

From: Dick French [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, July 08, 2012 9:32 AM
To: Wessel, Ann (ECY)
Subject: This is an official comment

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Dear Ms. Wessel,

A number of major limits on water usage in our area are being proposed by DOE.

These limits will probably decrease land values, lower the business-generated and real estate-related tax bases, and, very likely, result in lawsuits over what could be construed as a government "taking" of land. They will deprive citizens of the right to use their land.

DOE's scientists seem to assert that there is a hydrological connectivity between aquifers and the waters flowing in streams and rivers and 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. All this when the Dungeness Valley has been decreasing water usage for the past several years.

DOE's economist, Mr. Hoff, indicated that the probable costs of implementing the rule far out-weighed the potential benefits upon implementation. Shortly after Mr. Hoff voiced his concerns, he was relieved of his duties and transferred elsewhere in the department. Something smells bad here.

I request that you delay the implementation of these rules until such time as you can convince the affected population - as well as our elected representatives - that these rules are logical, lawful, and beneficial by means of a thorough, independently performed economic study.

Thank you for your attention.

Signed

**Richard and Martha French
Taxpayers
Sequim, WA**