



Focus on **Proposed Grant Program for Stormwater Management**

from Ecology's Water Quality Program

Proposed Municipal Phase II Stormwater Management Grants Program

Overview and Purpose of the Program

The Department of Ecology has proposed a grants program to help approximately 100 local governments statewide to comply with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for "Phase II Stormwater" planning requirements. The permits are scheduled to be issued in early fiscal year 2006 (FY 06). Governor Locke identified \$5 million from the Toxics Account in his 2005-07 Biennium budget last December for the proposed grant program.

Even though the Legislature has not yet formally acted to fund the program, Ecology has recognized that the grants program is a high priority need. Ecology has convened a local government stakeholders task force from its Financial Assistance Advisory Council to help Ecology develop the framework of the grants program.

The purpose of the grant program would be to provide "seed" funds to local governments to help them plan and develop capacities (plans, rate structures, etc.) to meet Phase II Municipal Stormwater Management Permit needs. For those local governments that have proceeded on their own initiative to plan, the grant program would provide funds to assist them in revising and updating their planning efforts to meet the new permit requirements. Ecology's Water Quality Program recognizes that without financial assistance many local governments will find it difficult to meet their permit requirements. Activities that would be eligible under the grants program are those initially needed under the Phase II permit. Examples include:

- Establishing and refining stormwater utilities (including stable rate structures, etc.)
- Identifying and mapping storm sewer systems and outfalls
- Public information, education, and communication
- Completing detailed plans (including financing options and choices) to meet the Phase II Municipal Stormwater Management NPDES permit, etc.

Ecology and local government stakeholders are proposing a simplified and streamlined grant application and award process based on 1) the NPDES permit planning requirements, 2) the limited number of local governments that will be issued the permit, and 3) the amount of grant funds proposed in Governor Locke's capital budget.

The task force has recommended the following:

- One-half of the appropriation amount should be used to provide a minimum grant level that all Phase II communities would be eligible to receive if they apply for financial assistance.
- The other half of the appropriation would be made available as supplemental grant assistance based on “financial need” that would include criteria such as household incomes, sales and property tax bases, unemployment, and population.

What Will Phase II Stormwater NPDES Permits Require?

These permits will require local governments to:

- Control stormwater pollutants in their separate municipal storm sewer systems.
- Protect water quality to the maximum extent practical.
- Comply with any applicable TMDLs within the permitted entities’ jurisdiction regarding discharges.

Additional information regarding the Phase II Stormwater NPDES Permit Program can be found at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/phase_2/index.html, or on the attached *Ecology Focus on the NPDES Municipal Stormwater Program*.

Which Local Governments Would be Eligible to Receive Grants?

Tentative Phase II Jurisdictions

Cities and Towns

Algona	Everett
Arlington	Federal Way
Asotin	Fife
Auburn	Fircrest
Bainbridge Island	Gig Harbor
Battle Ground	Granite Falls
Bellevue	Issaquah
Bellingham	Kelso
Black Diamond	Kenmore
Bonney Lake	Kennewick
Bothell	Kent
Bremerton	Kirkland
Brier	Lacey
Buckley	Lake Forest Park
Burien	Lake Stevens
Burlington	Lakewood
Camas	Liberty Lake
Clarkston	Longview
Clyde Hill	Lynnwood
Covington	Maple Valley
Des Moines	Marysville
DuPont	Medina
Duvall	Mercer Island
E. Wenatchee	Mill Creek
Edgewood	Millwood
Edmonds	Milton
Enumclaw	Monroe

Mount Vernon
Mountlake Terrace
Mukilteo
Newcastle
Normandy Park
Olympia
Orting
Pacific
Pasco
Port Orchard
Poulsbo
Puyallup
Redmond
Renton
Richland
Sammamish
SeaTac
Sedro-Woolley
Selah
Shoreline
Snohomish
Spokane
Spokane Valley
Steilacoom
Sumner
Tukwila
Tumwater

Union Gap
University Place
Vancouver
Washougal
Wenatchee
West Richland
Woodinville
Yakima
Yarrow Point

Counties

Asotin County
Benton County
Chelan County
Cowlitz County
Douglas County
Franklin County
Kitsap County
Skagit County
Spokane County
Thurston County
Walla Walla County
Whatcom County
Yakima County

Cities Requiring Evaluation

Cities which are outside the census urbanized areas, but need a Phase II jurisdiction review because federal rules require such analyses of local governments with separate storm sewer systems and with populations in excess of 1,000, are listed as follows:

Aberdeen
Anacortes
Centralia
Ellensburg
Moses Lake
Oak Harbor
Port Angeles
Pullman
Sunnyside
Walla Walla

A map showing all Phase II local governments is attached. For further information, see below.

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