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**Subject:** Response to additional questions from Sept. 22 Webinar  
**Date:** Monday, September 28, 2020 11:05:43 AM

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Dear Warren U. Lehrenbaum,

I wanted to reach out with responses to the two questions you posted during the Q&A session of the September 22<sup>nd</sup> PFAS AA Webinar. It is Ecology's practice to respond to all questions that are posted during the Q&A, and it was an oversight on our part that these two questions were not read on Tuesday. I apologize on behalf of the team. Since these questions were not responded to during the webinar, we will be posting them and these responses on our e-comment site, so that they are publicly available.

**1. Aren't we supposed to avoid "advocacy" during these meetings???**

Ecology's purpose is to provide a technical report to the legislature that assesses whether there are alternatives to PFAS in specific food packaging applications that meet the criteria established in the statute (now codified at [RCW 70A.222.070](#)). The webinars are an opportunity for interested stakeholders to ask questions of and share feedback with Ecology on topics pertaining to the PFAS in food packaging alternatives assessment. It is Ecology's practice to respond to all questions submitted during our webinar Q&A sessions.

**2. Will is Ecology not releasing the AA simultaneous with peer review. Even if Ecology decides not to accept comments, why shouldn't stakeholders have an opportunity to see the AA? Why keep it secret?**

The AA is still undergoing the mandatory peer review process and is still in draft form, meaning the document is still undergoing deliberative reviews and our conclusions may change prior to submitting the report to the legislature. The full AA will be published simultaneously with the report to the legislature, which will include the peer review comments and Ecology's response to those comments.

If you would like to discuss these or other questions further, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Best,  
Rae Eaton

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