

## STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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CERTIFIED MAIL 7008 2810 0001 3939 5217

March 17, 2009

Cascade Lease Company PO Box 61742 Vancouver, WA 98666

RE: Early Notice Letter Regarding the Release of Hazardous Substances at the 400 E Mill Plain Drywells (site name), located at 400 E Mill Plain Boulevard, Vancouver, Washington 98660. Facility Site Identification Number: 8223776

Under Chapter 70.105 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) the Department of Ecology (Ecology) is required to conduct an Initial Investigation, of properties where we have received a report that there has been a release or threatened release of hazardous substance that could pose a threat to human health or the environment.

Ecology maintains a list of sites where an initial investigation has found that further testing and possible cleanup is needed. We call this our "database of Confirmed or Suspected Contaminated Sites". As a result of the initial investigation conducted by the Clark County Health Department, this property has been added to the database as a State Cleanup Site. The Facility Site Identification number assigned to this site is 8223776. Please note that inclusion in this database does not mean Ecology has determined you liable for cleanup of the site, as that is a separate determination under the law.

This site has been added to our database because soil contaminated with Mercury has been confirmed on this property. Groundwater contamination is suspected. Our report indicates that three drywells were encountered during exaction activities and decommissioned on an expedited basis to minimize financial and schedule impacts during construction. It is believed that these drywells were installed prior to construction of the Denny's Restaurant which is being replaced with new construction on site. Samples were collected for laboratory analysis. Mercury contamination has been confirmed in two of the wells above MTCA Method A Cleanup Levels. Our report indicates that construction has progressed considerably since the drywalls were assessed and several large footings have been constructed above the subject area. The purpose of the initial investigation is to confirm or deny the possibility of contamination on site.

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In the future, Ecology may conduct a more detailed inspection of this property including testing for possible contamination. This inspection is called a "Site Hazard Assessment". At that time, Ecology will assess whether action will be needed and if necessary establish a priority for the work.

Ecology's policy is to work cooperatively with individuals to accomplish prompt and effective cleanups. Your cooperation with Ecology in planning or conducting a remedial action is not an admission of guilt or liability. Please be aware of state laws that must be adhered to if you decide to proceed with cleanup work on your own. The primary law is Chapter 70.105D RCW and the implementing regulations, the Model Toxics Control Act Cleanup Regulation (MTCA or Chapter 173-340 WAC). These laws can be found at Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program website, <a href="http://www.ecy.wa.gov/toxicscleanup/policy">http://www.ecy.wa.gov/toxicscleanup/policy</a>.

If you would like a printed copy of the MTCA regulations or if you have questions call me at (360) 407-6240. These rules and how they impact each site can be confusing and complicated. There are Environmental Consultants that can be employed to assist property owners with the cleanup and site assessment process.

Ecology's Voluntary Cleanup Program is designed to provide technical assistance, for a fee, to cleanup sites that qualify. If you would like additional information regarding this program you can find information on our website at <a href="http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/vcp/vcpmain.htm">http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/vcp/vcpmain.htm</a> or you can contact Scott Rose at 360-407-6347.

Sincerely,

Kim Cross

Toxics Cleanup Program
Southwest Regional Office

ksc:ENL 031709 400 E Mill Plain Drywell Vancouver

cc: Bryan DeDoncker, Clark County Health Department Cris Matthews, Department of Ecology