



City of Tacoma
Public Works Department

November 15, 1999

Marv Coleman.
Water Quality Program
Washington State Department of Ecology
Southwest Regional Office
P.O. Box 47775
Olympia, WA 98504-7775

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W. W. REGIONAL OFFICE
Kelly S. 5
Rebecca RSZ

Dear Mr. Coleman:

I would like to thank you for making arrangements with Panjini Balaraju to observe the work performed on East 19th and D Street on September 22, 1999. As you know, City crews were able to locate the abandoned fuel pipeline in the East 19th Street right-of-way. Our findings confirm a release has occurred to the surrounding soils, and the pipeline is the likely source of product infiltrating into the City's storm drainage system. Attached is an inspection report on our findings and related sample analysis.

In summary, the pipeline was exposed at a depth of approximately 5 feet. Oily soil and strong petroleum odors were encountered at approximately 3 feet. While attempting to assess the condition of wrought iron pipe and its contents, a portion of the pipeline became dislodged. When the dislodged section of pipeline was pulled out of the pit, we were able to fully assess the condition of the pipe. Corrosion had rusted away the entire bottom portion of the wrought iron pipeline. Oil-laden soil filled the interior of the pipeline. Samples were obtained from material inside the pipeline as well as soil encountered in the trench. As requested, Panjini was provided with split samples. A video tape of this work is also available for review.

With this information, the City requests action be taken by Ecology to further evaluate the site for possible remedial action and hazard ranking under the Model Toxics Control Act. Repairs to prevent further infiltration into the City's storm line on East 19th Street have been completed. However, the storm pipe bedding may provide a pathway for this material to potentially migrate to the waterway. This situation could also impact future development along the waterway as evidenced by the "DOT pond" spill in 1995. Other locations along the alignment of the abandoned pipeline may also exist as a means of transporting any released material. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (253) 502-2129.

Sincerely,

Troy Naccarato
Stormwater Management Program
Utility Services Engineering Division

TN:sh (DOE245ltr)

File: Storm