

June 2, 2022

The Honorable Randy Agnew  
Mayor of Rock Island  
5. N Garden Ave.  
Rock Island, WA 98850

**RE: 2021 Wastewater Treatment Plant Outstanding Performance Awards**

Dear Mayor Agnew:

Congratulations! The Rock Island Wastewater Treatment Plant is receiving the 2021 “Wastewater Treatment Plant Outstanding Performance” award. Of approximately 300 wastewater treatment plants statewide, yours is one of 124 that achieved top performance of its wastewater treatment plant operations in 2021.

Ecology evaluates specific domestic wastewater treatment plant information for compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Your plant is one of the top performers for regularly meeting numeric effluent limits and permit criteria, for conducting monitoring, and for reporting data as required.

It takes diligent operators and a strong management team, working effectively together, to achieve this high level of performance. 2021 started as the rainiest year on record, followed by extreme snowfall. It continued with a record setting heat wave, tornado warnings, and ended with flooding and more snowfall. Turning wastewater into water clean enough to discharge to waterways takes efficient process control, skill, teamwork, and good judgement. Ecology appreciates the extraordinary level of effort your plant operators demonstrated throughout 2021.

This is the fifth consecutive year the Rock Island Wastewater Treatment Plant received this award. Talented and proficient operators are critical to successful plant operations and protecting the health of Washington’s waters. Your excellent record is a credit to the dedicated operators who are responsible for running the award-winning Rock Island Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Honorable Randy Agnew  
June 2, 2022  
Page 2

We will announce the full list of 2021 award recipients, including the Rock Island Wastewater Treatment Plant, in the coming weeks.

Please contact Lindsay Hunsperger at 509-571-0944 or [lindsay.hunsperger@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:lindsay.hunsperger@ecy.wa.gov) if you have any questions or comments about your award.

Thank you for the excellent service your operators provide to your community and the waters of Washington.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vincent McGowan", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Vincent McGowan, P.E.  
Water Quality Program Manager