

## **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  
Led by Puget Sound Institute with US EPA and Washington State Department of Ecology.  
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 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  
The Review Panel report (the Independent Peer Review of the Review of Available Science for Dissolved Oxygen) was distributed to US EPA and the Washington State Department of Ecology.

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 1 - Review of Available Science for Dissolved Oxygen Impacts in Hood Canal by the US EPA and Washington State Department of Ecology (dated February 8, 2012)
- Document 2 – Independent Peer Review of the Review of Available Science for Dissolved Oxygen Impacts in Hood Canal by Review Panel (dated May 23, 2012)
- Document 3 – DRAFT Response to Independent Review Report by the US EPA and Washington State Department of Ecology (Dated June 9, 2012)
- 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)