UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF
WATER AND
WATERSHEDS

NOV 21 2012

Mr. Jim Bellatty
Washington State Department of Ecology
Eastern Regional Office
4601 North Monroe Street
Spokane, Washington 99205-1295

Re: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Nos. ID-002285-3, City of Coeur d'Alene Wastewater Facility, ID-002585-2, City of Post Falls Water Reclamation Facility, and ID-002659-0, Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board Wastewater Treatment Plant

Dear Mr. Bellatty:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is planning to public notice draft NPDES permits for the above listed facilities, which discharge pollutants to the Spokane River in Idaho. The EPA believes these permits may affect the quality of waters of the State of Washington. Therefore, consistent with the requirements of Section 401(a)(2) of the Clean Water Act, we are providing a preliminary draft permit and fact sheet for your review prior to the public comment period. These preliminary draft permits have been updated to incorporate conditions specified by the State of Idaho in its draft Clean Water Act Section 401 certifications of the permits. The draft permits also propose to require the permittees to participate in the Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force.

Please return your comments by e-mail to Brian Nickel, of my staff, at Nickel.Brian@epa.gov by the close of business on Friday, December 14th. The enclosed documents are not available to the general public yet. Therefore, please do not release them to external parties until the formal public comment period is in effect. Also, because the Department of Ecology may also submit comments on the draft permits during the public comment period, we request that your comments focus on significant concerns that the Department may have with the draft permits as written. Prior to the public comment period, you will receive notice via letter.

We hope this early consultation will prove helpful. If you have any questions or concerns about the permit or permitting process, please contact Brian Nickel, of my staff, at (206) 553-6251 or Nickel.Brian@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Karen Burgess for

Michael J. Lidgard, Manager
NPDES Permits Unit

Enclosures

cc: Mr. David Moore, Ecology Eastern Regional Office
Ms. Diana Washington, Ecology Eastern Regional Office
Ms. Adriane Borgias, Ecology Eastern Regional Office
Mr. Daniel Redline, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Coeur d'Alene Regional Office