



# BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**Michael D. Leita**  
District 1

**Ron Anderson**  
District 2

**Norm Childress**  
District 3

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June 10, 2019

Dear Director Park:

The Board of Yakima County Commissioners concurs with the Lower Yakima Valley Groundwater Management Program as revised and approved by the Lower Yakima Valley Groundwater Advisory Committee (GWAC) on December 13, 2018.

Yakima County recognizes the importance of the Program's stated goal of reducing nitrate in groundwater. Groundwater is a highly valued natural resource that should be protected and preserved.

We appreciate the Department of Ecology's commitment and diligence in bringing the Program document to a successful conclusion.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Leita  
Chairman  
Board of Yakima County Commissioners

# BOARD OF YAKIMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

IN THE MATTER OF PROVIDING )  
A LETTER OF CONCURRENCE TO )  
THE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY )  
FOR THE LOWER VALLEY )  
GROUNDWATER PROGRAM )

RESOLUTION 185-2019

WHEREAS, a Lower Yakima Valley Groundwater Management Area (GWMA) was formed in response to elevated nitrate concentrations in the groundwater in the Lower Yakima Valley; and

WHEREAS, a Groundwater Advisory Committee was established to develop a Lower Yakima Valley Groundwater Management Area Program; and

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Advisory Committee is a large and diverse committee, including representatives from all identified groups affected by groundwater quality, including local, state, and federal government agencies; local citizens; farmers, dairy producers, and agronomists; irrigation districts; conservation districts; environmental groups; and other vested parties; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Yakima Valley Groundwater Advisory Committee has overseen the development of the Lower Yakima Valley Groundwater Management Program; and

WHEREAS, Yakima County was designated as the lead agency responsible for coordinating and undertaking the activities necessary for development of a groundwater management program, in accordance with WAC 173-100-080; and

WHEREAS, a joint public hearing with the Department of Ecology and Yakima County within the designated groundwater management area for the purpose of taking public testimony on the proposed program was held on March 12, 2019; and

WHEREAS, WAC 173-100-120 stipulates that following the public hearing each affected local government shall prepared findings on the groundwater management program within ninety days. The findings shall evaluate the program's technical soundness, economic feasibility, and consistency with the intent of WAC 173-100 and other federal, state and local laws; and

WHEREAS, WAC 173-100-120 also stipulates that the findings shall identify any revisions necessary before the program can be certified and shall contain a statement of the agency's concurrence, indicating its intent to adopt implementing policies, ordinances and programs if required, or a statement of nonconcurrence with the program if such be the case; now, therefore,

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Board of Yakima County Commissioners that a letter be transmitted to the Department of Ecology, identifying the county's findings and statement of concurrence.

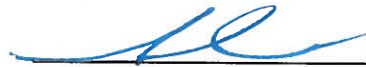
**DONE** this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019



Michael D. Leita, Chairman



Norm Childress, Commissioner



Ron Anderson, Commissioner

*Constituting the Board of County Commissioners  
for Yakima County, Washington*



Attest: Melissa Paul, Clerk of the Board

