



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1250 W Alder St • Union Gap, WA 98903-0009 • (509) 575-2490

May 3, 2019

Dusty Pilkington  
Kittitas County Community Development  
411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2  
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Re: SE-19-00007

Dear Dusty Pilkington:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the mitigated determination of nonsignificance for the Wiehl Road Improvement project, proposed by Kittitas County Public Works. We have reviewed the documents and have the following comments.

### **WATER QUALITY**

The proposed project is included in the program area of the Teanaway Temperature Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) water quality improvement program, which addresses water temperature impairments. The proposed project is also included in a separate sediment-reduction TMDL that covers the entire upper Yakima River watershed. Required best management practices for both TMDL programs include prevention of sediment input into the Teanaway River and all its tributaries. At high flows, it appears that the unnamed creek adjacent to Wiehl Road now crosses under Red Bridge Road and enters a roadside ditch. According to the SEPA application, water in roadside ditches in this area is ultimately conveyed to the Teanaway River.

Therefore, it will be important to prevent sediment from entering the unnamed creek during all phases of project work. Sudden intense summer rain storms can occur in the Teanaway valley, and project engineers should be prepared to prevent sediment delivery to the unnamed creek during such an event. In general, all project planning, development, and future use of the site needs to include water quality protection.

Please contact **Jane Creech** by email at [jton461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jton461@ecy.wa.gov) or call (509) 454-7860 if you have any questions about these TMDL programs.

#### Project with Potential to Discharge Off-Site

If your project anticipates disturbing ground with the potential for stormwater discharge off-site, the NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit is recommended. This permit requires that



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the SEPA checklist fully disclose anticipated activities including building, road construction and utility placements. Obtaining a permit may take 38-60 days.

The permit requires that a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (Erosion Sediment Control Plan) shall be prepared and implemented for all permitted construction sites. These control measures must be able to prevent soil from being carried into surface water and storm drains by stormwater runoff. Permit coverage and erosion control measures must be in place prior to any clearing, grading, or construction.

In the event that an unpermitted Stormwater discharge does occur off-site, it is a violation of Chapter 90.48 RCW, Water Pollution Control and is subject to enforcement action.

More information on the stormwater program may be found on Ecology's stormwater website at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/construction/>. Please submit an application or contact **Lloyd Stevens, Jr.** at the Dept. of Ecology, (509) 574-3991, with questions about this permit.

Sincerely,



Gwen Clear  
Environmental Review Coordinator  
Central Regional Office  
(509) 575-2012  
[crosepacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:crosepacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov)

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