



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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June 10, 2011

Ms. Karen Wood  
Eastern Regional Office, Air Quality Program  
4601 N. Monroe Street  
Spokane, WA 99205-1295

Dear Ms. Wood:

**RE: Second Tier Petition by Dell Marketing, LP. (Quincy)**

The Washington State Department of Ecology's Air Quality Program (Ecology) has completed their review of health risks from diesel engine exhaust particulate (DEEP) emissions from the proposed Dell Marketing, L.P. (Dell) Data Center in Quincy, Washington.

Ecology's review indicates that the proposed project could result in an increased cancer risk of up to five in one million ( $5 \times 10^{-6}$ ) at the maximally impacted residential location, which is an undeveloped residentially zoned property immediately to the east of Dell. Ecology's review also indicates that chronic non-cancer hazard quotient attributable to Dell's DEEP emissions is much lower than one, meaning that chronic non-cancer adverse health effects are unlikely. Because the increase in cancer risk attributable to the new data center alone is less than the maximum risk allowed by a second tier review, which is 10 in one million, and the non-cancer hazard is acceptable, the project is approvable under WAC 173-460-090.

As part of the community-wide approach in Quincy, Ecology also considered the cumulative impacts of DEEP emissions in the area. Emissions from Dell and other local sources of DEEP could result in lifetime increased cancer risk of approximately 49 in one million ( $49 \times 10^{-6}$ ) at a location directly adjacent to Microsoft Columbia Data Center's northern boundary and Dell's southeast boundary. The cumulative non-cancer hazard quotient at this location is much lower than one, meaning that non-cancer adverse health effects are unlikely. This parcel is currently not developed, and parcel information from Grant County reports this parcel's current land use as "General Trade-Merchandise". Quincy's zoning and planning map indicates that the parcel is zoned "multi-family residential".

Ecology recommends approval of the proposed project because project related health risks are permissible under WAC 173-460-090 and the cumulative risk from diesel engine exhaust



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particulate emissions in Quincy is less than the cumulative maximum risk goal established by Ecology for permitting data centers in Quincy (100 per million or  $100 \times 10^{-6}$ ). Ecology recommends that Dell be required to communicate health risks posed by Dell's emissions to current residents near Dell, and potential new homeowners at undeveloped parcels adjacent to Dell or to the local regulatory agency responsible for zoning and development in the affected area.

This project has satisfied all requirements of a second tier analysis. Ecology recommends that you incorporate our findings as part of your ambient air impacts analysis and you may begin the public comment period when you are ready to do so.

If you would like to discuss this project further, please contact David Ogulei at (360) 407-6803 or [david.ogulei@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:david.ogulei@ecy.wa.gov).

Sincerely,



Jeff Johnston, Ph.D.  
Manager, Science and Engineering Section  
Air Quality Program

jj/do

Enclosure

cc: Sarah Gibson, Dell  
Jim Wilder ICF International  
David Ogulei, Ecology  
Greg Flibbert, Ecology