



FILE COPY

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

15 West Yakima, Suite 200 • Yakima, Washington 98902-3401 • (509) 575-2490

September 23, 1996

CERTIFIED MAIL

Z 350 869 720

Mr. Ken Peterson
Ken's Autowashes
1013 East 10th
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Dear Mr. Peterson:

RE: Early Notice Letter regarding a Release of a Hazardous Substance on property known as Ken's Autowashes, 1013 East 10th in Ellensburg, Washington (ERTS #6038)

As a result of a recent tank tightness test in June 1995, a leak was discovered in the super unleaded fuel line coupler at the facility. After discovery and correction of the leak, gasoline odors were discovered in two observation wells adjacent to three underground storage tanks. More soil and groundwater sampling occurred which confirmed a gasoline leak. In April 1996, three groundwater monitoring wells were installed on the property. The well in the southwest corner of the property had concentrations of gasoline, BTEX, and total lead exceeding MTCA cleanup levels.

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 the Kittitas County Health Department (under grant from Ecology) by a review of the June 1996 Sage Earth Sciences submittal. The result of this II and review 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 with the Department in planning or conducting remedial actions is not an admission of guilt or liability.



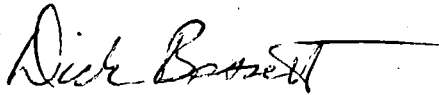
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The Department may at some future time require additional cleanup at this site. The Department will use the appropriate requirements contained throughout WAC 173-340 and specifically chapter 120(8)(b) in its evaluation of the adequacy of any independent 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
g:kensauto.enl

Enc: Chapter 173-340 WAC
Chapter 70.105D RCW