



April 25, 2025

Nicholas M. Acklam
Washington Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Eastern Region
4601 North Monroe Street
Spokane, Washington 99205

Dear Nick:

I'd like to start by expressing our gratitude to the Department of Ecology for their willingness to work in such a collaborative way for nearly 20 years in the seeking of a solution for the pollution at this Grant County Ephrata Landfill site.

It is in the hope of continuing this collaborative effort I am writing to ask you please consider those issues raised by our partners at Grant County related to the schedule of the Agreed Order Amendment 3 in their April 23, 2024, letter to you.

The City has reviewed the Schedule of Deliverables and Actions (Exhibit B) of Amendment 3 and conferred with the County regarding the proposed preparation of plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E) to expand the existing multi-phase extraction system previously at the Ephrata Landfill Site. The City and the County previously requested 120 days for each round of revision to the documents in the run-up to the public advertisement and bidding process.

The proposed schedule was shortened at the request of Ecology staff to 120, 90, and 60 days for 30-, 60-, and 90-percent documents, respectively. These periods of time were considered the minimum required to coordinate between the City and the County, make necessary revisions and complete, and complete required engineering reviews.

The City and the County, with their technical teams, have reviewed the final Amendment 3 and found the schedule for Task 3 has remained unchanged from initial drafting. Although both parties understand Ecology's desire for expediency, we also firmly believe the proposed schedule should be achievable and provide sufficient time to make and review revisions to the PS&E prior to publication. This will, in turn, support more efficient construction and better stewardship of project funds, all of which are public in origin.

We urge Ecology to reconsider the proposed schedule for Task 3 and extend the timeline as is reasonable and necessary to complete the appropriate engineering design and document preparation.

I'd like to end by emphasizing that neither the County or the City are averse to the work or the effort, only the ability to meet the schedule for a small portion the work in Agreed Order 3.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ray Towry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ray" and last name "Towry" clearly distinguishable.

Ray Towry
City Administrator

Cc: Sam Castro, Grant County
Leslie Nellermore, Nossaman LLP
Brad Marten, Marten Law
Eric Beur, Farallon Consulting
Victoria Banks, Attorney General's Office
Kristin Beck, Dept of Ecology