

3/15/11

DEQ

MAR 21 2011

Water Quality

Dear Andrea Matzke,

I am writing you today to express

& many other Oregonians, concern regarding the proposed revisions to Oregon's water quality standards.

I encourage you to support the new, healthier standards for fish consumption, but we need more stringent standards to lower the current use of pesticides in our fish & water.

The following points are also supported by Columbia River keepers:

- 1) It is imperative that we adopt accurate toxics standards.
- 2) The DEQ must adopt toxic standards for current-use pesticides. We need the DEQ to include glyphosate, atrazine, 2,4-D, Triclopyr & other herbicides that are known toxins causing a toxic burden to our environment.
- 3) The DEQ should adopt toxic standards based on the accurate fish consumption of 175 grams per day.
- 4) DEQ's analysis & the state's process for issuing pollution discharge permit does not support opponents' claims that the proposed standards are unworkable in NPDES permits.
- 5) DEQ should not make variances easier to obtain for water quality standards that are not becoming more stringent.
- 6) The proposed "Background Pollutant Concentration Allowance" does not square with the Clean Water Act.
- 7) The EAC should not delay adopting the proposed toxics standards.
- 8) Oregon's commitment to reducing toxics is compromised by DEQ's decision to exempt storm water permits from complying with the new standards.

Thank you for your time & consideration

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