



SPRINGFIELD UTILITY BOARD

WATER SERVICE CENTER 202 South 18th Street Springfield, OR 97477-5240 Tel 541.726.2396 Fax 541.747.7348 [www.subutil.com](http://www.subutil.com)

March 21, 2011

Andrea Matzke  
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality  
Water Quality Division  
811 SW 6th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

**Re: Revised Water Quality Standards for Human Health Toxic Pollutants and Revised Water Quality Standards Implementation Policies**

Dear Ms. Matzke,

The Springfield Utility Board (SUB) fully supports DEQ's effort to revise and strengthen human health water quality standards for toxic pollutants. SUB provides drinking water to approximately 56,000 customers. We draw a portion of Springfield's drinking water supply from the Middle Fork Willamette River. Our treatment process, which combines slow sand filtration and UV light, does a superb job of treating biologic contaminants; but it is not designed to remove chemical contaminants. SUB and its many partners in the Middle Fork Willamette Watershed rely on sound watershed protection to prevent harmful chemicals from contaminating our source water.

The pollutants listed in Table 40 include many, such as chlorinated solvents, that are known drinking water contaminants. Reducing the allowable concentrations of those pollutants will assist drinking water protection efforts for SUB and other public water systems throughout the state. Likewise, clarifying the water quality obligations of the Oregon Department of Agriculture and Oregon Department of Forestry will aid those public water systems whose source water areas include forest and agricultural lands.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions about SUB's drinking water protection program or our interest in the rulemaking process, please feel free to contact Amy Chinitz, SUB's Water Quality Protection Coordinator, at 541-744-3745 or [amyc@subutil.com](mailto:amyc@subutil.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tamara Johnson', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Tamara Johnson, P.E.  
Director, Water Engineering & Operations

cc: Dave Embleton, Water Quality Program Manager, SUB