



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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7/18/2019

The Honorable Dave Somers
Snohomish County Executive
3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 407
Everett, WA 98201

RE: Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit (WAR044502) Snohomish County
Response to S4.F Notifications dated 2/25/2019, 4/17/2019, and 7/1/2019

Dear Mr. Somers,

I am responding to the three Snohomish County S4.F notifications listed below and submitted to Ecology under the S4.F.1 requirement of the Phase I Municipal Stormwater (MS4) Permit. The notifications were dated February 25, April 27, and July 1, 2019. They were received by Ecology on March 11, April 29, and July 10, 2019, respectively. The notifications involved illicit discharges of petroleum and paint products into the County Municipal Separate Stormwater System (MS4), and discharging from the County MS4 into receiving surface waters of the state, causing or contributing to violations of State Water Quality Standards. The summaries of each incident and County response is as follow:

- February 14, 2019 – A diesel odor was reported to Snohomish County Surface Water Management (SWM) and a rainbow sheen observed in Golde Creek. Investigators implemented IDDE procedures and traced the discharge to a business park where fuel tanks were found to be damaged and product was flowing into the MS4 via a catch basin in the parking lot. Investigators instructed the property owner to clean the spill, and contacted Ecology per G3 requirements (ERTS 687308). A contractor (NRC Environmental) was hired by the property owner to conduct the cleanup.
- April 11, 2019 – SWM was notified via ERTS 688434 of a potential paint spill to Lake Stevens. Staff implemented IDDE procedures and investigated, tracing the spill to a residence undergoing restoration after a fire. An employee of the restoration company had inappropriately dumped paint wastewater into a County drainage ditch, which then discharged to a wetland and Lake Stevens. Education was provided to the company by Department of Ecology personnel. The County determined the paint was non-recoverable and closed the investigation.
- June 24, 2019 – While Snohomish County Road Maintenance crews were working on an unrelated issue on Elliot Rd, they observed an oil spill and notified SWM. Investigators responded and a sheen was observed on the surface of the water in an adjacent wetland. Due to high water levels obstructing a cross-culvert, the sheen remained in the wetland and did not travel further downstream. County staff reported the discharge to Ecology (ERTS 690195). Snohomish County hired a contractor to conduct cleanup.

Ecology has determined that adaptive management responses under condition S.4.F.3 are not necessary because the Phase I Municipal Stormwater Permit requirements are designed to address illicit discharges into the municipal stormwater system. The relevant requirements Snohomish County implements in the



The Honorable D. Somers
July 18, 2019

Stormwater Management program include Special Condition S5.C.3. This determination does not affect any obligation you may have under other laws.

If you or your staff has questions, please contact me at (425) 649-7041 or by email at ccro461@ecy.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Colleen Griffith
Municipal Stormwater Planner

cc: Bill Leif, P.E. – Surface Water Management
Janell Majewski - Surface Water Management
Karen Kerwin, P.E. - Surface Water Management
Gregg Farris, P.E., Director - Surface Water Management
Steven E. Thomsen, P.E., Director – Department of Public Works
Permit file