

From: Phil Lesh [mailto:brutuseh@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 13, 2009 12:12 PM
To: Mark D. McClain
Subject: Department of Ecology Moratorium

To Whom It May Concern:

I want to voice my opinion in this recent decision of the Department of Ecology to put a 120 day Moratorium on any further new water withdrawals in the Upper Kittitas County.

There is no sound scientific evidence that shows the necessity for this water emergency rule that the Department of Ecology has imposed or that the area does not have enough water to presently serve the needs of all present and future users.

The financial impact to our communities and to the state has not been considered in the decision making process, and all studies done locally indicate that it will be truly devastating to our economy.

I personally have 80 acres of property in Kittitas county which I had no plans to develop other than to build one residence. I am unable to do that now, making the land virtually worthless unless I tried to develop it into some kind of wind or solar farm.

If this ruling is not reversed, the devaluation of property values will have an enormous impact on the owners, residents and in the end to the county budget as properties will have to be reassessed at lower values.

In this very bad economy, the timing of this ruling could not have been done at a worse time.

This ruling is clearly not based on sound decision making processes and appears to have been made without concern for the welfare of the citizens and property owners of Kittitas county.

Please help in getting this moratorium reversed so I and others like myself can move forward on building our dream homes.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Phil Lesh
Land Owner