



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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September 14, 2020

The Honorable JW Foster, Mayor
City of Yelm
106 2nd Street SE
Yelm, WA 98597

Re: 2020 Inspection, Yelm Water Reclamation Facility, NPDES WA0040762

Dear Mayor Foster:

On June 24, 2020, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) conducted an inspection of the Yelm Water Reclamation Facility and Cochrane Memorial Park. We have enclosed a copy of our inspection report for your records, and would like to express our thanks to Bill VanBuskirk and Jeremy Campeau for the courtesy extended during the inspection.

The water reclamation facility seemed to be well operated and maintained at the time of our inspection. Cochrane Memorial Park also appeared to be well maintained, though public works staff outlined several planned improvement projects that should further enhance this amenity after completion. We appreciate the City's efforts and attention in caring for these facilities.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, or if I can be of any service to you, please contact me directly by email at steven.ogle@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 407-6319.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve M. Ogle".

Steve M. Ogle, P.E.
Small Communities Engineer
Southwest Regional Office
Water Quality Program

Enclosure: Inspection Report

cc: Cody Colt, Yelm Public Works Director
Bill VanBuskirk, Operations Manager
Jeremy Campeau, Lead Operator
Permit File, Yelm Water Reclamation Facility

inspector observed that all unit processes appeared to be well operated and maintained, and found Bill and Jeremy to be very knowledgeable about plant operations and regulatory requirements.

After a break for lunch, Ecology's inspector returned to the WRF and met with Jeremy in the laboratory. The lab was neat and organized at the time of the inspection. The lab book was observed to be complete, up to date, and in accordance with Ecology requirements.

Following the lab inspection, Ecology's inspector rejoined Public Works staff and met with consultants from Parametrix (Brian Bunker and Doug Berschauer), who have been retained to complete design of a new membrane bioreactor (MBR) system to replace the current SBR system. After some discussion of the new MBR system, the group toured the solids handling facilities and discussed several improvements that the City would like to pursue. Finally, the group inspected an existing but unused septage unloading station that the City would like to refurbish and bring online in conjunction with the MBR upgrade and solids handling improvement projects. After a discussion of various options for improving the septage station, the group adjourned.

Following a brief inspection closeout discussion with Bill and Jeremy in the lab, Ecology's inspector departed the site around 4:00 PM.

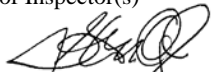
Verify Latitude and Longitude

N/A

Announced
 Unannounced

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s)

Steve Ogle, P.E.



Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers

Ecology/SWRO (360) 407-6319

Date

09/14/20

Signature of Management QA Reviewer

Andrew Kolosseus



Agency/Office/Phone and Fax numbers

Ecology/SWRO (360) 407-6271

Date

09/14/20