

Pend Oreille Clean Water Alliance

PO Box 562; Kootenai, ID 83840

May 10, 2010

Paula Wilson
DEQ State Office
1410 N. Hilton
Boise ID 83706

Dear Ms. Wilson:

We appreciate the opportunity to comment regarding DEQ's Negotiated Rulemaking Water Quality Standards 58-0102-1001, Antidegradation Implementation Procedures.

The Pend Oreille Clean Water Alliance is a newly-formed group of stakeholders in the greater Sandpoint area. The Alliance has the City of Sandpoint, the Kootenai-Ponderay Sewer District, the City of Dover, Southside Water and Sewer District and Schweitzer Mountain Utilities as members. Our Board of Directors consists of one representative from each of these five entities, plus the Tri-State Water Quality Council, the Bonner County Economic Development Council, the City of Ponderay, and (soon) a representative from the Bonner County Commission.

Our mission is to establish a regional approach to managing drinking water, wastewater and stormwater resources in an efficient and affordable manner while protecting public health and the environment in the greater Sandpoint area.

We support any efforts by IDEQ to maintain local control and meet Federal Clean Water Act requirements without further compromising the quality of surface water in the State of Idaho.

At this time we have not formulated a response, but appreciate the ability to reserve the right to comment in the future after further refinement of the draft implementation policy.

We encourage IDEQ to schedule as many meetings as practical to allow as much input as possible so a rule can be developed that will be in the best interests of the people in the State of Idaho.

Sincerely,

Tim Closson
Board Chairman