



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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August 1, 2016

Ms. Cassandra Caunce
Southern Interior Regional Operations – Director
Environmental Protection
B.C. Ministry of the Environment
No. 401-333 Victoria Street
Nelson, BC V14K3

Re: Records Request – Industrial Air Monitoring Data and Information – Trail B.C. Area

Dear Ms. Caunce:

In April, a representative of the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) Air Quality Program initiated a records inquiry through email with Senior Environmental Protection Officer, Brad McCandlish. Mr. McCandlish was helpful in providing initial information and examples of current Trail Smelter monitoring. Additional, more comprehensive records were requested, but delivery of those records appear to be delayed. Please consider this letter as a formal records request.

In order to properly respond to citizen air quality inquiries, our air specialists are attempting to assess ambient air quality in the Northport area of Washington. In the late 1990s the Trail Smelter complex upgraded several facility and environmental controls. Since that time, we have not actively sponsored or directly monitored along the Columbia River Valley corridor.

Ecology's Air Quality Program would like to review the Compliance Monitoring Reports that Teck Cominco (Teck) submits to the BC Ministry of Environment to aid in our assessment and our work to improve air quality conditions in Washington.

While we speculate that emissions reaching Washington have likely diminished significantly since the 1990s, we have very little recent data on aerosol particulate matter and metals for the river corridor. The only detailed information we have is a Teck December 2015 monthly report submitted to Mr. McCandlish.

We are asking to receive copies of Teck's monthly PM10 Air Compliance Monitoring data that detail the lead, zinc, cadmium and arsenic concentrations at Columbia Gardens, a station relatively close to Washington, and at three stations nearer to Teck's emissions points. We are also asking for the records of Teck's monthly Dustfall Samplers Compliance Monitoring data since they also appear to quantify these four elements deposited near the border at Trimac and at 10 other locations nearer the smelter.

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Specifically, we request:

- All 1997 through current 2016 monthly Compliance Monitoring and Dustfall data submitted by Teck. If available, electronically formatted records are preferred.
- The latitude and longitude coordinates of all monitoring stations, including the Trimac and Columbia Gardens monitors. Monthly reporting and monitoring summaries generated by either BC Ministry of the Environment or Teck Cominco regarding the Trail Smelter BC ambient monitoring network for the time period of 1997-2016.

We are requesting that the data be provided before the end of August so that we can complete our assessment work. Please contact Dr. Matt Kadlec by phone at (360) 407-6817 or by email at matthew.kadlec@ecy.wa.gov if you have any air specialist specific questions or need clarification regarding this request.

Sincerely,



Denise Addotta Clifford
Director of Government Relations

cc: Brad McCandlish, B.C. Ministry of the Environment Senior Environmental Protection Officer
Matt Kadlec, Department of Ecology