



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Northwest Region Office
PO Box 330316, Shoreline, WA 98133-9716 • 206-594-0000

June 4, 2025

Jeff Santerre
5321 South Kenyon Street
Seattle, WA 98118

Re: Section 401 Water Quality Certification Denial without Prejudice, Order No. 23744, (Corps No. **NWS-2023-0681**), Seabird Lane Bulkhead Replacement, Skagit County, Washington

Dear Jeff Santerre:

On 6/06/2024, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) received a request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the above-referenced project. Ecology has one year from the Section 401 Water Quality Certification request to issue its decision.

At this time Ecology has not received the necessary information needed to assure that the discharges from the project will meet state water quality laws and requirements. Therefore, pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, Chapter 90.48 RCW, and Chapter 173-201A WAC, Ecology is denying without prejudice Jeff Santerre's request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification. Receipt of a denial without prejudice does not preclude you from submitting a new request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification at a later date.

If you have any questions, please contact Austin Schmalz at (425) 301-6989. The Enclosed Order may be appealed by following the procedures described in the Order.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Burcar", is written over a horizontal line.

Joe Burcar, Section Manager
Northwest Region Office
Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

Enclosure (1)

By certified mail: 9171 9690 0935 0233 1814 98

WQC Order No. 23744, Corps No. NWS-2023-0681

Aquatics ID No. 143568

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Sent via e-mail: jeff@prestigecrafteds.com

E-cc: Kristin Murray, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Bridget Moran, Skagit River System Cooperative
Allison (Martin) Lisi, Facet NW
Erin Hanlon Brown, Ecology
Austin Schmalz, Ecology
ECYREFEDPERMITS@ecy.wa.gov

In The Matter of Denying Section 401 Water Quality
Certification to Jeff Santerre
pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 (FWPCA § 401),
RCW 90.48.260 and Chapter 173-201A WAC

Jeff Santerre
5321 South Kenyon
Street Seattle, WA
98118

WQC Order No.	23744
Corps Reference No.	NWS-2023-0681
Site Location	Seabird Lane Bulkhead Replacement located within Padilla Bay, near Mount Vernon, Skagit County, Washington.

On 6/6/2024, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) received a request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) for the above-referenced project. Ecology has one year from the receipt of the request for a WQC to issue its decision.

On 5/16/2025, Ecology sent you an e-mail explaining that we needed confirmation from Island County that their decision to exempt this project from SEPA review still applies to the project given the change in design to raise the proposed height of the replacement bulkhead.

Without this information, there is not reasonable assurance that the project will meet state water quality laws. With the statutory deadline approaching, Ecology must deny the WQC at this time. Therefore, pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, Chapter 90.48 RCW and Chapter 173-201A WAC, Jeff Santerre's request for a WQC is denied without prejudice.

Receipt of a denial without prejudice does not preclude you from submitting the information identified above with a new request for a WQC at a later date.

Your right to appeal

You have a right to appeal this Order to the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) within 30 days of the date of receipt. The appeal process is governed by Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC. "Date of receipt" is defined in RCW 43.21B.001(2).

To appeal, you must do all of the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of this Order:

- File your notice of appeal and a copy of this Order with the PCHB (see filing information below). "Filing" means actual receipt by the PCHB during regular business hours as defined in WAC 371-08-305 and -335. "Notice of appeal" is defined in WAC 371-08-340.

- Serve a copy of your notice of appeal and this Order on the Department of Ecology by mail, in person, or by email (see addresses below).

You must also comply with other applicable requirements in Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC.

Address and Location Information

Filing with the PCHB

For the most current information regarding filing with the PCHB, visit: <https://elaho.wa.gov/> or call: 360-664-9160.

Service on Ecology

Street Addresses:

Department of Ecology
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk
300 Desmond Drive SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Mailing Addresses:

Department of Ecology
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk
PO Box 47608
Olympia, WA 98504-7608

E-Mail Address:

ecologyappeals@ecy.wa.gov

Signature

Dated this 4 day of June 2025 at the Department of Ecology, Shoreline, Washington.



Joe Burcar, Section Manager
Northwest Region Office
Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program