



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104-1818

206-263-9600 Fax 206-296-0194

TTY Relay: 711

www.kingcounty.gov

May 10, 2023

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

As required by Ordinance 18628, this letter transmits the first quarter 2023 report documenting the efforts taken to continue protecting water quality in our region in response to the West Point Treatment Plant (West Point) flood event that occurred on February 9, 2017.

The report provides updates on the implementation plan for the recommendations provided by AECOM. Additionally, the six corrective actions required by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) noted in the Ordinance are considered complete as of the 2018 fourth quarter report transmitted in February 2019.

The report addresses updates made since the 2022 fourth quarter (Q4) report was submitted to the Council in February 2023. In response to the first reporting requirement of implementing a life safety management system (LSM), instructor training for the updated West Point Treatment Plant Training Simulator was completed in Q1 and training for operations staff will begin in Q2 2023. LSM training focused on implementation of LSM program elements in capital projects will begin in Q2 for capital project managers and project engineers.

Fifteen operators in training (OIT) were hired in 2022, and each continued rotating job assignments among West Point, South Plant, Brightwater, and offsite facilities every three months, including three-week rotations in Maintenance and Laboratories. In Q1, recruitment began for the next OIT class that will start training in Q2.

In response to the fourth reporting requirement to evaluate and prioritize potential capital projects to increase redundancy and minimize the risk of flooding, the evaluation report was completed, and work continues on the design of a new solution to protect the plant from flooding. The project is expected to start in Q2 2023, design work in Q3 2023, and implementation is expected to be complete in Q4 2024.

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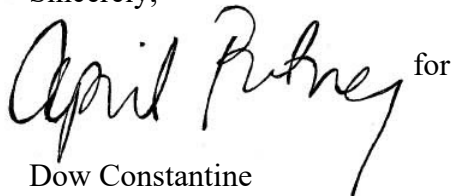
The report furthers the Strategic Climate Action Plan goal of preparing for climate change by providing information on preparing West Point to handle the effects of increasingly severe storms.

In developing the report, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks provided updates on the implementation of the recommendations in the AECOM report to the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee and the Regional Water Quality Committee.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. This report will help policymakers and the public understand how King County is improving systems at West Point and preparing to withstand or mitigate the impact of future storms.

If your staff have questions, please contact Kamuron Gurol, Division Director of the Wastewater Treatment Division of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-263-5767.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

Shannon Braddock, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Karan Gill, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Mina Hashemi, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

Kamuron Gurol, Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division, DNRP