



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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

711 for Washington Relay Service • Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341

July 14, 2014

Tim Holloran
Skagit County Administrator
Skagit County Commissioners Administrative Building
1800 Continental Place, Suite 100
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

RE: Truck City Truck Stop Site in Skagit County

Dear Mr. Holloran:

Thank you for your letter of June 25, 2014, regarding acquisition and remediation of the Truck City Truck Stop site in Mount Vernon, Skagit County, Washington. The Department of Ecology (Ecology) understands that Skagit County (County) is acquiring this property to ultimately construct an essential public facility to better serve the community. The County is seeking a Prospective Purchaser Consent Decree with Ecology as well as Remedial Action Grant funding to help offset costs of the remedial investigation, remedial design and site cleanup.

The County, as a local government in the State of Washington, is eligible to receive Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) funds from the Local Toxics Control Account through a Remedial Action Grant (RAG). As you stated in your letter, recent legislation has made provisions that allow Ecology to enter into a grant agreement ahead of site acquisition in order to expedite cleanups throughout the state. It should be noted that entering into a grant agreement is not a guarantee of funding until legislative action.

All remedial action grant funds appropriated by the Legislature for the 2013-2015 biennium have been awarded. However, we are very supportive of the work you are undertaking to cleanup and redevelop this property. Consequently, we are including this site for funding as we develop and submit to the Governor's Office Ecology's proposed 2015-2017 biennium RAG project funding list. Ultimately this project list has to be included in the Governor's proposed budget and funded at a level sufficient to include your project. This list and funding level is subject to Legislative approval and appropriation. If these conditions are met, then Ecology will commit to funding your project.

Tim Holloran
July 14, 2014
Page 2

This commitment is subject to the execution of a grant agreement between Ecology and the County. We understand that the estimated eligible project costs are approximately \$50,000 for the investigation work already completed, \$235,000 for preparation of the remedial investigation, feasibility study and cleanup action plan and approximately \$750,000 for the soil and ground water remediation for a total of \$1,350,000. The RAG agreement will contain certain performance criteria and terms and conditions standard to all such Ecology grants.

One other option exists for partial funding during the current biennium. While all our appropriated funds have been committed to projects, under spending or project cancellations occur. This results in Ecology having funds to direct to new projects during the course of the biennium. Our next review of project spending will be in September. That review will allow us to see if some funding can be made available prior to next biennium. I will work closely with Bob Warren of our Bellevue Office to ensure your project is considered in that review.

Ecology is pleased for the opportunity to be part of this effort and looks forward to working with the County as the project moves forward. The schedule for the County's property acquisition in January 2015 is ambitious for signing the consent decree. Ecology is prepared to assist and work with the County under the proposed timeline to accomplish this. I would encourage you to continue the grant application development process.

We look forward to receiving your completed application and the ultimate remediation and redevelopment of this site. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (360) 407-7177 or Robert Warren, Northwest Regional Section Manager at (425) 649-7054.

Sincerely,



James J. Pendowski, Program Manager
Toxics Cleanup Program

cc: Ron Wesson, Chair, Board of Skagit County Commissioners
Marc Estovold, Project Manager for Skagit County
Anne Powell, Assistant Attorney General, Ecology Division
Josh Baldi, Ecology
Robert W. Warren, Ecology
Dale Myers, Ecology