



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ENTERPRISE SERVICES

1500 Jefferson Street SE, Olympia, WA 98501

June 23, 2014

Re: William D. Ruckelshaus Center

The Department of Enterprise Services has retained the neutral, university-based William D. Ruckelshaus Center to assess the issues and potential for collaboration around future management of the Capitol Lake basin. We are sending this letter in an effort to uniformly address questions related to the work that the Ruckelshaus Center will perform, including the nature of the work, the current status and anticipated timeline, and contact information for the project manager in this effort.

The Ruckelshaus Center will conduct an assessment of the issues, perspectives, and dynamics related to Capitol Lake management - and to gauge the prospects for a potential collaborative process to address those issues. This situation assessment will be a semi-structured, interview-based process to explore and better understand the issues and interests of involved parties, as well as the situation dynamics.

A situation assessment is a typical first step in exploring a potential collaborative process. It reveals useful information to inform next steps, which may or may not include a collaborative effort. The product of the assessment will be a report articulating the major issues and key parties involved, and documenting their interests and perspectives. The report will also analyze and explore the prospects for a collaborative process to address those issues. The assessment will include a list of those who were interviewed and the key themes that emerged from the interviews, but will not associate names with specific statements, in order to encourage frankness and open sharing of information.

The Ruckelshaus Center is a joint effort of Washington's two research universities – the University of Washington and Washington State University – that fosters collaborative public policy (for more information, visit www.ruckelshauscenter.wsu.edu). The Center is a neutral party that will not make recommendations on policy or management alternatives, but will advise on the *process* for resolving issues around Capitol Lake.

Interviewees will be selected by the Ruckelshaus Center according to a set of criteria designed to ensure that all major perspectives are represented. The situation assessment will be conducted according to the following approximate timeline:

- o June: background research, craft and confirm approach, develop initial list of interviewees, preliminary identification of current issues.

Ruckelshaus Center

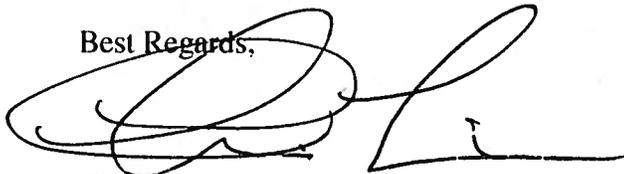
June 23, 2014

Page 2

- July, August, September, and October: assessment interviews with interested parties.
- November, December: develop draft and final report.

The project manager for the Ruckelshaus Center will be Chris Page. Chris can be reached at c.page@wsu.edu or (206) 770-6060. If you know of others who would be interested, please feel free to forward this information. Thank you for your interest in the future of Capitol Lake.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Liu', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Chris Liu
Director