

## Rodger Craddock

---

**From:** CAMARATA Mary <mary.camarata@state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 11, 2016 12:26 PM  
**To:** Jim Hossley; GASIK Jon; JACKSON Kate; ANDERSEN Keith; NOMURA Ranej; Rodger Craddock; NICHOLS Steve  
**Cc:** BELYEA David  
**Subject:** FW: Coos Bay - wastewater treatment Letter to the Editor

Hi Everyone,

DB Western sent an email to EPA Region 10's administrator. Karen Burgess was asked to respond to their email. Karen contacted Jon Gasik and me to discuss DB Western's concerns. Below is Karen's response to DB Western.

Thanks,  
Mary

---

**From:** Burgess, Karen [<mailto:Burgess.Karen@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 11, 2016 11:34 AM  
**To:** David Petrie; Carcia, David; McLerran, Dennis  
**Cc:** OPALSKI Dan; CAMARATA Mary  
**Subject:** RE: Coos Bay - wastewater treatment Letter to the Editor

Dear Mr. Petrie,

I am responding to your recent inquiry on behalf of all the recipients at the request of the Director (EPA, Region 10, Office of Water and Watersheds). The EPA believes the City's proposed treatment technology, including disinfection with sufficient contact time, will allow the treated discharge to comply with bacteria and/or virus NPDES permit limits based on both current and future water quality criteria. The EPA defers to state agencies and local jurisdictions regarding infrastructure decisions and will continue to coordinate with Oregon DEQ on issues related to the City of Coos Bay's wastewater treatment plant. Please feel free to contact me with your questions and concerns.

Sincerely, Karen

**KAREN BURGESS, P.E.**

*NPDES Permits Unit - State Oversight Lead  
EPA Region 10*

206-553-1644 | [Burgess.Karen@epa.gov](mailto:Burgess.Karen@epa.gov)

**From:** David Petrie [<mailto:dpetrie@cooswaterkeeper.org>]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 03, 2016 9:52 AM  
**To:** Carcia, David <[Carcia.David@epa.gov](mailto:Carcia.David@epa.gov)>; Burgess, Karen <[Burgess.Karen@epa.gov](mailto:Burgess.Karen@epa.gov)>; McLerran, Dennis <[mclerran.dennis@epa.gov](mailto:mclerran.dennis@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Coos Bay - wastewater treatment Letter to the Editor

Good morning,

Below is a LTE submitted by the person who wrote the draft EA for Coos Bay CB2.

Can someone explain why ODEQ, CH2 and city staff is advocating for the construction of a wastewater treatment plant that will not meet expected changes with EPA's NPDES criteria for recreation and oyster growing waters. In 2018 viral testing for wastewater effluent will become a requirement, granted Oregon will drag their feet for 2-3 years...but the change is coming.

David

### Councilors did what's right

I met Tom Leahy, recently resigned Coos Bay city councilman, through the sailing community several years ago. I consider him a good friend. He is a man of integrity, accountability and a dedicated public servant. His volunteer work with the Empire Boat Building Center and bringing the tall ships to Coos Bay has offered so much to so many in this community.

In the debacle surrounding the proposed construction of a new wastewater treatment plant for Coos Bay, Tom has been criticized and doubted for holding up the construction of a plant already approved. Like me, he was amazed to find out there was a better treatment process that could be used that would release less contaminants into Coos Bay than the one being proposed.

You see, two years ago I wrote a draft environmental assessment for Treatment Plant No. 2 while working for SHN Consulting Engineers under contract to the city. The Final EA used to secure federal funding through the NEPA process was largely what I wrote, minus the concerns I had drafted regarding water quality standards.

Under NEPA, alternative analysis is a very important part of the process. In writing the EA, I consulted engineers from SHN and the city to determine the proposed alternative, thinking what was proposed was the latest and greatest. Not once was a better alternative regarding water quality brought up. If it had, it would have been an alternative evaluated throughout the EA document. I relied on the engineers I worked with for presenting the best available technology in 2014. They didn't.

City Councilors Tom Leahy, Mike Vance and Fred Brick didn't shoot from the hip regarding their quest for evaluating what would ultimately be best for the water quality of Coos Bay. A lot can happen to technology in 12 years. Why would we not want to embrace it if it is a feasible option? The waters of Coos Bay should not suffer due to the negligence of proper evaluation.

Tom, Mike and Fred, your dedication, tenacity and concern for doing what's right is admired.

**Barbara Gimlin**

North Bend

--

David M. Petrie  
[dpetrie@cooswaterkeeper.org](mailto:dpetrie@cooswaterkeeper.org)  
(541) 297-7252

