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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

*Northwest Regional Office • 3190 160th Avenue SE • Bellevue, Washington 98008-5452 • (425) 649-7000
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September 22, 2020

Bradley M. Marten
Marten Law
1191 Second Ave., Suite 2200
Seattle, WA 9810
(bmarten@martenlaw.com)

Re: Final Determination of Potential Liability for Release of Hazardous Substances at the following Contaminated Site:

- **Site Name:** Seattle Times
- **Site Address:** 1120 John Street, Seattle, Washington
- **Cleanup Site ID:** 14495
- **Facility/Site ID:** 4377754

Dear Bradley Marten:

On July 8, 2020, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) sent you written notice of our preliminary determination that the Seattle Times Company (Seattle Times) is a potentially liable person (PLP) for a release of hazardous substances at the Seattle Times facility (Site). On September 8, 2020, Ecology agreed to your request to extend Seattle Time's 30-day comment period to Friday, September 11. On September 11, 2020, Ecology received your written comments.

Based on available information, Ecology finds that credible evidence exists that Seattle Times is liable for a release of hazardous substances at the Site. On the basis of this finding, Ecology has determined that Seattle Times is a PLP with regard to the Site.

The purpose of the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) is to identify, investigate, and cleanup facilities where hazardous substances have been released. Liability for environmental contamination under MTCA is strict, joint and several (RCW 70A.305.040(2)). Ecology ensures that contaminated sites are investigated and cleaned up to the standards set forth in the MTCA statute and regulations. Ecology has determined that it is in the public interest for remedial actions to take place at this Site. Ecology will contact you regarding the actions necessary for the Seattle Times to bring about the prompt and thorough cleanup of hazardous substances at this Site. Failure to cooperate with Ecology or comply with MTCA in this matter will result in Ecology employing enforcement tools as it deems necessary and appropriate. This includes, but

Bradley M. Marten
September 22, 2020
Page 2

is not limited to, the issuance of an administrative order. Failure to comply with such an order may result in a fine of up to \$25,000 per day and liability for up to three times the costs incurred by the state (RCW 70A.305.050(1)).

Your rights and responsibilities as a PLP are outlined in Chapter 70A.305 RCW, and Chapters 173-340 and 173-204 WAC. Ecology's cleanup project manager for the Site, Sunny Becker, will contact you with information about how Ecology intends to proceed with the cleanup.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Sunny Becker by phone at (425) 649-7187 or by email at sunny.becker@ecy.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Robert W. Warren
Section Manager
Toxics Cleanup Program, NWRO

cc: Jeffrey D. Laveson, Carney, Badley, Spellman, (Laveson@carneylaw.com)
John Level, Office of the Attorney General, (john.level@atg.wa.gov)
Derek Threet, Office of the Attorney General, (derek.threet@atg.wa.gov)
Sunny Becker, Toxics Cleanup Program, (sunny.becker@ecy.wa.gov)
Ecology Site File