



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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June 29, 2011

The Honorable Patty Lent, Mayor
The City of Bremerton
Norm Dicks Government Center
345 6 Street, Suite 600
Bremerton, WA 98337

**RE: The City of Bremerton –
Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Reduction Accomplishments**

Dear Mayor Lent:

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) commends the City of Bremerton's (City) achievement in completing its Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Reduction Projects well ahead of schedule. In doing so, the City reduced these discharges to the level required by state and federal regulation, largely eliminating the water pollution caused by these overflows. As you know, without controls over combined sewer overflows, we risk sending large quantities of raw sewage into Puget Sound and our freshwater lakes, streams and rivers.

Of the eleven communities operating combined sewer and stormwater systems in the state of Washington, the City is a leader among the state's cities in addressing this problem, and should take justifiable pride in the reduction of overflow volumes and the frequency of these discharges by more than 99 percent.

Ecology recognizes the significant investment the City has made over the past 16 years, particularly by assembling financing of more than \$50 million to implement its CSO Reduction Program. Ecology's Water Quality Program contributed approximately \$14 million in both grants and low interest loans to this financing effort.

In addition to the City's aggressive and diligent actions, it had the courage and foresight to install the first CSO Treatment Plant in the state to utilize advanced primary treatment and disinfection. The Eastside CSO Treatment Plant now serves as a model for effective and efficient treatment of combined wastewater.



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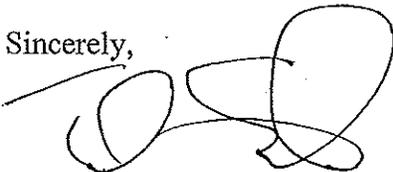
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The City's financial investments to reduce pollution from CSOs are already paying off. The City's decreased CSO discharges from its combined sewer system played a dominant part in the reopening of 1,500 acres of Dyes Inlet to shell fishing in November 2003. More recently, the City's CSO reduction efforts have gained recognition as a key component in the implementation plan to clean up waters entering Sinclair and Dyes Inlets through the implementation of the Sinclair Dyes Fecal Coliform Total Maximum Daily Load by Ecology's Water Quality Program, the City and other partners.

Ecology would particularly like to recognize the efforts of your Engineering Division and Wastewater Treatment Plant staff. They have done a commendable job in collaborating and communicating with Ecology throughout these efforts. We sincerely appreciate their work in completing the complex and daunting task of CSO control well ahead of schedule.

Thank you for your leadership. You have demonstrated the importance of CSO correction, which has already led to substantial water quality benefits for Puget Sound.

Sincerely,



Ted Sturdevant
Director

cc: Tom Knuckey, P.E., Managing Engineer – Utilities, City of Bremerton
Vincent Akhimie, CPM, P.E., Director of Public Works and Utilities, City of Bremerton
Ned Lever, P.E., Project Manager, City of Bremerton
Bill Davis, P.E., Civil Engineer II, City of Bremerton
Pat Coxon, Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager, City of Bremerton
Chance Berthiaume, Environmental Technician, City of Bremerton
Gunner Fridriksson, P.E., Civil Engineer III, City of Bremerton
Lynn Price, P.E., Project Manager, City of Bremerton
Millie Vellegas, CPA, Public Works & Utilities Financial Manager, City of Bremerton
Kathy Kelleigh, Project Assistant, City of Bremerton
OngHong Smith, Accountant, City of Bremerton

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bcc: Larry Altose
Karen Burgess
Mike Dawda
Kevin Fitzpatrick

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