



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

February 27, 2024

Richard Bassett
Charlestown Investments (Cosmo Specialty Fibers, Inc.)
PO Box 539
Cosmopolis, WA 98537

Re: Final Determination of Liability for Release of Hazardous Substances at the following Contaminated Site:

- **Site Name:** COSMO SPECIALTY FIBERS
- **Site Address:** 1701 FIRST STREET, COSMOPOLIS, WA 98537
- **Cleanup Site ID:** 2375
- **Facility/Site ID:** 32

Dear Richard Bassett:

On August 1, 2023, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) sent you written notice of our preliminary determination that Charlestown Investments (Cosmo Specialty Fibers, Inc.) is a potentially liable person (PLP) for a release of hazardous substances at the Cosmo Specialty Fibers mill (Site). On August 31, 2023, the 30-day comment period on our preliminary determination expired. Ecology has not received any written comments from you.

Based on available information, Ecology finds that credible evidence exists that Charlestown Investments (Cosmo Specialty Fibers, Inc.) is liable for a release of hazardous substances at the Site. On the basis of this finding, Ecology has determined that Charlestown Investments (Cosmo Specialty Fibers, Inc.) is a PLP with regard to the Site.

The purpose of the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) is to identify, investigate, and clean up facilities where hazardous substances have been released. Liability for environmental contamination under MTCA is strict, joint and several (RCW 70A.305.040(2)). Ecology ensures that contaminated sites are investigated and cleaned up to the standards set forth in the MTCA statute and regulations. Ecology has determined that it is in the public interest for remedial actions to take place at this Site. Ecology will contact you regarding the actions necessary for Charlestown Investments (Cosmo Specialty Fibers, Inc.) to bring about the prompt and thorough cleanup of hazardous substances at this Site. Failure to cooperate with Ecology or comply with MTCA in this matter will result in Ecology employing enforcement tools as it deems

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necessary and appropriate. This includes, but is not limited to, the issuance of an administrative order. Failure to comply with such an order may result in a fine of up to \$25,000 per day and liability for up to three times the costs incurred by the state (RCW 70A.305.050(1)).

Your rights and responsibilities as a PLP are outlined in Chapter 70A.305 RCW, and Chapters 173-340 and 173-204 WAC. Ecology's cleanup project manager for the Site, Ha Tran, will contact you with information about how Ecology intends to proceed with the cleanup.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Ha Tran at (360) 790-6272 or ha.tran@ecy.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J DeMay', is positioned above the printed name.

James DeMay
Industrial Section Manager
Solid Waste Management Program

By certified mail: 9489 0090 0027 6381 5750 34

cc: Kathryn Wyatt, Office of the Attorney General
Paula Stoppler, Cosmo Specialty Fibers
Ecology Site File