's 2001 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington.

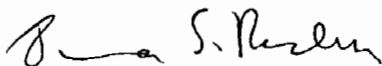
The new SPPM expands the County's requirements for source control BMPs to include residential activities. Last year, we requested that Ecology begin its review of the County's new manuals and ordinances for equivalency with its 2001 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington. We provided a hard copy of both the SWDM and SPPM to Ecology coincident with last year's report. To date, Ecology has not begun its equivalency review. With new municipal permits for both Phase I and Phase II jurisdictions close to completion, the equivalency of the SWDM takes on increased importance as many of the Phase II jurisdictions (approximately 1/3 of all Phase II jurisdictions are in King County) will also rely on the SWDM for permit compliance. We urge you to make the equivalency review of our manual a high priority for your program in the coming year.

Please contact Curt Crawford, Managing Engineer of the Stormwater Services Section (SWS) at 206-296-8329 or curt.crawford@metrokc.gov to make arrangements for the equivalency review and for answers to any questions you may have about our rules for controlling stormwater.

I certify under penalty of law that this document (the report enclosed) and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for willful violations.

Please do not hesitate to call me at 206-296-6585, or Luanne Coachman, NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit Coordinator in the Stormwater Services Section, at 206-296-8381, to discuss this report and the appended materials.

Sincerely,



for Mark Isaacson
Division Director

Enclosures

cc: Ed O'Brien, Washington State Department of Ecology
Pam Bissonnette, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Curt Crawford, Managing Engineer, Stormwater Services Section, Water and Land Resources Division (WLRD), DNRP
Luanne Coachman, NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit Coordinator, Stormwater Services Section, WLRD, DNRP