

From: Cathe Muller [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 05, 2012 6:11 PM
To: Wessel, Ann (ECY)
Subject: New water management proposal

The Department of Ecology (DOE) is proposing a number of significant limitations on water usage in our area.

It would appear that, in essence, DOE's scientists assert that there is a hydrological connectivity between aquifers and the waters flowing in streams and rivers and, furthermore, that an increase in the number of wells drawing from these aquifers will cause a corresponding decrease in the flow levels in the rivers. To remedy this perceived problem, DOE contends that it must implement and enforce a complex and expensive system of water banking and mitigation.

NONSENSE!

Many other equally knowledgeable scientists contend that this supposed hydrological connectivity has not been proven and is merely a hypothesis. Moreover, if such a connectivity does exist, the effects of the wells on the flow levels is minimal and, therefore, the hardships inflicted on the general populace will far outweigh any potential benefits.

Our area is sparsely populated - if flow levels are affected then why aren't densely populated areas showing this problem??

In fact, DOE's own economist, Mr. Hoff, indicated that the probable costs of implementing the rule far out-weighed the potential benefits that would be achieved upon implementation. It should be noted that shortly after Mr. Hoff voiced his concerns, he was relieved of his duties and transferred elsewhere in the department. This action does not instill trust in the DOE.

I do not trust the federal government or their agencies any more to have the good of the people and environment their top priority. Probably they are just looking for control to extend their power ... that is their historical legacy and getting worse daily.

Accordingly, I request that you delay the implementation of these rules until such time as you can, beyond a doubt, prove what you are asserting to the affected population - as well as our local elected representatives - that these rules are logical, lawful, and indeed necessary.

Sincerely,
C. M. Muller

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