



**Jean Mendoza**

Jul 24, 2025 at 7:10 AM

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## Compliance with RCW 70A.65.020

Dear Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency,

I want to bring something to your attention that, in my opinion, deserves a serious discussion by the YRCAA Board of Directors.

Washington law requires consultation between clean air agencies and the WA State Dept. of Ecology regarding implementation of RCW 70A.65.020 – Environmental Justice Review. There are three areas in Yakima County that will be impacted – The east side of the City of Yakima, the Moxee Valley, and the Lower Yakima Valley.

The law requires Ecology, in collaboration with clean air agencies, to identify significant contributors to air pollution in these areas and take meaningful steps to mitigate the pollution. Major emitters are the Interstate Highway with potential creation of an East-West corridor, and dairies in the LYV.

The YRCAA board could certainly ask ED Thornsberry to address this issue. In my opinion, that is asking too much from a director who already takes on the duties of clerk of the board, human resources, technology manager, public records officer, and more. The YRCAA board could appoint a subcommittee to engage with Ecology that would ideally include people from the community. In my opinion the topic deserves discussion by the board in an open public meeting.

I have cc'd other community members who are interested in RCW 70A.65.020 and might be willing to provide input.

Sincerely,

Jean Mendoza