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STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

15 West Yakima, Suite 200 • Yakima, Washington 98902 • (509) 575-2490

October 28, 1998

CERTIFIED MAIL

P 148 982 129

Mr. Steve Nygaard, Supervisor
Klickitat County Road Maintenance Shop
228 West Main Street, MS-CH-19
Goldendale, WA 98620-9597

Dear Mr. Nygaard:

RE: Early Notice Letter Regarding the Release of Hazardous Substances on property located at the Klickitat County Road Maintenance Shop, Goldendale, ERTS #7789

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, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) is required to conduct an Initial Investigation.

On October 9, 1998, I made a site visit to this road maintenance shop in Goldendale. In meeting with you, I learned relevant information about the contamination at the vehicle wash basin. I asked for the documentation of the disposal of the 200 tons of excavated contaminated soil. You have sent me that. We appreciate your cooperation. I have reviewed a January 9, 1994 Site Assessment Report submitted by Mr. Mike Black of PD Consultants of Pasco, the remediation contractor for the site. I also had a phone conversation with Mr. Black on October 27, 1998. He confirmed what his report said; which is that all the contamination at the site was not excavated because of either problems with undermining the structural integrity of the building or shallowness of the soil to the underlying basalt bedrock.

Several other facts which helped me reach a determination about this site were that no post-cleanup groundwater samples were taken for analysis from the one installed well (which had gasoline contamination); and no groundwater samples were taken at all for analysis from the downgradient 'domestic' well. The latter you told me was not a domestic well as reported in the Site Assessment Report. I also understand the difficulty of excavating contamination from shallow, fractured bedrock.

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. Ecology has determined also that a Site Hazardous

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Assessment (SHA) described in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-340-320 will be required at this site. 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 actions (WAC 173-340-510). Cooperating with the Department in planning or conducting remedial actions is not an admission of guilt or liability.

In proceeding with an independent cleanup, please be aware that there are requirements in state law which must be adhered to. In particular, WAC 173-340-300(4) which requires a report of independent actions. To the extent known, the report shall include: The identification and location of the hazardous substance; circumstances of the release; the discovery and remedial actions planned, completed, or underway. More requirements of independent cleanup actions are discussed in WAC 173-340-120(8)(b). The Department will use the appropriate requirements contained throughout this chapter in its evaluation of the adequacy of any independent remedial actions performed. In the future the Department may still need to conduct a more detailed inspection of this property, including testing for possible contamination. At that time we may assess the need for further action.

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. My phone number is (509) 454-7839.

Sincerely,



Dick Bassett
Site Manager/Initial Investigations
Toxics Cleanup Program

DB:fs
g:klikshop.enl

Enc: Chapter 173-340 WAC
Chapter 70.105D RCW

cc: Debra Kroon, CRO