



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

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

December 19, 2024

John Florence Jr., General Counsel and Vice President  
Converted Paper Products  
1 North Second St.  
Hartsville, SC 29550

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

- **Site Name:** Sonoco Products Company
- **Site Address:** 1802 Steele Avenue, Sumner, WA 98390
- **Cleanup Site ID:** 17058
- **Facility/Site ID:** 39542787
- **County Assessor's Parcel Number:** 0420245029

Dear John Florence Jr.:

On September 10, 2024, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) sent you written notice of our preliminary determination that Sonoco Products Company (Sonoco) is a potentially liable person (PLP) for a release of hazardous substances at the Sonoco Products Company facility (Site). On October 10, 2024, the 30-day comment period on our preliminary determination expired. As of December 9, 2024, Ecology had not received any written comments from you.

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

John Florence  
December 19, 2024

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 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, Aidan McCooey, will contact you with information about how Ecology intends to proceed with the cleanup.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Aidan McCooey at (564) 233-5597 or [aidan.mccooey@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:aidan.mccooey@ecy.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

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

James DeMay, P.E.  
Industrial Section Manager  
Solid Waste Management Program, HQ

By certified mail: 9489 0090 0027 6381 5457 09

cc: Victoria Banks, Office of the Attorney General  
Ecology site file