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By K. Witherspoon at 10:36 am, Nov 25, 2025



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47775 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7775 • (360) 407-6300  
711 for Washington Relay Service • Persons with a speech disability can call (877) 833-8641

November 25, 2025

Alexander Shikhanov and Ivan Evokimov  
PO Box 1409  
Bellevue WA 98009

[Alex@columbiacreek.com](mailto:Alex@columbiacreek.com); [Ivan@columbiacreek.com](mailto:Ivan@columbiacreek.com)

Re: Proposed permit-exempt well use for irrigation on Lewis County Parcel No. 035048028000

Dear Alexander Shikhanov and Ivan Evokimov:

On September 30, 2025, Ecology received an e-mail from Lewis County Public Health and Social Services. This e-mail requested clarification as to whether three wells constructed on Lewis County Parcel No. 035048028000 could be used as permit-exempt wells for irrigation or would the wells need to operate under Thurston PUD's senior water rights.

Ecology is reaching out to you to provide information, technical assistance<sup>1</sup>, and to assist you in complying with Washington State Water Law.

The wells were drilled on Lewis County Parcel No. 035048028000 to serve a proposed 5-lot subdivision domestic and irrigation water due to Thurston PUD not having available connections at the time. Thurston PUD now has connections available and will be serving the proposed 5-lot subdivision with domestic water.

The wells located on Lewis County Parcel No. 035048028000 are considered permit-exempt and may be used for irrigation purposes only. Use of groundwater from the three wells located on Lewis County Parcel No. 035048028000 is limited to one combined groundwater withdrawal of up to one-half acre lawn or noncommercial garden irrigation for the entire project.

If irrigation for this project exceeds one-half acre a water right permit is required from Ecology, and any exceedance may result in enforcement by the Ecology for violation of Chapter 90.44 RCW-Regulation of Public Groundwater. Additionally, use of water from the well that tested above a primary Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) will need to be approved by Lewis County for use. If this well cannot be used

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<sup>1</sup> Technical assistance pursuant to RCW 90.03.605.

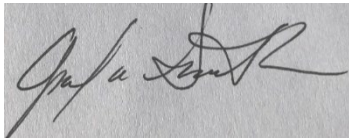
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for any purpose due to the MCL the well will need to be decommissioned by a well driller licensed in the State of Washington.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact me at 564-250-3426 or Opal. Smitherman@ecy.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Opal Smitherman', on a light-colored background.

Opal Smitherman  
Compliance and Enforcement  
Water Resources Program  
Southwest Regional Office

Sent By Email: Alexander Shikhanov  
Ivan Evdokimov

Email cc: Karen Witherspoon, Senior Project Planner, Community Development,  
[karen.witherspoon@lewiscountywa.gov](mailto:karen.witherspoon@lewiscountywa.gov)  
Jeffery Landrum, Environmental Health Specialist, Water Program, Lewis County Public  
Health & Social Services, [Jeffery.Landrum@lewiscountywa.gov](mailto:Jeffery.Landrum@lewiscountywa.gov)

*To request ADA accommodation for disabilities, or printed materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 360-407-6831 or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.*