

**The Department of Ecology's Response to:  
Marianne Edain – Whidbey Environmental Action Network (Comment 40)**

If the commenter wishes to submit data for future WQA cycles, please coordinate data quality assurance planning and data submittal with the WQ program. The information provided by the commenter does not include adequate documentation to conclude what level of quality control should be assigned to the data. WQ Assessment policy lays out the procedures to follow in submitting data for consideration in the WQA. The data that was submitted may be input directly into the EIM system, but without quality assurance information, will be assigned a level of QA documentation that does not permit its use in the WQA. The data may still be useful for general screening purposes of temperature and pH measures in the Whidbey Island area.