



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

**Southwest Region Office**  
PO Box 47775, Olympia, WA 98504-7775 • 360-407-6300

August 17, 2023

Richard Dickinson  
Mason County Department of Utilities and Waste Management  
PO Box 578  
Shelton WA, 98584

Re: Warning Letter for: State Waste Discharge Permit No. ST 0006224, Belfair Wastewater Reclamation Facility, State Waste Discharge Permit No. ST006039, North Bay Case Inlet Water Reclamation Facility, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. WA0038075, Rustlewood Wastewater Treatment Plant

Dear Richard Dickinson:

State Waste Discharge Permit No. ST0006224, State Waste Discharge Permit No. ST0006039, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. WA0038075 require that monitoring data obtained during each monitoring period shall be summarized, reported, and submitted on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form provided, or otherwise approved, or through our WQWebDMR. DMR forms shall be received/submitted no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month following the completed monitoring period, unless otherwise specified in these permits.

**Belfair:**

Your DMR for March 2023 is in draft status and not submitted at this time. Additionally, your DMR for Q1, April, May, and June 2023 are missing data for nitrate, nitrite, total kjeldahl nitrogen, total nitrogen, ammonia, hardness, BOD<sub>5</sub>, TSS, and chloride.

**North Bay:**

Your DMR for Q1, April, May, and June 2023 are missing data for nitrate, nitrite, total kjeldahl nitrogen, total nitrogen, ammonia, BOD<sub>5</sub>, TSS, and chloride.

**Rustlewood:**

Your DMR for March, April, May, and June 2023 are missing data for BOD<sub>5</sub>, TSS, and ammonia.

Your DMR indicates noncompliance within the following parameters:

Facility	Monitoring Date	Monitoring Parameter	Sample Measurement	Permit Limit
Belfair	May 15, 2023	Total Coliforms	118.7/ 100 mL	≤23/ 100 mL
North Bay	April 11, 2023	Total Coliforms	65.0/ 100 mL	≤23/ 100 mL
North Bay	May 6, 2023	Total Coliforms	31.7/ 100 mL	≤23/ 100 mL
North Bay	May 4, 2023	Turbidity	5.20 NTU	≤5 NTU
North Bay	May 5, 2023	Turbidity	5.04 NTU	≤5 NTU
Rustlewood	May 14-20, 2023	Fecal Coliform	1748.103/ 100 mL	≤400 / 100 mL

Noncompliance with permit requirements is a violation of your State Waste Discharge Permit and NPDES Permit. If you fail to comply with the conditions of your permit, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) may take formal administrative enforcement action, including issuing Administrative Orders, to correct the problem and/or Civil Penalties, in accordance with [chapter 173-216 Washington Administrative Code \(WAC\)](#) and [WAC 173-220-230](#).

Given the ongoing delays in receiving your lab results, you may need to consider identifying an alternative accredited laboratory or pursuing accreditation for conducting your own analytical work. Mason County has sole responsibility for compliance with the terms of the permit, including all monitoring and reporting requirements, and failure to satisfy these requirements can result in enforcement actions, including penalties. Delays attributed to contract laboratories or other third parties do not relieve this responsibility.

In order to meet permit requirements your facility needs to use a laboratory that can provide reliable and timely results. You have the option to seek accreditation for your own laboratory. If you would like to begin performing these analyses within your own facility, please contact the Laboratory Accreditation Unit.

If you have any questions regarding this matter (or if our information is incorrect), please contact your facility manager, Anna Milford, at [anna.milford@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:anna.milford@ecy.wa.gov) or at (564) 669-3115; or you can contact our compliance specialist, Ginger Reddig, at [ginger.reddig@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:ginger.reddig@ecy.wa.gov) or at (360) 789-5425.

If you need technical assistance, please contact your facility manager or call our technical assistance specialist, Shane Cooper, at [shane.cooper@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:shane.cooper@ecy.wa.gov) or at (360) 870-6297.

Sincerely,

*Alisha Mckittrick*

Alisha Mckittrick  
Permit Administrator and Data Compliance Professional  
Southwest Region Office  
Water Quality Program