Message

From: Pirzadeh, Michelle [Pirzadeh.Michelle@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/7/2019 7:39:51 PM
To: Hladick, Christopher [hladick.christopher@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: MEDIA INQUIRY - Seattle Times/NW Public Radio - EPA Request to Withdraw 401 Cert request for 9 Columbia River Dam permits

Michelle L. Pirzadeh
Deputy Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
Office: (206) 553-1234
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Fax: (206) 553-1809

From: Pirzadeh, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, February 07, 2019 8:48 AM
To: Holsman, Marianne <Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: MEDIA INQUIRY - Seattle Times/NW Public Radio - EPA Request to Withdraw 401 Cert request for 9 Columbia River Dam permits

Ok, worth a try.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 7, 2019, at 8:19 AM, Holsman, Marianne <Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov> wrote:

> Here's what is approved from Anna. Will ask Lynda to update her story with this if you say the word...and, we have another query from Oregon Public Broadcasting which we can respond to with this...
>
> Marianne
>
> *Follow us on Twitter! @EPAnorthwest*
> *Like us on Facebook! @eparegion10*
>
> **From:** Dennis, Allison
> **Sent:** Thursday, February 07, 2019 5:55 AM
> **To:** MacIntyre, Mark <Macintyre.Mark@epa.gov>; Holsman, Marianne <Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov>
> **Cc:** Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>; Opalski, Dan <Opalski.Dan@epa.gov>
> **Subject:** Fwd: MEDIA INQUIRY - Seattle Times/NW Public Radio - EPA Request to Withdraw 401 Cert request for 9 Columbia River Dam permits
>
> Anna is fine with the proposed response :
>
> "EPA has determined that the preliminary draft permits for which we had requested water quality certification need additional internal review. Therefore,

we have withdrawn our requests for water quality certification at this time. We fully intend to reinitiate our requests for water quality certification after we have completed our internal review and updated the preliminary draft permits, as appropriate."

From: MacIntyre, Mark
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 9:40 PM
To: Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov>
Cc: Opalski, Dan <Opalski.Dan@epa.gov>; Holsman, Marianne <Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: MEDIA INQUIRY - Seattle Times/NW Public Radio - EPA Request to Withdraw 401 Cert request for 9 Columbia River Dam permits

Andrea: For clarity: Dan, at Chris Hladick's suggestion, reached out to Anna with the draft statement below for responding to requests for the documents.

He kindly crafted the shorter version this afternoon when our phone started wringing with reporter questions...Anna has not seen that one. My mischaracterization! MM

"Thank you for your request to receive the permits referenced in Ecology's 1/30/19 public notice. The permits in Ecology's public notice are not public draft permits, but pre-draft permits sent to Ecology for their consideration in developing their 401 certification. We are still developing the permits with new information and will also factor in any proposed 401 certification conditions we receive from certification authorities before making a draft permit available for public comment. The timing of public comment is uncertain at this time, but we will provide sufficient time for review and comment on the public comment draft when it is released. If you would like your name to be added to our public notification list, I would be happy to do so. Note that the EPA also withdrew its request to Ecology for 401 certification on Friday, 2/1/19, so we are currently not requesting certification from Ecology or other 401 certification authorities. If you would like more information, please feel free to contact me."

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 6, 2019, at 5:44 PM, Drinkard, Andrea <Drinkard.Andrea@epa.gov> wrote:

> Got it. Thanks.
>
> On Feb 6, 2019, at 8:41 PM, MacIntyre, Mark <Macintyre.Mark@epa.gov> wrote:

Dan Opalski, Our Water Director.

MM

From: Drinkard, Andrea
Sent: Wednesday, February 6, 2019 5:41 PM
To: Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>
Cc: Holsman, Marianne <Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov>; MacIntyre, Mark <Macintyre.Mark@epa.gov>; Press <Press@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: MEDIA INQUIRY - Seattle Times/NW Public Radio - EPA Request to Withdraw 401 Cert request for 9 Columbia River Dam permits

I'll flag again for awareness.

For context, who emailed it to Anna? I want to mention it when I touch base with her.

On Feb 6, 2019, at 8:29 PM, Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov> wrote:

> Looping Andrea
>
> Sent from my iPhone
>
> On Feb 6, 2019, at 7:25 PM, Holsman, Marianne <Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov> wrote:
>
> > Nancy, call me if you need some background on this. We do need the water folks to sign off...thanks. This is the same issue we had the major Seattle Times story on last week...
> >
> > Marianne

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From: MacIntyre, Mark
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 4:14 PM
To: Grantham, Nancy <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>
Cc: Press <Press@epa.gov>; Holsman, Marianne <Holsman.Marianne@epa.gov>
Subject: MEDIA INQUIRY - Seattle Times/NW Public Radio - EPA Request to Withdraw 401 Cert request for 9 Columbia River Dam permits

Nancy: We have submitted this for Anna Wildman's(OW) review, but have not gotten a response yet.

Who took the call/e-mail: Mark MacIntyre/206-553-7302

Date and Time: 05-06-19 2:30 pm(PST)

Media Outlet: Seattle Times/NW Public Radio

Reporter (include phone number and/or e-mail): Lynda Mapes/206-464-2515
Courtney Flatt NWPR/509-372-7404

Topic: EPA request to withdraw requests to the Washington Department of Ecology for 401 certification

Reporter Question: Seattle Times: Why did EPA withdraw its request for 401 certification from the Department of Ecology on draft NPDS permits for the nine federal dams on the Columbia and Snake Rivers?

When is EPA sending the permits to Ecology again for certification?

NWPR: I'm looking into the EPA's recent withdrawal its 401 certification request from the Washington Department of Ecology. Would anyone at EPA be

able to speak to me about this? I'm curious about the reasons for withdrawal and what this means going forward, etc.

Deadline: 2/6/19 COB

Proposed Action/Outcome: Our proposed response:

"EPA has determined that the preliminary draft permits for which we had requested water quality certification need additional internal review. Therefore, we have withdrawn our requests for water quality certification at this time. We fully intend to reinitiate our requests for water quality certification after we have completed our internal review and updated the preliminary draft permits, as appropriate."

Status: (Open/Closed/Pending): OPEN (engaging HQ)

Mark A. MacIntyre

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