



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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

November 30, 2018

Jay Fulbright
Stemilt Growers LLC
3135 Warehouse Rd
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Re: Status of contamination at the following site:

- **Site Name:** WA DOT Wenatchee Maintenance Facility
- **Site Address:** 1551 North Wenatchee Avenue, Wenatchee
- **Cleanup Site ID:** 12859
- **Facility/Site ID:** 19391892
- **VCP Project ID:** CE0496

Dear Jay Fulbright:

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is aware of your interest in the above-referenced cleanup site, and its potential impacts to the adjacent Stemilt property at 1610 North Miller Street in Wenatchee.

Our understanding is that Stemilt Growers allowed the Washington Department of Transportation (WA DOT) access to your property to conduct an investigation of Trichloroethene (TCE) in groundwater. Ecology appreciates your cooperation in allowing this access.

The state cleanup level for TCE in groundwater is 5 µg/L, and unfortunately, there is TCE contamination flowing northeast from the WA DOT property to the Stemilt property. The highest concentration of TCE found in groundwater was 18 µg/L at a depth of 52 feet below ground surface (ft bgs) near the eastern WA DOT property boundary.

Groundwater contamination in Washington State is regulated under the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA). Under MTCA, the boundary of a cleanup site is defined as wherever a hazardous substance has come to be located. Therefore, the Site can be considered to include any portions of the Stemilt property that have TCE in groundwater above cleanup levels.



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However, Ecology's position is that properties contaminated solely by groundwater migration are not responsible for the cleanup. In order to clearly make the case that the groundwater contamination is solely from an offsite property, it is helpful for a facility to demonstrate that it has not used, stored, or spilled the hazardous substance in question. To date, Ecology has no information to suggest that TCE was used, stored, or spilled at the Stemilt property. Therefore, the TCE groundwater contamination is most likely from the WA DOT property.

If Stemilt has no water wells on the property, onsite exposure to the TCE contamination is unlikely. It is uncertain whether or not Ecology could be requesting WA DOT to perform any additional investigations on the Stemilt property in the future. However, at this time, this occurrence appears to be relatively unlikely.

Please call me at (509) 454-7835 or email me at frank.winslow@ecy.wa.gov with any questions. Thank you for your cooperation, and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Frank P. Winslow
VCP Site Manager
Toxics Cleanup Program
Central Regional Office

cc: Norm Payton, WA DOT