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CLARK COUNTY
WASHINGTON

NEWS RELEASE

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County department cited for stormwater discharge violation

Vancouver -- The state Department of Ecology has issued a \$2,000 civil penalty to the Clark County Public Works Department for violating technical requirements of a stormwater discharge permit at the Salmon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, county officials announced today.

This penalty applied only to stormwater management procedures at the site. Discharge of treated sewage effluent continues to comply with a separate state permit.

Ecology issued the penalty April 23 after a state inspector found the county failed to follow routine monitoring and recordkeeping requirements in the state permit. The county also did not keep the plant's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan up to date, according to the state environmental agency.

The county-operated treatment plant previously had an excellent permit compliance record, according to Public Works Deputy Director Kevin Gray. "No excuses. We share Ecology's commitment to proper stormwater management. We failed to do what we should do to keep our records accurate and our plan up to date. We are correcting these deficiencies immediately," he said. The county will pay the penalty and waive the right to appeal, Gray added.

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