

January 23, 2006

EPA Coordinator
Martha Lentz
Office of Environmental Assessment
EPA, Region 10 (OEA-095)
1200 Sixth Ave.
Seattle, WA 98101
e-mail: lentz.martha@epa.gov

Re: Sole Source Aquifer petition to the EPA for the Troutdale and
Unconsolidated Alluvium Aquifer System

Dear Ms. Lentz,

Groundwater protection is paramount to ensure our vital sole water source for our Southwest Washington citizens. Our stewardship of the surface reflects the quality of water out our faucet. With the numerous contaminated sites around Clark County, the current residents and future residents, a multi-layered and multi-pronged water quality partnership must remain our focus.

It is not enough to just inform us about the existing quality and safety of our drinking water, EPA regulations should protect our land from potential contaminants before they enter the pathway to exposure.

I am pleased, agree with and support a group of citizens that see that more protection is needed. Perhaps other laws are in place to review future projects, but none giving exclusive full review of groundwater impacts specific to an area that relies entirely on one aquifer for over 300,000 citizens and growing. With clean water becoming harder to come by, this petition is a step in the right direction.

Thank you Ms. Lentz for all you effort with this project. Thank you to the petitioners for your well organized, well referenced, and your insight of clean water for all. I am also pleased that the Native Cowlitz Indian Tribe is helping to ensure we all work toward sustainable resources.

Sincerely,

Christine Sutherland

Vancouver resident and concerned citizen