



## King County

### Kurt Triplett

King County Executive

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800  
Seattle, WA 98104-1818

**206-263-9600** Fax 206-296-0194

TTY Relay: 711

[www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov)

June 29, 2009

Dave Christensen, Vice-Chair  
Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee  
King Street Center  
201 S. Jackson St., MS KSC-NR-0512  
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mr. Christensen:

Thank you for your letter dated May 28, 2009, regarding the Draft Feasibility Study of the Lower Duwamish Waterway (LDW) released in April 2009. The LDW is a regional asset and its cleanup has clear benefits for your membership. I appreciate your support of the adaptive management approach as I believe this type of approach will maximize the impact of funds spent on the cleanup of the (LDW) Superfund site. I also agree with your recommendation that the Washington State Department of Ecology should move forward with its source control program to reduce contaminants in the (LDW) before further remedial activities occur. Control of upland sources of pollution will enhance the impact of any further remedial action.

As your letter notes, the cost of the cleanup alternatives discussed in the draft feasibility study vary widely. I recognize there are several divisions within King County that may have potential liability and, therefore, bear some of the cost of the cleanup. There are several steps before liability is actually apportioned among the responsible parties. I share your concern that the cost of the cleanup will affect the cost of regional wastewater services. As we move forward with the cleanup effort, it will be important that the cleanup costs borne by King County are funded by the various county divisions proportionate to that division's liability.

Stakeholder input will be extremely valuable in both the selection of a cleanup alternative and the county's development of a funding plan. I look forward to your continued involvement, as a stakeholder, in our efforts to fund the cleanup of the LDW.

Sincerely,

Kurt Triplett  
King County Executive

Dave Christensen

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cc: King County Council Members

Attn: Tom Bristow, Interim Chief of Staff  
Saroja Reddy, Policy Staff Director  
Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council  
Frank Abe, Communications Director

Regional Water Quality Committee Members

Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee Members

Theresa Jennings, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

Harold S. Taniguchi, Director, Department of Transportation

Christie True, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP