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April 26, 2005

VIA FAX (360-407-6305)

Mr. Marv Coleman

Site Manager/Inspector

Southwest Regional Office

Toxics Cleanup Program

State of Washington Department of Ecology

P.O. Box 47775

Olympia, Washington 98504-7775

RE: Notice of Potential Liability with respect to
1414 Center Street, Tacoma, Washington

Dear Mr. Coleman:

I am in receipt of your letter dated March 31, 2005 in which the Department of Ecology has indicated that it believes that Graybar Electric Company, Inc. may be potentially liable for the release of hazardous substances in its capacity as the owner of the facility located at 1414 Center Street, Tacoma, Washington.

Graybar fully intends to cooperate with the Department of Ecology with respect to the investigation of hazardous substances on this property. However, given the nature of our operations at 1414 Center Street, Tacoma, Washington, Graybar has no reason to believe that we have actually released any hazardous substances onto this property. Graybar believes that other previous owners (e.g., Shell Oil) are more likely to have been responsible for any hazardous substances that may be found on the property.

Graybar has in the process of engaging Washington counsel who is preparing to conduct an investigation of historic operations at the property. We will keep you apprised of our findings.

Sincerely,

Alice W. Lehnhoff

c: Mr. Gillis Reavis, Foster Pepper & Shefelman, PLLC