

LETTER 12 (LOG # A015)

Dept. of Ecology, SW Regional Office, Water Quality



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47775 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7775 • (360) 407-6300

July 7, 2006

Mr. Stanley Speaks, Regional Director
Northwest Region, Bureau of Indian Affairs
911 Northeast 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97232

Dear Mr. Speaks:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the environmental impact statement for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Trust Acquisition and Casino project, located in Clark County as proposed by the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) reviewed the environmental checklist and has the following comment(s):

WATER QUALITY: Deb Cornett (360) 407-7269

One potential area of concern is the use of the Clark County code to develop stormwater management facilities. The County uses the 1992 manual, instead of the 2005 manual. The Tribe states that they will meet the county code in the Draft EIS. This means that the proposed stormwater management system may not meet current standards. Because the new Phase I permit has not been issued yet, and has a one year grace period as well, the casino's stormwater management system may be built to standards that are out of date.

This seems to be a large facility, and it would be good if it could be designed to the current standards of knowledge and technology.

Ecology's comments are based upon the information provided with the SEPA checklist. As such, they do not constitute an exhaustive list of the various authorizations that must be obtained or legal requirements that must be fulfilled in order to carry out the proposed action.

If you have any questions or would like to respond to these comments please contact the appropriate reviewing staff listed above.

Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office

(DN: 06-2855)

cc: Deb Cornett, WQ

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
NORTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

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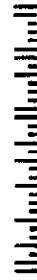




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 DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
 PO Box 47775
 Olympia, WA 98504-7775



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MR STANLEY SPEAKS
 NORTHWEST REGION BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
 911 NORTHEAST 11TH AVENUE
 PORTLAND OR 97232

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