



Kittitas County, Washington

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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**For Release: Immediate    Media Contact: Mark McClain, Kittitas County Commissioner**  
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## Commissioner's Response to Gov. Gregoire's statement on Kittitas water moratorium

**Ellensburg, Wash—** “I wish I could muster even a little surprise regarding Gov. Christine Gregoire’s adherence to the “party-line;” Again she has demonstrated politics govern rather than statewide leadership on issues that affect people’s everyday lives,” Commissioner Mark McClain said in response to the Governor’s decision not to repeal the Department of Ecology’s moratorium. Commissioners requested Gregoire review the Department of Ecology’s determination that an emergency exists such that they could impose an immediate moratorium rather than a rule that requires public scrutiny.

“It is evident to me that the Governor failed to truly consider our request citing a 30-year ‘concern’ as justification for her decision to support the moratorium, something that is done without public review and involvement. Unfortunately, the law requires the Department of Ecology demonstrate more than ‘a concern’ and the Governor’s decision, communicated a few hours after receiving our request, certainly demonstrates to me that she did not give any meaningful consideration to our request,” Commissioner McClain said

The Governor has asked for renewed negotiation with the County. “The County never stopped negotiating; it was the Department of Ecology who, without warning, notice or cause, halted discussions and imposed this drastic measure,” Commissioner Alan Crankovich said. “Our door has always been open to the Department of Ecology throughout this process,” Crankovich Added.

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