



July 11, 2014

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Jeff Killelea
Washington State Dept. of Ecology
Water Quality Program
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Re: Comments on Draft 2015 Industrial Stormwater General Permit

Dear Mr. Killelea:

The Manufacturing Industrial Council generally supports recommendations regarding the draft 2015 permit submitted by our individual members and colleague organizations including the Pacific Merchants Shipping Association and the Washington Public Ports Association.

The MIC collectively also offers to work with DOE and elected leaders to use the draft permit review process to help find better ways to coordinate state, local, regional and federal initiatives to address environmental issues in and around Seattle's industrial waterways. The federal Clean Water Act provides tools to address complex issues like those emerging in Seattle and we urge DOE to work with us to help persuade elected leaders to explore these or other options.

Great progress is being made to clean up Seattle waterways and we are concerned further progress will be stymied by failures to collaborate. Just this week, as the state sought final input on the draft state stormwater permit, the City of Seattle was seeking input regarding its local stormwater code while the Governor announced new water quality initiatives to promote healthier fish consumption, and a new controversy emerged in Seattle over aspects of the city's shoreline master plan. In the Duwamish, these efforts add to a regulatory climate already clouded by disagreements between local and federal authorities regarding the Duwamish Superfund.

These efforts are based on goals and values shared by nearly all of us. We need new approaches to achieve them. We could start with the objectives that might be fulfilled through the draft state stormwater permit.

Sincerely,

Dave Gering, Executive Director
Manufacturing Industrial Council