



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

4601 N. Monroe Street • Spokane, Washington 99205-1295 • (509) 329-3400

January 14, 2022

Kevin Rasler
Inland Empire Paper Company
3320 North Argonne Road
Spokane, WA 99212

RE: Request for Compliance Schedule Extension; Entity Review of Draft Permit and Fact Sheet for National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit WA0000825

Dear Kevin Rasler:

Ecology has reviewed your November 10, 2021 request to extend the compliance schedule for the final water quality based effluent limits (WQBELs) for Total Phosphorus (TP) and Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD₅) established by the Spokane River and Lake Spokane Dissolved Oxygen Total Maximum Daily Load (DO TMDL). Ecology considered your request to extend the compliance schedule for an additional five years, but decided to put forward a shorter timeline. Ecology will propose extending the compliance schedule for these parameters for the first two compliance seasons (2022 and 2023) in order that these limits are met as soon as possible.

Enclosed is the preliminary draft copy of Ecology's proposed permit and fact sheet that includes the compliance schedule extension. Please take this opportunity to review the draft documents in entirety for factual mistakes or errors and comment on any mistakes you or your staff find. Submit comments or corrections to our office by February 13, 2022 by email to Patrick.Hallinan@ecy.wa.gov or by writing to **Pat Hallinan, Department of Ecology, Water Quality Program, 4601 N. Monroe Street, Spokane, WA 99205-1265.**

Ecology will make the appropriate corrections in the draft permit and fact sheet and place a public notice in a local newspaper. An official draft copy of the permit and fact sheet will be mailed to you along with a copy of the public notice. There will be a 45-day comment period from the date of publication. At that time, Inland Empire Paper Company will have the opportunity to submit comments on requirements and conditions in the permit.

Please contact Pat Hallinan at (509) 655-9239 if you have questions or need additional time to review the draft documents.

Sincerely,

Adriane P. Borgias
Section Manager
Water Quality Program

APB:sj

Enclosures

cc: Doug Krapas, Inland Empire Paper Company
Pat Hallinan, Water Quality Permit Manager, Ecology Eastern Region
Art Jenkins, PE, Water Quality Permit Unit Supervisor, Ecology Eastern Region