October 26, 2009

Board of Directors
Southwest Clean Air Agency
Vancouver, Washington

**Report on Accountability**

We appreciate the opportunity to work in cooperation with your Agency to promote accountability, integrity and openness in government. The State Auditor’s Office takes seriously our role to advocate for government accountability and transparency and to promote positive change.

Please find attached our report on the Southwest Clean Air Agency’s accountability and compliance with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures. Thank you for working with us to ensure the efficient and effective use of public resources.

In addition to this work, we also audit the Agency’s financial statements. The results of that audit will be included in a separately issued audit report.

Sincerely,

BRIAN SONNTAG, CGFM
STATE AUDITOR
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Clark County  
October 7, 2009

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ABOUT THE AUDIT

This report contains the results of our independent accountability audit of the Southwest Clean Air Agency for July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2009.

We evaluated internal controls and performed audit procedures on the activities of the Agency. We also determined whether the Agency complied with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures.

In keeping with general auditing practices, we do not examine every transaction, activity or area. Instead, the areas examined were those representing the highest risk of noncompliance, misappropriation or misuse. The following areas were examined during this audit:

- Open public meetings/records laws
- Procurement – purchasing
- Conflict of interest
- Disbursements/expenditures
- Payroll/personnel
- State grant compliance

RESULTS

In the areas we examined, the Agency's internal controls were adequate to safeguard public assets. The Agency also complied with state laws and regulations and its own policies and procedures in the areas we examined.
Our opinion on the District's financial statements is provided in a separate report, which includes the District's financial statements.
Description of the Agency

Southwest Clean Air Agency
Clark County
October 7, 2009

ABOUT THE AGENCY

The Southwest Clean Air Agency was formed after passage of the 1967 Clean Air Act of Washington. The Agency’s mission is to preserve and enhance air quality in southwest Washington by enforcing air quality regulations, monitoring emissions of air contaminants from various private industries and municipal agencies and contracting with specialists for studies and reports on pollution sources. The Agency covers Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Wahkiakum and Skamania counties.

An 11-member Board of Directors governs the Agency. The Board is appointed by the participating municipal agencies and one member-at-large from the private sector. The Board appoints an Executive Director to oversee the Agency’s daily operations as well as its 17 employees. For the years under audit, the Agency operated on annual budgets of approximately $2.6 million.

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

These officials served during the audit period:

Board of Directors:
- City of Vancouver
- Lewis County Commissioner
- City of Longview
- Clark County Commissioner
- City of Stevenson
- Member-at-Large
- Skamania County Commissioner
- City of Centralia
- City of Cathlamet
- Cowlitz County Commissioner
- Wahkiakum County Commissioner
- Executive Director

Pat Jollota
Bill Schulte
Don Jensen
Kelly Sills
Mary Ann Duncan-Cole
Milton Cox
Jamie Tolfree
Harlan Thompson
David Goodroe
George Raiter
Blair Brady
Robert D. Elliott
AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

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         Vancouver, WA  98682-2454
Phone:   (360) 574-3058
Web site: www.swcleanair.org

AUDIT HISTORY

We audit the Agency every two years. The past five audits, spanning 11 years, have resulted in no reportable conditions.
ABOUT THE STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

The State Auditor's Office is established in the state's Constitution and is part of the executive branch of state government. The State Auditor is elected by the citizens of Washington and serves four-year terms.

Our mission is to work in cooperation with our audit clients and citizens as an advocate for government accountability. As an elected agency, the State Auditor's Office has the independence necessary to objectively perform audits and investigations. Our audits are designed to comply with professional standards as well as to satisfy the requirements of federal, state, and local laws.

The State Auditor's Office employees are located around the state to deliver our services effectively and efficiently.

Our audits look at financial information and compliance with state, federal and local laws on the part of all local governments, including schools, and all state agencies, including institutions of higher education. In addition, we conduct performance audits of state agencies and local governments and fraud, whistleblower and citizen hotline investigations.

The results of our work are widely distributed through a variety of reports, which are available on our Web site and through our free, electronic subscription service. We continue to refine our reporting efforts to ensure the results of our audits are useful and understandable.

We take our role as partners in accountability seriously. We provide training and technical assistance to governments and have an extensive quality assurance program.

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Deputy Chief of Staff
Chief Policy Advisor
Director of Audit
Director of Special Investigations
Director for Legal Affairs
Director of Quality Assurance
Local Government Liaison
Communications Director
Public Records Officer
Main number
Toll-free Citizen Hotline

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