

Stillaguamish River Clean Water District Advisory Board

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June 29, 2015

Dr. Gary Goldbaum, Public Health Officer
Snohomish Health District
3020 Rucker Avenue
Everett, WA 98201

Dear Dr. Goldbaum,

The Stillaguamish River Clean Water District (CWD) Advisory Board (the Board) values the contribution made by the Snohomish County Health District (SHD) in the CWD, including investigation of on-site septic system (OSS) complaints, correction of failures, and design review of proposed repairs. We offer the following recommendations and comments for consideration in the SHD 2016 work plan.

Sanitarian FTE – The Board seeks a resumption of SHD representation on the Board, which proved to be a great help to our OSS program. The County's Savvy Septic program, launched this year county wide, would also benefit from your expertise. To enable the aforementioned services, the Board has recommended that Snohomish County Surface Water Management (SWM) allocate \$100,000 annually to SHD for a sanitarian FTE, with \$50,000 coming from the CWD, matched by funding from the Snohomish and South County Watershed Management Areas. **The Board recommends** continued discussions with SWM to establish such an agreement.

Inter-Agency Coordination – The Board commends your solid waste staff for their effort to deal with the horse stall waste pile between Silvana Terrace Rd and Happy Hollow Rd. Such piles have become an increasing problem, impacting water quality. **The Board recommends** that you join with the Snohomish Conservation District, Washington Department of Ecology, and SWM to develop an effective, multi-agency procedure for regulatory compliance and clean-up.

The Board requests the inclusion of "Collaborator" in the envisioned roles for the district programs and services for Environmental Health Services. **We also request** the addition of a statement similar to the one found in Healthy Starts: "Work to build capacity within the community and partner with agencies to jointly offer programs" to emphasize the need for collaboration.

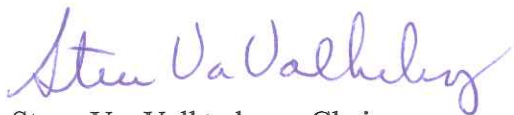
Pollution Identification and Correction (PIC) – SHD participation in PIC activities has contributed significantly to the program. To aid future efforts, **the Board urges** resumption of your participation.

Local Integrating Organization (LIO) – **The Board requests** SHD resume representation on the Puget Sound Partnership’s Snohomish-Stillaguamish LIO to facilitate the SHD environmental health services foundational guidelines for water, wastewater, solid waste/toxics, and septic/land use. Your involvement would help to “identify priorities and potential strategic directions” by exploring the role SHD can have with community partners in this recovery effort.

Municipal Funding for the Health District – The towns and cities of Snohomish County benefit from the services of the Snohomish Health District. However, these entities do not currently contribute financial support for the services received. **The Board endorses** establishment of a more inclusive fee structure.

Thank you for considering our recommendations. The Board would appreciate confirmation that our recommendations have been received and a written response.

Respectfully submitted,



Steve VanValkenburg, Chair



Dale Shelton, Vice Chair

cc: Pete Mayer, Deputy Director of Snohomish Health District
Sam Low, Board of Health 2015 Chair
Ken Klein, Board of Health 2015 Vice Chair
Kevin Plemel, Environmental Health Manager
Greg Farris, Interim Co-Director of SWM
Karen Kerwin, Interim Co-Director of SWM