



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
SOUTHWEST DRINKING WATER REGIONAL OPERATIONS  
*PO Box 47823, Olympia, Washington 98504-7823*  
*TDD Relay 1-800-833-6388*

December 1, 2010

Stephanie Ray  
City of Yelm  
837 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southeast  
Olympia, Washington 98589

Subject: City of Yelm Water System, ID #99350J, Thurston County; Water System Plan,  
ODW Project #09-0602

Dear Stephanie Ray:

The Water System Plan Update (WSP) received by the Office of Drinking Water (ODW) on June 4, 2009, with revisions submitted on and July 7, 2010, and October 7, 2010, has been reviewed and in accordance with the provisions of WAC 246-290-100, is hereby **APPROVED**.

Approval of this WSP is valid as it relates to current standards outlined in WAC 246-290 revised November 1, 2010, WAC 246-293 revised September 1997, and RCW 70.116 (Municipal Water Law) effective September 2003 and is subject to the qualifications herein. Future changes in the rules and statutes may be more stringent and require facility modification or corrective action. An approved update of this WSP is required on or before December 1, 2016, unless ODW requests an update or plan amendment pursuant to WAC 246-290-100(9).

#### **APPROVED NUMBER OF CONNECTIONS**

This document includes an evaluation of the physical and legal (water right limitations) ability of this water system to provide water. Based on the analysis presented in this document, this water system demonstrates service capacity to adequately serve a total of 3308 ERUs. The limiting factor described in the approved water system plan is water rights (annual volume). The approval of this document establishes that this water system is able to serve a total of 3235 connections. This was determined as follows:



Total Water Budget (ERUs)	3308
Current Usage (ERUs)	3288
Water Available for Additional Connections (ERUs)	20
Existing Number of Connections	3215
Total Number of Service Connections if all future connections serve single-family residences:	$3215 + 20 = 3235$

Please note that this system is expected to permit additional new connections in a manner consistent with the information contained in the approved document. The approved number of service connections was calculated based on an assumption that each future connection will use water consistent with an average single family residence supplied by this system. Other types of new connections (multi-family housing, apartments, businesses, industry, parks) may use more or less water than an average single family residence.

This system is responsible for permitting the addition of new service connections in a manner consistent with the approved document. ODW expects this system will establish and maintain a process that recognizes all new connections added, and the water demands associated with each connection. The process must enable this system to maintain an accurate assessment of the remaining service capacity, expressed as equivalent residential units (ERU), so that physical capacity and water right limitations are not exceeded.

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSISTENCY**

Grant Beck, Planning Supervisor for the City of Yelm, signed the local consistency statement on June 8, 2009. Scott Longanecker of Thurston County Resource Stewardship signed the local consistency statement on July 29, 2009. This meets local government consistency requirements for WSP approval pursuant to RCW 90.03.386 and RCW 43.20.

#### **WATER RESOURCES**

Enclosed please find a copy of the Department of Ecology's (Ecology) comment letter dated August 11, 2009, regarding water rights for this system. Please work with Ecology to resolve any future water rights questions. The information presented in this WSP will be considered valid as it applies to this WSP approval. Because Ecology has jurisdiction with respect to water right determinations, ODW's approval of this WSP will not provide any guarantee and should not be considered to provide any guarantee concerning legal use of water or subsequent water rights decisions by Ecology. Depending on Ecology's future actions on this system's water rights, additional planning or other submittals may be required by ODW. Questions concerning water rights or any uncertainties or discrepancies concerning water rights issues should be directed to Ecology.

## **SERVICE AREA AND DUTY TO SERVE**

Pursuant to RCW 90.03.386 (2), the service area identified in the WSP service area map may now represent an expanded "place of use" for this system's water rights. Changes in service area should be made through a WSP amendment.

The City has a duty to provide new water service within the retail service area. This WSP includes service policies to describe how this system plans to provide new service within the retail service area.

## **CONSTRUCTION WAIVERS**

Standard Construction Specifications for distribution main extensions were approved in this WSP. Consistent with WAC 246-290-125 (2), this system may proceed with the installation of distribution main extensions provided this system completes and keeps on file the enclosed construction completion report form in accordance with WAC 246-290-125 (2) and WAC 246-290-120 (5) and makes it available for review upon request by ODW.

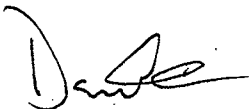
## **WATERSHED PLANNING**

Ecology has determined this WSP is "not inconsistent" with the adopted watershed plan for WRIA 11- the Nisqually Watershed.

ODW recognizes the significant effort and resource commitment involved in the preparation of this WSP. Thank you for your cooperation.

If you have any questions, please contact Darin Klein at (360) 236-3038 or Regina Grimm at (360) 236-3035.

Sincerely,



DARIN KLEIN  
Office of Drinking Water, Regional Planner



REGINA GRIMM, P.E.  
Office of Drinking Water, Regional Engineer

Enclosures

cc: Thurston County Health Department  
Thurston County Planning Department  
Amy Nielson, Department of Ecology  
Brad Brooks, ODW  
Cheri Paine, ODW