



Gateway
FILE COPY

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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15 West Yakima Avenue, Suite 200 • Yakima, Washington 98902-3401 • (509) 575-2800

April 23, 1996

CERTIFIED MAIL

Z 350 869 686

Mr. Glenn Rice
Assistant City Manager
City Hall
129 N. 2nd Street
Yakima, WA 98901

Dear Mr. Rice:

RE: Early Notice Letter Regarding a Release of a Hazardous Substance on property known as Gateway Shopping Center I-82 Off-Ramp, Yakima, Washington

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.

Notice was received by Ecology that part of an old Yakima City Dump had been cut into during the construction of an off-ramp to the Gateway Shopping Center. An Initial Investigation (II) was conducted on this property March 25, 1995 by the Yakima County Health Department. Based on information gained during this part of the investigation, Ecology made a determination that a release of a hazardous substance that may pose a threat to human health or the environment has occurred. Ecology concurred with the Health Department's recommendation for further investigation 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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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(s); 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. I can be reached at (509) 454-7839.

Sincerely,



Dick Bassett
Site Manager
Toxics Cleanup Program

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Enc: Chapter 173-340 WAC
Chapter 70.105D RCW

cc: Art McEwen/Ted Silvestri, Yakima County Health Department