

Walter E. Reim
90241 Greenwood Drive
Leaburg, Oregon 97489

January 29, 2011

Andrea Matzke
Oregon DEQ, Water Quality Division
Portland, OR 97204

Via Email to: ToxicsRuleMaking@deq.state.or.us

Dear Ms Matzke:

I am writing to you to request that DEQ reject any and all rule changes related to toxin level restrictions in the water supply associated with anticipated fish consumption of 175 grams per day. This consumption rate may be realistic for the Umatilla Tribe, on which this rate appears to have been based (first paragraph, page 4 of EPA's letter dated June 1, 2010), but it is entirely unrealistic to apply this rate to the population in general. If DEQ's goal is to establish water quality standards for specific ethnic groups and geographic locations, then so be it. However those standards cannot and should not be applied for the population in general. From what I have been able to determine the recommended daily fish/seafood consumption is approximately one to two, two to three ounce portions per person per week. Two, three ounce portions is 6 ounces per week or slightly more than the 17.5 g/day originally proposed by DEQ.

I believe the EPA is totally out of line with this proposal and would like to know what the consumption rates are in other parts of the nation. Another mitigating factor in applying this standard is that most of the fish consumed by the general public comes from the grocery store. Who knows where it originated, and what the toxicity level of the water is where it was raised.

Please accept this letter as my objection to this proposed rule change.

Sincerely,



Walter E. Reim

cc: Representative Phil Banhart
Senator Lee Beyer
Nadine Scott