STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
PO Box 47600 • Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000
711 for Washington Relay Service • Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341

August 15, 2018

WAR044003

Geoffrey Smyth
City Of Tacoma
747 Market St
Rm 408
Tacoma, WA 98402-3701

Tacoma City Graphic Services Div
747 MARKET ST B20
Tacoma, WA 98402

RE: Announcing the Public Comment Period and Hearings for the Draft Municipal Stormwater General Permit

Dear Geoffrey Smyth:

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) proposes to reissue the Phase I Municipal Stormwater National Pollution Discharge Elimination System General Permit. The draft permit and fact sheet, which explains the technical basis for the permit, are available for review and public comment from **August 15, 2018 through November 14, 2018, at 11:59 PM.** Ecology will host informational workshops and public hearings on the draft permit.

Purpose of the Permit

Under Federal and State water quality laws (Federal Clean Water Act and State Water Pollution Control Act), the Phase I permit requires municipalities and secondary permittees to develop and implement a stormwater management program to control stormwater runoff into and from their municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4). The Phase I permit applies to all regulated large and medium MS4s. The Phase I permit covers the cities of Seattle and Tacoma, and unincorporated King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Clark Counties. This permit also covers small MS4s in permitted cities and counties that are owned or operated by public entities such as ports, irrigation districts, colleges and universities, state institutions, school districts, drainage districts, and park districts.

Requesting Copies of the Formal Draft Permit

Beginning August 15, 2018, you may download the draft permit and fact sheet from the website below:

https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Permits-certifications/Stormwater-general-permits/Municipal-stormwater-general-permits/Municipal-stormwater-permit-reissuance.

You may also request copies from Dena Jaskar, at 360-407-6401, or by email at dena.jaskar@ecy.wa.gov.

Submitting Written and Oral Comments

Ecology will accept written and oral comments on the draft permit language and supporting documents. Comments should reference the specific permit or document(s) and specific text when possible.

Submit comments online: http://ws.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=JWY6h

(preferred method)

Submit written, hard copy comments to: **Municipal Stormwater Permit Comments**

Washington State Department of Ecology

P.O. Box 47696, Olympia, WA 98504-7600

You must submit comments online no later than 11:59 PM, November 14, 2018. Written comments must be postmarked by November 14, 2018. You may provide oral testimony at the public hearings.

Public Hearings and Workshops

Ecology will hold public hearings and workshops statewide, including an online-only webinar. At each workshop, Ecology will explain the draft permit and answer questions. A hearing will immediately follow the workshops. The hearings will provide the opportunity to give formal oral testimony and comments on the draft permit and supporting documents.

Tuesday, October 2, 2018, 10 AM

Skagit Transit Station

105 E. Kincaid

Mt. Vernon, WA 98773

Wednesday, October 10, 2018, 10 AM

South Seattle College – Georgetown Campus

Gene J. Colin Education Hall – Building C, Room C122

6737 Corson Avenue South

Seattle, WA 98108

Parking is $3.00/vehicle at this facility

Tuesday, October 30, 2018, 10 AM

DuPont City Hall

Council Chambers Room

1700 Civic Drive

DuPont, WA 98327

Tuesday, November 6, 2018, 1:30 PM

Webinar – Register for the webinar at: https://bit.ly/2lHTpvh

Wednesday, November 7, 2018, 10 AM

WA State School for the Blind

Fries Auditorium

2214 East 13th St

Vancouver, WA 98661

If you have questions about the draft permit, public hearings, workshops, or the public comment period, contact Emma Trewhitt, Phase I Permit Writer, at (360) 407-7468, or email emma.trewhitt@ecy.wa.gov.

Issuing the Permit

After Ecology receives and considers all public comments, it will issue the final permit. Ecology expects to issue the permit in July 2019.

Sincerely,



Vincent McGowan, Manager
Program Development Services Section
Water Quality Program