

Isenhower Cellars

I was a member of the Winery Technical Group that worked with DOE to establish the initial Winery Draft General Permit. To my knowledge, DOE has not reported back to wineries about what their studies and findings are concerning the winery wastewater samples that have been collected and analyzed.

DOE has had five years to collect information about winery wastewater's impact on the environment. Before DOE reinstates the regulations, perhaps DOE should present to the winery industry what knowledge it has obtained about winery wastewater's impact on the environment. Perhaps best practices can be shared with all stakeholders.

The Washington Wine industry is entering a 10-year period of contraction and consolidation while regulations and costs continue to increase unabated. I suggest DOE present to the industry its findings and justify the need for further regulation of the wine industry.