



FILE COPY

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

15 West Yakima, Suite 200 • Yakima, Washington 98902-3452 • (509) 575-2490

May 11, 2000

CERTIFIED MAIL

P 148 983 994

Mr. Jim Decoto
4603 Douglas Drive
Yakima, WA 98908

Dear Mr. Decoto:

RE: Early Notice Letter Regarding the Release of Hazardous Substances on property located at Noland Decoto Flying Service, 2809 W Washington Avenue, Yakima, Washington, ERTS# C508106

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.

There was an initial investigation performed by Ms. Debra Kroon. It included the following: a review of the site file; review of a letter dated December 10, 1999 to Mr. Tom Mackie, of this office; and a review of the Site Assessment Engineering Report Underground Storage Tank Removal report dated March 2000 prepared by PLSA Engineering & Surveying.

Petroleum contaminated soil (PCS) of approximately 37 tons was excavated from the site and hauled to Anderson's Rocky Top landfill. Mr. Jim Decoto provided load ticket confirmation of PCS disposal at Anderson's. A single sample was taken from the bottom of the tank excavation, and the results showed contaminated of 3,800 mg/kg for diesel. This was insufficient sampling. Complete soil excavation was not completed due to presence of petroleum contaminated soil under the building.

Three monitoring wells were installed. One groundwater sample was taken from each well with no evidence of confirmed petroleum contamination indicated. Due to the saturation of the soil, it is appropriate to conduct at least four quarters of groundwater sampling to ensure the site has not released contamination into the groundwater. All future sampling events should include the calculation of the groundwater gradient at each event.

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.



Mr. Jim Decoto
May 11, 2000
Page 2

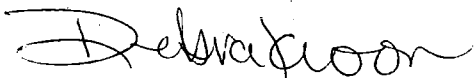
It is the policy of the Department of Ecology to work cooperatively with persons to accomplish prompt and effective site cleanups. Ecology prefers to achieve site cleanup cooperatively through independent cleanup actions (WAC 173-340-510). Cooperating with Ecology in planning or conducting remedial actions 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). Ecology will use the appropriate requirements contained throughout this chapter in its evaluation of the adequacy of any independent remedial actions performed. In the future Ecology 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 Ecology 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, is enclosed.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the requirements under the Model Toxics Control Act, please call me. My phone number is (509) 454-7842.

Sincerely,



Debra Kroon
Environmental Specialist
Toxics Cleanup Program

Enc: Chapter 173-340 WAC
Chapter 70.105D RCW

cc: Donald Abbott, CRO/TCP
Richard Bassett, CRO/TCP
Michael Spencer, HQ/TCP