



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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January 5, 2016

The Honorable Helen Price Johnson
Island County Board of Commissioners
PO Box 5000
Coupeville, WA 98239-5000

**Re: Final Ecology Approval of Island County's Shoreline Master Program
Comprehensive Update**

Dear Commissioner Price Johnson:

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is pleased to announce final approval of Island County's (County) Shoreline Master Program (SMP) update. Congratulations to you, your staff, and the community for completing this comprehensive update. We know this has been a long and challenging process. We appreciate your commitment to planning for Washington's unique and valuable shorelines.

As you know, the following correspondence regarding the SMP update took place between Ecology and the County:

- April 2, 2013 – Ecology accepted the County's locally adopted SMP update as complete for purposes of review (adopted as Resolution #C-125-12).
- August 17, 2015 – Ecology conditionally approved the County's comprehensive SMP update with specific required and recommended changes.
- December 1, 2015 – The County sent a letter to Ecology agreeing to all of Ecology's recommended changes, and all but one required change, proposing alternative language for the required change number 37.

Upon review, Ecology finds the County's proposed alternative language for required change number 37 to be consistent with the purpose and intent of the changes required by Ecology and with the policy of RCW 90.58.020 and applicable rules.

Ecology therefore approves the County's comprehensive SMP update, which includes the agreed to required change and recommended changes, as well as the County's proposed alternative language. This action represents Ecology's final decision and there shall be no further modifications to the County's proposal.



The Honorable Helen Price Johnson
January 5, 2016
Page 2

The effective date of the County's comprehensive SMP update is fourteen days from the date of this letter, Ecology's final approval letter. This fourteen day period was established by legislative action in 2011 and is intended to provide lead time for the County to prepare to implement the new SMP.

Ecology is required to promptly publish notice that the County's SMP has received final approval. The notice, in the form of a legal ad, will begin a 60-day appeal period. We will provide a copy of the legal ad to the County for its records.

Finally, please integrate the changes referenced in this correspondence into the County's SMP proposal and forward two clean hard copies and one digital copy of the complete approved SMP to Ecology, at your earliest convenience.

Thank you again for the significant work and leadership provided by the Board of Commissioners, the Planning Commission, and Brad Johnson, Senior Planner in completing this SMP update. If you have any questions, please contact Ecology's regional planner, David Pater, at (425) 649-4253 or David.Pater@ecy.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Maia D. Bellon
Director

Enclosures

By Certified Mail [7012 1010 0003 3028 4208]

cc: Brad Johnson, Island County
Keith Higman, Island County
David Pater, Ecology