



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Northwest Region Office
PO Box 330316, Shoreline, WA 98133-9716 • 206-594-0000

April 11, 2024

Edgar Chavez, Sr Manager EHS
Blue Origin LLC
18410 63rd Ave NE
Arlington WA, 98223-8709

Re: **WARNING LETTER** for State Waste Discharge Permit Number ST0501338
Blue Origin LLC

Dear Edgar Chavez:

This letter is to inform you that your facility is out of compliance with your industrial wastewater discharge permit. Violations are listed in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1. Numeric Effluent Violations for Outfall #007 during 2023 (Permit Special Condition S1.)

Date	Parameter	Measurement	Units	Limit	Limit Type
12/6/2023	Silver	> 0.642	mg/L	0.47	Maximum Daily

Table 2. Monitoring Violations during January 2024 (see Permit Special Conditions S2.A)

Monitoring Period	Monitoring Point	Parameter	Sampling Frequency	Violation
January 1-19, 2024	006	Flow (gpd)	Daily	Analysis not conducted

Non-compliance notifications are required by your permit. You have submitted a notice of non-compliance for the violations in Tables 1 and 2 or have explained the cause of the violations in your monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs). This part of your permit requirement has been fulfilled.

The DMR is the principal tool used to evaluate compliance with permit requirements. The Department of Ecology places great importance on the timely submittal of complete and accurate DMRs. The use of the greater than sign ">" with the silver measurement on 12/6/2023 (Table 1) suggests there was a problem with the laboratory analysis. On 3/14/2024, Ecology requested the laboratory report for samples collected on 12/6/2023. Upon review, it was discovered that silver was analyzed by EPA Method 6010D (SW-846). However, the Permit requires EPA Method 200.8 for analysis of silver, as shown in Permit Special Condition S2.A, or another approved CWA method found in [40 CFR Part 136](#). **From this point forward, silver must be analyzed by EPA Method 200.8, or an alternate approved method.**

Failure to comply with the conditions of your permit may result in formal administrative enforcement action, including orders and penalties. Ecology's enforcement authority for state waste discharge permits is governed by Chapter 173-216 of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your permit manager Maia Hoffman by email at maia.hoffman@ecy.wa.gov or by phone at (425) 507-5681.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Onstad
Compliance Specialist
Water Quality Program

ecc: Permit and Reporting Information System (PARIS): Blue Origin LLC, ST0501338
Maia Hoffman, Ecology
Monika Kannadaguli, Ecology
Edgar Chavez, Sr Manager EHS, Blue Origin LLC
Lana Getubig, EHS, Blue Origin LLC
Jordan Snow, Assistant Legal Secretary, Blue Origin LLC