

# CPM DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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March 20, 2018

Department of Ecology  
Attn: Mr. Kyle Dorsey  
Waste to Resources Program  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Subject: Comments on Ecology's preliminary Draft Solid Waste Rules WAC 173-350

Dear Mr. Dorsey,

CPM Development Corp. is submitting the following comments on the recent changes to the Solid Waste Rules. Overall, CPM views the majority of the changes in a positive light and is happy that Ecology took the time to work with stakeholders to reach the current rule.

## Definitions:

- "Cured Concrete – means concrete which has been produced from design mixtures specified to produce a 28-day unconfined compressive strength of no less than 1200 pounds per square inch, formed into structural elements, and allowed to harden." For the purposes of solid waste handling in inert waste landfill ... cementitious materials are not considered to be cured concrete." This proposed definition imposes standards that are completely devoid of science. The 28-day curing timeline has been arbitrarily selected by DOE and applied to what can be considered "cured concrete." This time period relates to the ASTM method for testing compressive strength, is has nothing to do with concrete's ability to be crushed and recycled, nor any impact(s) to the environment. The same is true with DOE's selection of 1200 psi. Concrete that has a compressive strength of less than 1200 psi fully cures and has a marketable value. The second draft includes a revision that partially resolves the concern for recycling off-spec concrete, but this requires a case-by-case determination by the "solid waste permitting agency". This provision is highly subjective and will likely lead to increased quantities of materials being sent to solid waste landfills. The draft also adds a provision that concrete must be "formed into structural elements" in order to be considered cured. This too is highly ambiguous and unnecessary. Does a hardened pile of concrete fit the definition of "formed into structural elements," or does concrete literally have to be "formed" to be considered a cured material? The agency needs to reconsider the definition and CPM suggests the definition includes
- Clean Soil - The agency has chosen to define clean to include a pH range of 4.5 to 9.5 for soils which may contain a constituent that could affect pH. This is an unrealistic standard.
  - Many soils naturally occur up to a pH of 10.0 and the standard for impacted soils should mimic the pH found in nature
  - Composted soils are allowed a pH range of 5 to 10 (see page 41). A composted soil is an amalgamation of many raw materials which may impact the pH of the soil. Ultimately, composted soils are typically placed



Central Pre-Mix  
Concrete Co.



Central Washington  
Concrete



Columbia  
Asphalt



Columbia  
Ready Mix



Eugene Sand  
Construction



Eugene Sand  
& Gravel



Green & White  
Rock Products



Helena Sand  
& Gravel



ICON Materials



Inland Asphalt Co.



Interstate Concrete  
& Asphalt



River Bend  
Sand & Gravel



Salem Road  
& Driveway



Wenatchee Sand  
and Gravel

at the ground surface and are exposed to precipitation and runoff. It seems contrary to allow composted soils to have an upper pH limit of 10.0, when otherwise the clean soil definition only allows a pH of 9.5

**Waste Tires:** CPM asks that Ecology revise the definition to clarify the intent. It is confusing at this time. Additionally, CPM requests an exemption of sorts for large tires being stored at facilities and are handled in such a way that they are not considered waste tires. Several heavy equipment tires could exceed the 8 tons limit and CPM is asking for clarification.

**Piles Rules:** CPM supports the inclusion in Table 320a (4) for an exemption for facilities covered by Ecology's Sand and Gravel General Permit.

Sincerely,

CPM Development Corp.



Jana McDonald, PE  
Environmental Engineer