



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1250 W Alder St • Union Gap, WA 98903-0009 • (509) 575-2490

September 8, 2017

Ms. Cheryl Cameron  
Property Specialist  
Chevron Environmental Management Company  
6001 Bollinger Canyon Rd, C2116  
San Ramon, CA 94583

Re: Notice of Potential Liability under the Model Toxics Control Act for the Release of Hazardous Substances at the following Site:

Site Name: Chevron Station 98944  
Site Address: 1323 Lee Boulevard, Richland  
Facility/Site ID No.: 27223439  
Cleanup Site ID No.: 5798

Dear Ms. Cameron:

Under the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), chapter 70.105D RCW, which governs the cleanup of contaminated sites in Washington State, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) may identify persons that it finds are liable for the release of hazardous substances at a site. Before making such a finding, Ecology must provide persons with notice and an opportunity to comment on the proposed finding. Any person whom Ecology finds, based on credible evidence, to be liable is known as a “potentially liable person” or “PLP”.

**Proposed Finding of Liability**

Based on credible evidence, Ecology is proposing to find Chevron Environmental Management Company liable under RCW 70.105D.040 for the release of hazardous substances at the Chevron Station 98944 site (Site). This proposed finding is based on the following evidence:

1. A release of gasoline to soil and groundwater occurred at the former Chevron Station located at 1323 Lee Boulevard, Richland, Washington, as documented in “Environmental Site Assessment, Former Chevron Service Station #9-8944”, prepared by Agra Earth & Environmental, dated October 25, 1994, as well as in subsequent investigation reports. Additional soil and groundwater investigations were conducted between 1996 and 2007, on behalf of Chevron. No remediation activities have taken place at the Site in the last 24 years, based on review of Ecology’s files. Groundwater monitoring has taken place between 2000 and 2011, as documented in various monitoring reports prepared for Chevron.
2. The most recent groundwater monitoring data in Ecology’s file from September 2011, includes an exceedance of MTCA Method A cleanup level for gasoline range-total petroleum hydrocarbons.



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3. A Site hazard assessment was performed by the Department of Ecology (Ecology) in 2014, (reported in a letter dated January 6, 2015) resulted in a Site ranking of 3, on a scale of 1 to 5. This ranking indicates a threat to human health and the environment. Cleanup of the Site is therefore required.

### **Opportunity to Respond to Proposed Finding of Liability**

In response to Ecology's proposed finding of liability, you may either:

1. Accept your status as a PLP without admitting liability and expedite the process through a voluntary waiver of your right to comment. This may be accomplished by signing and returning the enclosed form or by sending a letter containing similar information to Ecology;
2. Challenge your status as a PLP by submitting written comments to Ecology within thirty (30) calendar days of the date you receive this letter; or
3. Choose not to comment on your status as a PLP.

Please submit your waiver or written comments to the following address:

Frank P. Winslow  
CRO-Toxics Cleanup Program  
1250 W Alder Street  
Union Gap, WA 98903

After reviewing any comments submitted or after 30 days if no response has been received, Ecology will make a final determination regarding your status as a PLP and provide you with written notice of that determination.

### **Identification of Other Potentially Liable Persons**

If you are aware of any other persons who may be liable for the release of hazardous substances at the Site, Ecology encourages you to provide us with their identities and the reason you believe they are liable. Ecology also suggests you contact these other persons to discuss how you can jointly work together to most efficiently clean up the Site.

### **Responsibility and Scope of Potential Liability**

Please note that Ecology may either conduct or require PLPs to conduct remedial actions to investigate and clean up the release of hazardous substances at a site. PLPs are encouraged to initiate discussions and negotiations with Ecology and the Office of the Attorney General that may lead to an agreement on the remedial action to be conducted.

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Please also note that each liable person is strictly liable, jointly and severally, for all remedial action costs and for all natural resource damages resulting from the release of hazardous substances at a site. If Ecology incurs remedial action costs in connection with the investigation or cleanup of real property and those costs are not reimbursed, then Ecology has the authority under RCW 70.105D.055 to file a lien against that real property to recover those costs.

**Next Steps in Cleanup Process**

In response to the release of hazardous substances at the Site, Ecology intends to conduct the following actions under MTCA:

- Ecology intends to enter negotiation with the cooperative PLPs to enter into an Agreed Order for this Site.

For a description of the process for cleaning up a site under MTCA, please refer to the enclosed fact sheet.

Ecology's policy is to work cooperatively with PLPs to accomplish the prompt and effective cleanup of contaminated sites. Please note that your cooperation in planning or conducting remedial actions at the Site is not an admission of guilt or liability.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or if you would like additional information regarding the cleanup of contaminated sites, please call me at (509) 454-7835. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Frank P. Winslow  
Site Manager  
CRO Toxics Cleanup Program

Enclosures: 2

By Certified Mail [91 7199 9991 7037 1759 7930]

cc: Russell Cazier, Cazier Enterprises, Inc.