



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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April 23, 1996

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

Z 350 869 685

Mr. Chuck Hinkley, Manager  
Gearjammer Truck Plaza  
2310 Rudkin Road  
Union Gap, WA 98903

Dear Mr. Hinkley:

RE: Early Notice Letter Regarding a Release of a Hazardous Substance on property known as Gearjammer Truck Plaza located at 2310 Rudkin Road in Union Gap, Washington

From a complaint about leaking Underground Storage Tanks, Gearjammer initiated an independent cleanup in 1995. This cleanup was done by Walkenhauer and Associates. Two underground fuel storage tanks were pulled. Some PCS (Petroleum Contaminated Soils) were excavated. Further excavation of PCS was halted due to concerns for building integrity. This is stated in the Summary Section of the Walkenhauer & Associates, Inc. February 1996 Department of Ecology (Ecology) submittal. Confirmation soil samples were taken and the excavation was backfilled with clean fill. Analyses of the confirmation samples on the east side of an 8000 gallon tank excavation (next to the building foundation at depth) indicate that contamination above MTCA cleanup values remains in the soils. It is our understanding that groundwaters are very shallow at the site.

Under Chapter 70.105D Revised Code of Washington (RCW), upon receiving a report of a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance that may pose a threat to human health or the environment, Ecology is required to conduct an II (Initial Investigation). This II was done recently by a review of the Walkenhauer February 1996 submittal. The result of this II called for further investigation of the site in the form of an SHA (Site Hazard Assessment).

Under the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), Ecology maintains a listing of known or suspected contaminated sites. It is Ecology's decision that the above-referenced property will be added to this information system.

It is the policy of the Department of Ecology to work cooperatively with persons to accomplish prompt and effective site cleanups. The Department prefers to achieve site cleanup cooperatively through independent cleanup action (WAC 173-340-510). Cooperating

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with the Department in planning or conducting remedial actions is not an admission of guilt or liability.

The Department may at some future time require additional cleanup at this site. The Department will use the appropriate requirements contained throughout WAC 173-340 and specifically chapter 120(8)(b) in its evaluation of the adequacy of any independent remedial actions already performed. Ecology may still need to conduct a more detailed inspection of this property, including testing for possible contamination. At that time Ecology may assess the need for additional cleanup.

You are encouraged to contact the Department for limited informal advice and assistance. For technical assistance you are advised to hire an engineering consultant with the appropriate environmental expertise. A copy of Chapter 70.105D RCW, the Model Toxics Control Act, and the implementing regulation Chapter 173-340 WAC, which details the requirements of the Act, are enclosed.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the requirements under the Model Toxics Control Act, please call. I can be reached at (509) 454-7839.

Sincerely,



Dick Bassett  
Site Manager  
Toxics Cleanup Program

DB:fs

Enc: Chapter 173-340 WAC  
Chapter 70.105D RCW

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