

GEORGE F. WOLCOTT
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1177 JADWIN AVENUE
SUITE 101
P.O. BOX 770
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON 99352
TELEPHONE: (509) 946-3588
FAX: (509) 946-3589
E-MAIL: wolcottgs@msn.com

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
MAR 08 2010
WATER QUALITY PROGRAM

March 5, 2010

Mr. Jon Jennings
Mosquito Control
Permit Comments
Washington State
Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504

RE: Proposed Regulations to Protect Water

Dear Mr. Jennings:

For a number of years I was a trustee for the Benton County Mosquito District. At that time I lived within 500 feet of the Yakima River and owned and operated a cherry and apple orchard. I now live within 200 feet of the Yakima River in Prosser, Washington. Thousands of people live within 300 feet of the Yakima River in eastern Yakima County and Benton County, the jurisdiction of the Benton County Mosquito District.

As a trustee I was continually advised by residents in the jurisdiction that because of the great job the Mosquito District was doing in controlling mosquitoes the residents were able to finally enjoy their yards, particularly in the evenings. Even now my neighbors in Prosser tell me how much they enjoy their yards and activities therein because of the absence of mosquitoes and the actions of the Mosquito Control District.

I am aware that the chemicals used by the Mosquito District are slightly more effective than warm spit. The chemicals are not even in the same league with chemicals orchardists use throughout the State of Washington, including orchards abutting most of the rivers throughout the state.

Mr. Jon Jennings
March 5, 2010
Page Two

Please send me copies of federal laws and court cases requiring the Department of Ecology to prohibit the use of the chemicals currently utilized by the Benton County Mosquito District. Please consider this request an official "Request for Public Information". If you prefer send me an appropriate application and I will immediately execute and return it to you.

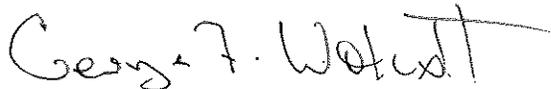
I want you and your Department to know that I strongly disagree with any attempt by your Department to prohibit the Benton County Mosquito District from using its current chemicals in its effort to control mosquitoes throughout its jurisdiction.

I am aware of the many people that have been infected with the West Nile virus, including nine in Benton County, Washington. Further, many horses were infected and many died or had to be euthanized, and I learned in a major seminar conducted by mosquito districts in California and from speakers from the University of California at Davis that the horses that survived the West Nile virus more likely than not were never thereafter fit animals.

For your information the precipitating cause of the Benton County Mosquito District being formed in, I believe, the 1960s was the deaths of two young girls killed by encephalitis or meningitis, I am not sure which.

Again, your Department should not try to prevent the Benton County Mosquito District from using its current chemicals to control mosquitoes in its jurisdiction.

Very truly yours,



GEORGE F. WOLCOTT
GFW/sw

e-mail: wolcottgs@msn.com
e-mail: jonathan.jennings@ecy.wa.gov
e-mail: mdupler@tricityherald.com
e-mail: editor@recordbulletin.com