

August 25, 2020

ATT: KITTITAS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FROM: DON AND BARBARA WEBER
1251 FOX RD.
ELLENSBURG, WA

RE: Brown & Jackson (SE-20-00003) / 2 storage ponds to hold septage and then spread on lands in the SE ¼ of SW ¼ section 34, Township 18N Range 20 E in Kittitas County

We are rancher/farmers who have resided at 1251 Fox Rd. for 54 years and are approximately 1 ½ miles from the site. In addition, we have the filed adjudicated water rights for the Parke Creek diversion That flows the full length of the Brown & Jackson proposed site, north to South east and through the DSHS property. Said diversion then runs in a westerly direction through 4 privately owned parcels of Crop land to our property where it is used to irrigate crops, pasture, lawn & garden and water livestock. The diversion then flows on to the Tahoma Farms Estates where the other water rights are used.

COMMENTS:

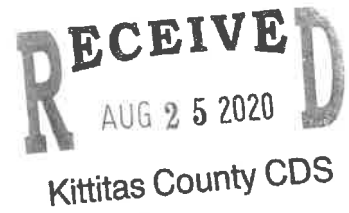
1. As witnessed in our 54 years, the proposed site DOES have significant runoff when there is a snow melt event in the hills above Parke Creek and or heavy snowpack around our area. The natural runoff flows into the Parke Creek and the Parke Creek diversion, causing flooding to landowners to the south along Parke Creek road and also all the way down the diversion ditch on to our ranch. Thus, if the sludge is applied to the grounds in the proposed areas, there will be runoff into the creeks affecting our crops, pastures, lawns and gardens and stock water..
2. The report noted that there were “none known” in reference to wild life on or near the site: We have witnessed that area as a major crossing for deer and elk on an annual bases and that there are birds and hawks adjacent to the property to the north.
3. The report state that over 30 years ago the site was farmed and has been used as pasture since then. In the 54 years we have lived here and maintained the diversion ditch, no crop farming has occurred and we question how with the excessive large rocks they can successfully disc the sludge into the ground and raise “crops”

4. Brown & Jackson has already constructed a large bridge over Parke Creek without a permit from Ecology and will be hauling septage over the Parke Creek diversion on a bridge prior to the diversion passing through the DSHS property and also a crossing over the diversion that a previous renter constructed.

In conclusion we strongly object to the permitting of the property for septage ponds and spreading, not only for the probable pollution of the Parke Creek waters but also for the close proximity of it to the highline canal and the DSHS Boys Home, and all the landowners near and down stream. We also note that the county landfill at ryegrass is the current and logical place for the septage disposal.

Don and Barbara Weber

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