

Michael Van Dyke

Hello,

I am a pediatrician in Spokane WA and I'm commenting on the proposed rulemaking changes to amend chapter 173 201A. I want to let you know that improving the health of our Spokane River is vital to our children's health. Clean water, free of pollutants is essential. We have come a long way and now is not the time to approve variances that will prolong polluting practices. The health of our river ecosystem deserves better. Please do not make it easier for pollutants to enter the river. And please work to decrease current pollution in the river.

Some suggestions:

Consider a Total Maximum Daily (pollution) Load. This can restrict pollution dischargers to pollution limits for the entire river.

Consider using and sticking to 10 year compliance schedules to force polluters to clean their pollution up.

Ensure PMP's are not vague and that specifics when added are followed up on.

Finally, increase the reporting and accountability inside the variances. Every discharger should be mandated to finding and reporting-on the latest, developing technology to destroy toxics in their pollution discharge.

Thank you for all your hard work for our wonderful Spokane River and the people of Washington State.

Sincerely,

Michael Van Dyke DO
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