



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

**Central Region Office**  
1250 West Alder St., Union Gap, WA 98903-0009 • 509-575-2490

April 2, 2024

Jennifer Schlenske  
Executive Director  
Justice Housing Yakima  
P.O. Box 1097  
Yakima, WA 98907  
director@justicehousing.org

**Re: Early Notice Letter Regarding a Release of Hazardous Substances:**

- **Site Name:** Baurs Greenhouse
- **Property Address:** 1501 Folsom Avenue, Yakima
- **Facility/Site ID:** 100000762
- **Cleanup Site ID:** 17012
- **County Assessor's Parcel #'s:** 181324-23562, 181324-23564

Dear Jennifer Schlenske:

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) received a report dated February 15, 2024 about potential contamination from hazardous substances. We have investigated the release, or threatened release, of hazardous substances to identify impacts to human health and the environment, as required under Chapter 70A.305 RCW.<sup>1</sup>

Ecology maintains a database of known or suspected contaminated sites that will need remedial actions to meet requirements established under the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA),<sup>2</sup> chapter 70A.305 RCW, and chapter 173-340 WAC.<sup>3</sup> This state law sets the requirements necessary to clean up contaminated sites that can threaten human health and the environment.

During the investigation, Ecology determined that contamination exists at your site. As a result, we added this property to our database as a state cleanup site that will need to be cleaned up pursuant to MTCA requirements.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=70A.305>

<sup>2</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Spills-Cleanup/Contamination-cleanup/Rules-directing-our-cleanup-work/Model-Toxics-Control-Act>

<sup>3</sup> <https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-340>

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Ecology assigned CSID No. 17012. You can find site information and electronic records for this site at Ecology's Cleanup and Tank Search.<sup>4</sup>

This letter or inclusion in our database of state cleanup sites does not mean that Ecology has made a determination about potential liability for cleanup under MTCA. Ecology's policy is to work cooperatively with individuals to accomplish prompt and effective cleanups.

### Ecology Voluntary Cleanup Program

Apply to the Ecology Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP)<sup>5</sup> to receive technical assistance or a written opinion on the independent remedial action. Contact Frosti Smith at (509) 406-5157 or [frosti.smith@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:frosti.smith@ecy.wa.gov) for more information on the VCP including guidance documents to help you conduct an independent cleanup. More information is available on our VCP webpage.<sup>6</sup>

Your cooperation in planning or conducting independent remedial action is not an admission of guilt or liability. All independent remedial actions must follow the requirements of state laws. Completing an independent remedial action without meeting MTCA requirements may lead to additional cleanup work or formal oversight by Ecology.

Ecology likely will require a more detailed investigation in the future if an independent remedial action does not occur on this property. Investigations typically consist of additional testing for contamination, including soil and groundwater sampling.

Enclosed is the Model Toxics Control Act Cleanup Regulation Focus Sheet.<sup>7</sup> For questions regarding this letter or copies of the MTCA regulations and statute, please contact Frosti Smith at (509) 406-5157 or [frosti.smith@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:frosti.smith@ecy.wa.gov).

Sincerely,



Valerie Bound  
Section Manager  
Toxics Cleanup Program  
Central Regional Office

Enclosure:      Model Toxics Control Act Cleanup Regulation Focus Sheet

By certified mail:      7014 3490 0001 5526 6667

cc      Doug Bommersbach, Office of Rural and Farmworker Housing

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<sup>4</sup> <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/>

<sup>5</sup> [ecology.wa.gov/vcp](https://ecology.wa.gov/vcp)

<sup>6</sup> [ecology.wa.gov](https://ecology.wa.gov)

<sup>7</sup> <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/FTC94129.html>