



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

PUBLIC NOTICE

Announcing Draft **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) NPDES Permit for U.S. Department of Defense Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) Permit (#WAS026638)**
Request for Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification

Proposed Permit

The United States Environmental Protection Agency requested Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 certification on Feb. 13, 2023 for the following draft permit:

- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) NPDES Permit for U.S. Department of Defense Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) Permit # WAS026638

The proposed MS4 NPDES Permit for stormwater is operated under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination system (NPDES) at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

Purpose of the Permit

The proposed MS4 NPDES Permit for JBLM would replace the existing permit once finalized. The existing permit was issued for a five-year term in 2015, expired on Sept. 30, 2018 and has been administratively extended since then. This permit would authorize stormwater discharges associated through the municipal separate stormsewer (MS4) system into waters of Washington State.

Purpose of the 401 Certifications

Section 401 of the CWA provides that the federal government may not issue a permit relating to any activity which may result in any discharge into the navigable waters until a certification is granted or waived by the state in which the discharge originates, or will originate.

The state certification evaluates whether the discharge will comply with the applicable provisions of sections 301, 302, 306, and 307 of the CWA and appropriate requirements of state law. **Ecology will review the draft permits pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA, and with applicable provisions of State water pollution control laws.**



Copies of the Draft Permits

Draft NPDES permit documents for the draft Permit are available on EPA's [webpage](#). EPA's public comment period ends on Mar. 30, 2023.

Contact EPA staff, Bilin Basu at basu.bilin@epa.gov or 206-553-0029 with questions related to EPA's draft permit documents. Ecology is not accepting comments on the contents of the draft permit documents.

Ecology Contact

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Submitting Written Comments

Ecology is requesting comments from the public, state and local agencies, tribes, and other interested parties on EPA's request, in relation to water pollution control considerations. Ecology will accept written comments until midnight, **Mar. 20, 2023**. Ecology prefers comments be submitted electronically via the online portal. Alternatively, comments may be supplied by email or in a letter format mailed directly to Ecology.

Submit comments online (preferred method):

<https://wq.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=jU4Ag>

Submit comments by mail to:

Angela Zeigenfuse
Washington State Department of Ecology
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

You must provide comments before midnight, Mar. 20, 2023. Written comments must be postmarked no later than midnight, Mar. 20, 2023.

