

## STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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February 7, 2024

Morgan O'Rourke-Ligget Biologist/Project Manager, Regulatory Branch U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District 4735 E Marginal Way S 1202, Seattle, WA 98134 Morgan.M.O'Rourke-Liggett@usace.army.mil

## Re: Proposed Pre-Design Investigation Activities at Jeld Wen Site: (NWS-2023-872;

ESA\_SSNP Consultation Information Request)

- Site Name: Jeld Wen
- Site Address: 300 W Marine View Dr, Everett, WA 98201-1030
- Facility/Site No.: 2757
- Cleanup Site No.: 4402
- Agreed Order No.: DE 5095

Dear Morgan O'Rourke-Ligget:

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is working with Jeld-Wen, Inc. and their consultant, Anchor QEA, to clean up contaminated sediments at the Jeld Wen Site, which is a former wood-treating and processing facility located along the Snohomish River delta in Everett. Jeld-Wen, Inc. is currently conducting pre-design sampling with oversight from Ecology, as required by a Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) agreed order between the parties. Sampling results will inform future cleanup; the goal of which is to reduce risks to human and ecological receptors by removing, neutralizing, and/or isolating substances known to cause adverse health effects within contaminated media – in this case tidal mudflats at this Site.

Due to the nature and configuration of the contaminated area, sediment coring needs to occur from a vessel during extreme high tides. Anchor QEA has been targeting daylight high tides in March or April 2024 to carry out this work.

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Recently, Anchor QEA informed Ecology that sediment sampling may be delayed due to a new requirement for a consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) prior to U.S. ACE permitting such investigation activities. Anchor QEA indicated that based on their experience with previous consultations implementation of their Step 2 Pre-Design Investigation could be delayed by as much as a year or more.

Ecology is concerned that such delays would result in delayed cleanup of contaminated sediments at the Site – extending exposure of sensitive aquatic organisms to contaminated media. We are reaching out in the hope that there may be a way to expedite the consultation process that allows Anchor QEA to collect sediment samples this spring.

We appreciate your time and consideration in the examination of this concern and will be very thankful if there is any mechanism to expedite this process. Please call or email me or Susannah Edwards, sediment cleanup regulatory compliance specialist with Ecology Toxics Cleanup Program at (360) 280-1963 or <u>susannah.edwards@ecy.wa.gov</u> for more information regarding this matter.

Your assistance in this matter is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

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Frank P. Winslow, LHG Cleanup Site Manager Toxics Cleanup Program Headquarters Section

fpw: af

cc: Susannah Edwards, Ecology