

[The following testimony is a transcription of oral testimony recorded on November 13, 2017, at the webinar hearing for proposed Chapter 173-228 WAC – Vessel Sewage No Discharge Zone. The testimony was transcribed by Dept. of Ecology staff. The original audio file of this testimony is part of the rule file (Administrative Order #17-02).]

**Verner Wilson:**

Hi, my name is Verner Wilson and I am senior oceans campaigner for Friends of the Earth, based in Seattle.

As a resident of Eastlake Union, I fully support making Puget Sound, and bodies like Lake Union, a No Discharge Zone. Some of my favorite times with friends were on Lakes Union, Washington, and in Puget Sound. We love going swimming here, and so want to insure the waters are not polluted by discharges.

It is a reasonable proposal that helps not only human health, but also to help the marine wildlife including endangered stocks of wild Pacific salmon and orcas. And as a commercial sport and subsistence fisherman, and someone who is also a seafood connoisseur, I appreciate that this proposal also helps the local seafood industry and consumers such as the shellfish community. As a [garbled audio connection\*] born and raised in Alaska, whose family still lives there, the [garbled audio connection\*] depends on goods shipped out of [garbled audio recording\*] area, I know my family [garbled audio connection\*] want the waters that help them get their goods to have the proper protections, like a No Discharge Zone. Finally, as a Native American, my Tribe, like many others, wants to help protect the land and waters as part of our cultural values.

So, I support this proposed No Discharge Zone for Puget Sound. Thanks for all of your hard work on this.

*\*Ecology reached out to Mr. Wilson requesting clarification on the portions of recorded oral testimony which were unintelligible, but did not receive a response.*