

Patty Gates

My comments are regarding Rulemaking - PCB Variances on the Spokane River, Chapter 173-201A WAC -

I stand firmly against the issuance of a variance to polluters into the Spokane River. By its very nature a variance goes against the current laws enacted by our state and local governments as well as the National Clean Water Act of 1972. There has NEVER been a variance for toxic PCB's in the United States. Is this the legacy that must be attached to our iconic river? I have watched the presence of agencies, businesses and their highly paid consultants on the Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force using their money and power in an attempt override the will of the people. The aiding and abetting schemes that circumvent the limits of current laws would be a stain on the progress that has been made over the last 4 decades. We need you to build a REAL plan, a TMDL that will mandate a pollution diet with limits on PCB toxics being dumped into our river. Do the right thing and exert the authority which has been given to you by our democratic process to provide the results that the public want and deserve.