

## DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47775 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7775 • (360) 407-6300

January 13, 2010

Jeffrey Nevin PO Box 344 Davenport WA 99122

Dear Mr. Nevin:

RE:

Early Notice Letter Regarding the Release of Hazardous Substances at the Boulevard Nursery (site name), located at 2021 Boulevard Rd SE, Olympia, Washington 98501. Facility Site Identification Number: 3749

Under Chapter 70.105 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) the Department of Ecology (Ecology) is required to conduct an Initial Investigation, of properties where we have received a report that there has been a release or threatened release of hazardous substance that could pose a threat to human health or the environment.

Ecology maintains a list of sites where an initial investigation has found that further testing and possible cleanup is needed. We call this our "database of Confirmed or Suspected Contaminated Sites". As a result of the initial investigation conducted by the Thurston County Environmental Health Department, this property has been added to the database as a State Cleanup Site. The Facility Site Identification number assigned to this site is 3749. Please note that inclusion in this database does not mean Ecology has determined you liable for cleanup of the site, as that is a separate determination under the law.

This site has been added to our database because soil and groundwater contaminated with low levels of pesticides DDD, DDE and DDT were detected in soil samples at levels exceeding Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Method A cleanup levels. Groundwater contamination is suspected on this property as well. We are aware this property was a nursery with several operational greenhouses and a retail store for more than 50 years. We understand this property was abandoned and has been vandalized and is in ruins. Our report includes a Phase I Environmental Assessment which was completed for West Coast Bank in March of 2009. It is our understanding a screening level assessment was used to collect samples and was not sufficient to define the magnitude or extent of the pesticide impacts on the property. The fact that several pesticides (which are not banned from use because of their threat to human and ecological health) were detected is of concern, considering that the property could be re-developed for residential use. The purpose of the initial investigation is to confirm or deny the possibility of contamination on site. In the future, Ecology may conduct a more detailed inspection of this property including additional testing for contamination. This inspection is called a "Site Hazard Assessment". At that time, Ecology will assess whether action will be needed and if necessary establish a priority for the work.

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Ecology's policy is to work cooperatively with individuals to accomplish prompt and effective cleanups. Your cooperation with Ecology in planning or conducting a remedial action is not an admission of guilt or liability. Please be aware of state laws that must be adhered to if you decide to proceed with cleanup work on your own. The primary law is Chapter 70.105D RCW and the implementing regulations, the Model Toxics Control Act Cleanup Regulation (MTCA or Chapter 173-340 WAC). These laws can be found at Ecology's Toxics Cleanup Program website, <a href="http://www.ecy.wa.gov/toxicscleanup/policy">http://www.ecy.wa.gov/toxicscleanup/policy</a>.

If you would like a printed copy of the MTCA regulations or if you have questions call me at (360) 407-6240. These rules and how they impact each site can be confusing and complicated. There are Environmental Consultants that can be employed to assist property owners with the cleanup and site assessment process.

Ecology's Voluntary Cleanup Program is designed to provide technical assistance, for a fee, to cleanup sites that qualify. If you would like additional information regarding this program you can find information on our website at <a href="http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/vcp/vcpmain.htm">http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/vcp/vcpmain.htm</a> or you can contact Scott Rose at 360-407-6347.

Sincerely,

Kim Cross

Toxics Cleanup Program Southwest Regional Office

ksc:ENL 011310 Boulevard Nursery

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by certified mail: (7009 1410 0002 4420 0990)

cc: Terry Morrison & Steve Bucher, West Coast Bank

Terrance Donahue, Managing Member Eisenhower & Carlson, PLLC, Successor Trustee

Gerald Tousley, Thurston County Environmental Health Department

Cris Matthews, Department of Ecology