

## Group B Feedback

### Survey of Environmental Health Directors

1. Do you plan to continue your current level of activity on Group B water systems into the future (knowing that current levels of activity vary from no program to full regulatory and assistance programs, and knowing that it is uncertain what the SBOH may or may not do in regards to the current state regulations)?

County and Name	Comment
Adams County Brent Stenson	Would like to continue at current level of Group B work. Still unresolved how to pay for it. Have not formally approached BOH.
Clallam County Andy Brastad	<p>We plan to stay with our current level of activity in regards to reviewing engineered plans and well head protection. We will continue to charge fees for this service.</p> <p>We will not continue to hold workshops and survey or inspect Group B systems since DOH funding for that program is due to discontinue.</p> <p>We are waiting to see what programs changes occur within the DOH then decide what actions need to be taken locally.</p>
Clark County Thomas R. Gonzales	We will be making a presentation in support of continuing our Group B public water system program to the BOH - August 12. If the direction is to continue, we'll be asking for fees to maintain a program and develop a local private and public drinking water code.
Columbia County Public Health Department David E. Riggs	Columbia County does not have a Group B program and, given the current conditions, we will probably not be initiating a program in the near future.
Cowlitz County Health Department Audrey Shaver	<p>Cowlitz's intention (today) is to continue our current activity with Group B program.</p> <p>Our dilemma revolves around what will happen to the existing Group B regulations and what we might have to pick up that we are not currently responsible for in our JPR and if we have capacity to do that. We realize that if the current Group B regulations are altered it may require us to go to our Board regarding a local regulation but would prefer a different option.</p>
Grays Harbor County Jeff Nelson	Without the DOH ConCon money I do plan on maintaining our current level of activity in regards to sending reminder notices out for on-going monitoring requirements....we'll just stop doing routine surveys for now. If the monitoring requirements are eliminated by the SBOH later we'll ask our BOH for direction at that time.
Island County Aaron J. Henderson	Island County will continue the current level of Group B activity, minus the surveys. We will undoubtedly get caught up in giving technical assistance from time to time as well, as we do for any water system. Currently we do plan reviews for new systems and new connections.

## Group B Feedback

County and Name	Comment
<b>Jefferson County Public Health</b> Susan Porto	Our department does not have a Group B program and has not made a decision on how to proceed in the future. We are currently working on a database to track connections to facilitate building permit adequacy.
<b>Kitsap County</b> Keith Grellner	Kitsap is working to put a proposal together for our BOH. We discussed this issue with them twice earlier this year, and they were supportive of developing a local program contingent upon what the local program would look like/cost.
<b>Klickitat County Health Department</b> Kevin Barry	We will continue to approve Group Bs and provide technical assistance. We currently charge fees for plan review and well site inspection, and they won't change in the near future. We will adopt a rule if the State rule is abrogated.
<b>Lincoln County Health Department</b> Ed Dzedzy	I think we would drop into a technical assistance roll. We would also deal with complaints and probably need review approval for expansions.
<b>Northeast Tri-County</b> Jim Matsuyama	<p>We were just doing sanitary surveys and helping with some TA. Do not plan to continue either but I'm sure we'll work with DOH on responding to problems.</p> <p>Officially we will stop doing Group B activities. Unofficially, if we don't have any further staff losses due to budget cuts, we will work with DOH to respond to dw problems, help with investigations, etc.</p>
<b>Okanogan County Public Health</b> Dave Hilton	With the impact that these changes will have on other aspects of E.H. such as OTA's and community kitchens, both of which are currently required to meet the Group B standards, we do not feel that we have a choice but to implement some form of a Group B program.
<b>Public Health Seattle / King County</b> Ngozi T. Oleru	If the direction from BOH is to continue, we'll be asking for fees to maintain a very basic program which will also allow us to support locally required development code provisions.
<b>San Juan County</b> Mark Tompkins	This is something we will be discussing with the Board of Health & County Council. Not sure on the direction we will go given the current economic situation in the county. Currently we have exempted 2-connection water systems from all requirements.
<b>Skagit County Public Health</b> Corinne Story	<p>We must continue a Group B program to process building permits and land divisions in an orderly way. With the State Department of Health's past Group B grants, we now know more about our Group Bs than ever before. We know well locations, service areas and we plan to protect a modest wellhead protection area (310').</p> <p>We would continue our well site inspection with fee.</p>
<b>Skamania County</b> Karen Witherspoon	Skamania County currently does not have a Group B program. After having discussions with the Board, it does not look like we will have one in the near future.

## Group B Feedback

County and Name	Comment
<b>Spokane Regional Health District</b> David C. Swink	SRHD plans to continue at its present level which is no Group B program and no fees.
<b>Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department</b> Steve Marek	We are going to continue our Group B activities.
<b>Thurston County</b> Art Starry	Yes, we plan to maintain our current Group B program, providing our new annual fee program stays on track (see #2).
<b>Walla Walla County Health Department</b> Harvey R. Crowder Barry Jenkins	As you know, our food permits and septic permits that are dependent on small approved public water systems give us no choice but to continue some kind of program to order to satisfy food and sewage regulations. So we plan to continue with a local Group B program. Our priorities would be: assisting with workbooks for plan review, monitoring notification and quality violation follow-ups, and technical assistance as needed. We will link receipt and maintenance of food and sewage permits to satisfactory current water system approval, monitoring, and sampling results.
<b>Whatcom County Health Department</b> John J. Wolpers	Whatcom County will begin internal discussions soon and come up with alternatives to carry forward to the BOH.
<b>Whitman County</b> Michael Baker	Whitman County is actually looking at doing more with the Group Bs in the County. I'll be meeting with the Commissioners to go over a fee schedule here shortly.
<b>Yakima County</b> Gordon Kelly	We do not plan much change. We currently review water source sites (and charge for it). We will likely continue. We will no longer be assisting in the completion of Group B packets to be sent on to DOH. Our planning office has taken an interesting twist in that some of their decisions are requiring shared water systems. We will continue to respond to those, funded by fee payments. If the water system is associated with a facility that we permit (food service, camp, etc.), we will continue to have a higher role there related to maintaining their permit.

## Group B Feedback

2. Other plan review fees, do you charge other on-going fees today for Group B activities? If not, are you planning to approach your Board on future Group B fees in your jurisdiction to support your efforts?

County and Name	Comment
<b>Adams County</b> Brent Stenson	We don't currently charge them any fees except for approval of the systems. We have a hard enough time keeping the contacts/WFI's current, billing them would be a nightmare because there's nothing for them to lose by not paying for their yearly permit. My guess is that we would pay attention to water systems serving businesses and residential developments over 4 single family homes.
<b>Clallam County</b> Andy Brastad	We do not have operating or other on-going fees for Group Bs. No decision has been made about proposing operational fees.
<b>Clark County</b> Thomas R. Gonzales	We will be making a presentation in support of continuing our Group B public water system program to the BOH - July 1. If the direction is to continue, we'll be asking for fees to maintain a program and develop a local private and public drinking water code.
<b>Columbia County Public Health Department</b> David E. Riggs	Columbia County does not have a Group B program and, given the current conditions, we will probably not be initiating a program in the near future.
<b>Cowlitz County Health Department</b> Audrey Shaver	Cowlitz's intention (today) is to continue our current activity with Group B program.  We currently charge an annual fee for Group B systems.
<b>Grays Harbor County</b> Jeff Nelson	No on-going fee's applied to Group B's right now (other than lab fee's)...will explore new fee's and regulations once we know what direction the SBOH takes.
<b>Island County</b> Aaron J. Henderson	No mention of new fees.
<b>Jefferson County Public Health</b> Susan Porto	We are in preliminary planning stages with our health officer and the local BOH, and fees are definitely part of that discussion.
<b>Kitsap County</b> Keith Grellner	Kitsap is working to put a proposal together for our BOH. We discussed this issue with them twice earlier this year, and they were supportive of developing a local program contingent upon what the local program would look like/cost.
<b>Klickitat County Health Department</b> Kevin Barry	We currently charge fees for plan review and well site inspection, and they won't change in the near future.
<b>Lincoln County Health Department</b> Ed Dzedzy	No mention of new fees.
<b>Northeast Tri-County</b> Jim Matsuyama	No additional fees now and won't adopt any new ones.

## Group B Feedback

County and Name	Comment
<b>Okanogan County Public Health</b> Dave Hilton	We received support from our BOH to develop a local Group B program. However, my proposal will include the thought that we plan on maintaining the program for a limited amount of time. Fees will be developed based on the time required for each task involved with Group B water systems.
<b>Public Health Seattle / King County</b> Ngozi T. Oleru	We are going to our BOH to ask for direction in a couple of weeks. If the direction is to continue, we'll be asking for fees to maintain a very basic program which will also allow us to support locally required development code provisions.
<b>San Juan County</b> Mark Tompkins	No mention of fees.
<b>Skagit County Public Health</b> Corinne Story	We would continue our well site inspection with fee. We charge our licensees (restaurants, RV parks, etc.) a nominal annual fee (\$50 for approved water system and \$100 for an unapproved water system).
<b>Skamania County</b> Karen Witherspoon	Skamania County currently does not have a Group B program. After having discussions with the Board, it does not look like we will have one in the near future.
<b>Spokane Regional Health District</b> David C. Swink	SRHD plans to continue at its present level which is no Group B program and no fees.
<b>Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department</b> Steve Marek	We currently charge design fees and a yearly permit fee. Probably be raising fees to help offset some of the legislative cuts and will need to get our Board to approve them later this year.
<b>Thurston County</b> Art Starry	We plan to implement a new Group B annual permit July 1. Our Board of Health created a Group B annual permit fee earlier this year. This fee will be in addition to the plan review and other fees we have. Fortunately our local regulations (Article III) already contains authorization for an annual permit.
<b>Walla Walla County Health Department</b> Harvey R. Crowder Barry Jenkins	We have no current fees, so we plan to approach our Board of Health for approval of a local ordinance and adequate fees to support our efforts.
<b>Whatcom County Health Department</b> John J. Wolpers	Whatcom County will begin internal discussions soon and come up with alternatives to carry forward to the BOH.
<b>Whitman County</b> Michael Baker	I'll be meeting with the Commissioners to go over a fee schedule here shortly. We will most likely have to make the program 100% fee supported unless we get some commitment from the BOCC.
<b>Yakima County</b> Gordon Kelly	We will continue to respond to planning department requests, funded by fee payments. If the water system is associated with a facility that we permit (food service, camp, etc.), we will continue to have a higher role there related to maintaining their permit.

## Group B Feedback

3. Do you have any other plans relative to the Group B water systems in your jurisdiction given the recent legislative changes?

County and Name	Comment
Adams County Brent Stenson	No.
Clallam County Andy Brastad	We are waiting to see what programs changes occur within the DOH then decide what actions need to be taken locally.
Clark County Thomas R. Gonzales	We will be making a presentation in support of continuing our Group B public water system program to the BOH - August 12.
Columbia County Public Health Department David E. Riggs	No.
Cowlitz County Health Department Audrey Shaver	Our dilemma revolves around what will happen to the existing Group B regulations and what we might have to pick up that we are not currently responsible for in our JPR and if we have capacity to do that. We realize that if the current Group B regulations are altered it may require us to go to our Board regarding a local regulation but would prefer a different option.
Grays Harbor County Jeff Nelson	No.
Island County Aaron J. Henderson	We do not have any plans to expand existing services at this time.
Jefferson County Public Health Susan Porto	We are in preliminary planning stages with our health officer and the local BOH.
Kitsap County Keith Grellner	If I had to guess right now, I would say the odds of Kitsap getting a locally funded program are 51/49 “for” right now.
Klickitat County Health Department Kevin Barry	We will adopt a rule if the State rule is abrogated.
Lincoln County Health Department Ed Dzedzy	No.
Northeast Tri-County Jim Matsuyama	Officially we will stop doing Group B activities. Unofficially, if we don't have any further staff losses due to budget cuts, we will work with DOH to respond to dw problems, help with investigations, etc.
Okanogan County Public Health Dave Hilton	I will be proposing to our BOH today the idea of a locally (read fee) supported Group B program.
Public Health Seattle / King County Ngozi T. Oleru	We are going to our BOH to ask for direction in a couple of weeks.

## Group B Feedback

<b>San Juan County</b> Mark Tompkins	Not sure on the direction we will go given the current economic situation in the county. Currently we have exempted 2-connection water systems from all requirements.
<b>Skagit County Public Health</b> Corinne Story	<p>What makes sense to me from this vantage is to copy the septic system program. Ideas below....all would have fees attached.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prior to all real estate transactions, there will be an inspection, monitoring update and a (sanitary survey) report so that the purchaser knows what they are getting into.</li> <li>2. Prior to any new connection a system would have to be in full compliance.</li> <li>3. For a substantial upgrade to a house on a Group B system, the system must be substantially compliant.</li> <li>4. Maybe for even minor building permits, they need to be up-to-date with their water quality monitoring.</li> <li>5. Maybe place building moratoriums on water systems to design correctly and safe.</li> <li>6. We have discussed an annual operating permit but we currently have no plan to implement.</li> </ol>
<b>Skamania County</b> Karen Witherspoon	No.
<b>Spokane Regional Health District</b> David C. Swink	No.
<b>Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department</b> Steve Marek	Probably be raising fees to help offset some of the legislative cuts and will need to get our Board to approve them later this year.
<b>Thurston County</b> Art Starry	3. We sent newsletters to Group B owners and purveyors describing the new permit program, and will have an Open House June 4 to discuss it with them. Our Board supports the program even though they are receiving complaints about the new fee. We have a Board briefing on June 24 to review the program and public comments before its fully implemented.
<b>Walla Walla County Health Department</b> Harvey R. Crowder Barry Jenkins	We would review how to define a Group B system under local ordinance and consider whether we want to require an annual operating permit.
<b>Whatcom County Health Department</b> John J. Wolpers	Whatcom County will begin internal discussions soon.
<b>Whitman County</b> Michael Baker	Whitman County is actually looking at doing more with the Group Bs in the County. I'll be meeting with the Commissioners to go over a fee schedule here shortly
<b>Yakima County</b> Gordon Kelly	We do not plan much change.