

**From:** Emily Hutchinson  
**Date:** May 9, 2012 4:11:27 PM PDT  
**To:** Sandra Spargo  
**Cc:** Brian Cladoosby, Debra Lekanoff, Alix Foster, Larry Wasserman  
**Subject:** RE: Letter to the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Ms. Spargo:

Thank you for your email. As I believe you discussed with Larry Wasserman today, the Tribe does not oppose Anacortes exercising its existing water right (including its decision to sell water to Tethys) and does not agree that science demonstrates that the Tethys contract will harm salmon in the ways and to the degree you speculate below. Therefore, the Tribe is unable to take any role in opposing the Anacortes-Tethys contract.

Regards,  
Emily Hutchinson

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Sandra Spargo  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 09, 2012 2:11 PM  
**To:** Alix Foster; Charles O'Hara; Emily Hutchinson; Eric Haskins; Ron Figlar Barnes; Debra Lekanoff  
**Cc:** Samish Indian Tribe; Ron Figlar Barnes  
**Subject:** Letter to the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Dear Swinomish Indian Tribal Community,

I noticed in the April 2012 edition of Kee Yoks that the Swinomish are working to prevent the proliferation of plastic bottles. (Please refer to Page 15 of [http://www.swinomish.org/media/13744/4\\_qyuuqs\\_april\\_2c\\_finalreduced.pdf](http://www.swinomish.org/media/13744/4_qyuuqs_april_2c_finalreduced.pdf))

As you are probably aware, the City of Anacortes recently gave Tethys Enterprises a contract for five million gallons per day of Skagit River water without any environmental review or meaningful public notice. This water will be exported from the Skagit Basin, forever. Unlike exempt wells, the water sold to Tethys will not be recharged into the groundwater table. The water will be hauled on railcars, permanently taken out of the Skagit River Basin. To put this quantity of water into context, five million gallons per day represents approximately 25 percent of the existing U. S. market in bottled water--a massive amount of water. In the face of climate change, shrinking glaciers and a reduced water supply, the Skagit estuary will need this water in order to keep producing threatened Chinook for the Tribe's commercial and ceremonial needs. The issue is directly connected to a viable fishery for future generations.

In addition to the water export, as the segment in Kee Yoks makes clear, plastic bottles are one of the greatest threats to the marine environment we face. They degrade into micro-particles and are consumed by marine creatures that mistake them for food. Some scientists think that this contributes significantly to smolt mortality.

Like many who care about the environment, I admire your strong stands to protect the Skagit River for the next seven generations. I sincerely hope that you will take a strong leadership role in opposition to the Tethys Enterprises contract, because it is one of the worst ideas we have seen in a long time from the standpoint of the environment.

Sincerely,  
Sandra Spargo  
Defending Water in the Skagit River Basin  
The Alliance for Democracy