Appendix B

Independent Peer Review Process

This appendix summarizes the process taken during the preparation of the Independent Peer Review of the Review of Available Science for Dissolved Oxygen.

1. Preparation of Charge Questions
   Draft Charge Questions distributed to the Hood Canal research community for review and comment prior to finalization.

2. Solicitation of Review Panel members
   Led by Puget Sound Institute.
   Nominations were solicited from the US EPA, Washington State Department of Ecology, Hood Canal research community, and the Puget Sound Partnership Science Panel. Twenty-one experts were nominated to participate in the review panel.

3. Finalization of the Review Panel
   Led by Puget Sound Institute.
   All nominees were contacted to determine availability, interest, and potential conflict of interest. Eleven nominees were unable to participate and removed from the list. Of the remaining, six nominees were chosen to participate based on area of expertise and final availability. The final composition of the Review Panel was approved by the Puget Sound Partnership Science Panel.

4. Convene Review Panel
   The Review Panel members convened for a two-day meeting in Tacoma. Members of the Hood Canal research community participated in the morning of the first day to facilitate information transfer and answer any questions brought up by the Review Panel. The Review Panel members worked in small groups to address the review questions and draft written responses.

5. Prepare Report
   The Puget Sound Institute compiled draft responses from the Panel into a draft report. The draft report was sent to all members for comment and review. The report was finalized by means of a conference call between the Puget Sound Institute and the Review Panel.

6. Distribute Report
7. Follow Up
The Review Panel report was reviewed, and the US EPA and Washington State Department of Ecology prepared a response document titled, DRAFT Response to Independent Review Report. This document was forwarded to the entire Review Panel and its members were given an opportunity to respond (see Appendix A). There was detailed follow-up on selected comments by certain members of the Review Panel.

For reference, the documentation in this process is as shown:

- Document 4 – Appendices to the Independent Peer Review of the Review of Available Science for Dissolved Oxygen Impacts in Hood Canal (Appendix A and Appendix B)