

[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).]

Robert Clausen:

Hi, it's Robert Clausen again.

While I fully support the, you know, the whole intent here, and I think that getting us to a point where we're a full No Discharge Zone, I have to point out that if one is to try to sail in the San Juan Islands for a multiple day cruise with multiple people on board, most recreational vessels only have a holding capacity that will let you go for about two days. And the number of pumpout stations there is not really adequate for you to plan anything other than how to get between pumpout stations, if that's where you're sailing. So I think the enforcement should be lax until further pumpout stations are built.

I think that awareness is a great thing to have. I think that most boaters are, in fact, trying to be as compliant as possible with this. So that, you know, it's one thing to give a, you know, a grace period for commercial vessels. I think that in certain areas recreational vessels will need that as well.

Thank you.