



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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MEMORANDUM

December 6, 1983

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DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
SOUTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

TO: Richard A. Burkhalter
FROM: Shirley Prescott
SUBJECT: Sonoco, Sumner - Discharge Affect on Fecal Coliform Levels
in White and Puyallup Rivers

Because of some high fecal coliform levels showing up at some of the routine monitoring stations on the White and Puyallup Rivers, Darrel Anderson (SWDOE) requested information on fecal coliform levels in the Sonoco effluent discharge.

On November 14, 1983 Roger Stanley and I collected samples for fecal coliform analysis from Sonoco and five stations on the White and Puyallup Rivers. The results of this effort are shown below.

Fecal Coliform col/100 ml

| | |
|--|---------------|
| White River | |
| 50' Above Sonoco Outfall | 310 |
| Sonoco Products Effluent | >100,000 TNTC |
| Duplicate Samples | 110,000 |
| White River at Railroad Bridge (Below Sonoco) | 1,400 Est. |
| White River Near Sumner Bridge Behind Community Center (Below Sonoco) | 800 Est. |
| Puyallup River at Anton's Restuarant (Main Avenue East) (Above Confluence with White River | 1,100 Est. |
| Puyallup River at Meridian Street Bridge | 550 Est. |

This November 14 sampling was done during a heavy rainstorm which would obviously create a high level of non point source runoff.

Dick Burkhalter
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Darrel advised that the only known discharges to the White River (in this general area) are the Buckley STP, Enumclaw STP and the Sumner STP. Buckley and Enumclaw are a considerable distance upstream of the Sonoco discharge. The Sumner STP is downstream of our White River station at Sumner (below Sonoco). The next downstream station (Puyallup at Anton's - above confluence with the White River) shows an increase in fecal coliform which seems to indicate an impact from an unknown source.

However, based on this one time sampling effort, it appears that the Sonoco discharge is a participant in the cause of elevated fecal coliform levels in the White and Puyallup Rivers.

SP:bjw

cc: Roger Stanley, Industrial Section
Darrel Anderson, DOE, SW Region
Sonoco Correspondence File