



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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

March 13, 2024

International Paper Company
c/o CT Corporation System
711 Capital Way S STE 204
Olympia, WA 98501-1267

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

- **Site Name:** WestRock Tacoma
- **Site Address:** 801 E Portland Ave Tacoma, WA 98421
- **Cleanup Site ID:** 16842
- **Facility/Site ID:** 39

Dear International Paper Company:

On January 17, 2024, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) sent you written notice of our preliminary determination that International Paper Company (International Paper) is a potentially liable person (PLP) for a release of hazardous substances at the WestRock Tacoma facility (Site). Ecology's January 17, 2024 letter provided you 30-days to comment on our preliminary determination. The letter was delivered to your registered agent, CT Corporation System, on January 23, 2024. The 30-day comment period on our preliminary determination ended on February 22, 2024. As of March 12, 2024, Ecology has not received any written comments from you.

Based on available information, Ecology finds that credible evidence exists that International Paper is liable for a release of hazardous substances at the Site. On the basis of this finding, Ecology has determined that International Paper is a PLP with regard to the Site.

The purpose of the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) is to identify, investigate, and cleanup 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 International Paper to bring about the prompt and thorough cleanup of hazardous substances

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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 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 7A.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, Emily Toffol, will contact you with information about how Ecology intends to proceed with the cleanup.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Emily Toffol at 360-790-8363 or emily.toffol@ecy.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



James DeMay
Industrial Section Manager
Solid Waste Management Program

By certified mail: 9489 0090 0027 6381 5750 96

cc: Derek Threet, Office of the Attorney General
Ecology Site File, Cleanup