

February 12, 2025

Matt Durkee  
Department of Ecology Central Regional Office  
1250 West Alder Street  
Union Gap, WA 98903

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
CENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE

RECEIVED

February 12, 2025

Received via: [matthew.durkee@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:matthew.durkee@ecy.wa.gov)

Re: Outfall 2 bypass of equalization tank on 2/11/2025. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit # WA0052078

Mr. Durkee:

On February 11<sup>th</sup>, the Sunnyside plant had to bypass its equalization tank due to high level. Beginning at 3:30 AM the equalization tank began to rise due to excess equipment washing. All three production lines started washing at around the same time. The equalization tank went from 80% full at 3:30 AM to 100% full by 5:15 AM. On normal days the, the equalization tank is at about 40% full when washes start taking place in the morning. The level was monitored closely until the decision to bypass was made by plant management. The bypass lasted from 10:20 AM to 12:40 PM. The Port of Sunnyside was notified about the bypass before it took place and will use their ultrasonic flow meter in the flume for the daily volume. Throughout the day of the 11<sup>th</sup>, the flow rate coming from our equalization tank averaged 835 gallons per minute. Going forward, the Sunnyside plant will stagger the washes to hopefully avoid the situation from happening again. If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to me. My email is [chris.babcock@darigold.com](mailto:chris.babcock@darigold.com) and my mobile phone number is (509) 854-4379.

Best Regards,



Chris Babcock  
Darigold