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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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January 20, 2021

Sonja Max  
914 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bellingham, WA 98225  
([sonjamx@gmail.com](mailto:sonjamx@gmail.com))

**Re: Request for Information on Status of VCP Project for the following Site:**

- **Site Name:** Cascade Laundry
- **Site Address:** 205 Prospect St., Bellingham WA 98225
- **Facility/Site ID No.:** 21786898
- **VCP Project No.:** NW3076
- **Cleanup Site ID No.:** 11853

Dear Sonja Max:

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) appreciates your decision to clean up the Cascade Laundry facility (Site) independently. This letter is a reminder about the project and that Ecology is committed to assisting you in reaching site closure. In order to do that, we are requesting information on the status of your cleanup and your continued interest in the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP).

Due to the high volume of interest in the program, Ecology has made a few changes to ensure our resources are aligned with current VCP project needs. Ecology is requiring that VCP sites are actively conducting remedial actions and that a request for an opinion on current work is pending. Also, we are requiring that a schedule of planned Site cleanup milestones is submitted, showing a committed interest to remain in the VCP to continue receiving Ecology assistance in the near future.

Our records indicate that we have no information on remedial actions that were conducted during the past year at your Site. The last information Ecology received was the *Groundwater Well Installation Update* dated June 15, 2018. Ecology's most recent opinion letter was issued on October 30, 2017.

## **Request for Information**

Please submit the following information to Ecology within 30 days of the date of this letter so we are able to continue to assist you on this project:

1. **Cleanup status report.**
2. **Any reports documenting the cleanup or other associated activities.** Please use Ecology's Remedial Investigation Checklist or other appropriate checklist for cleanup reports submitted. This ensures that all the required information will be included. The checklists are located at: <https://ecology.wa.gov/Spills-Cleanup/Contamination-cleanup/Cleanup-process/Cleanup-options/Voluntary-cleanup-program/Reporting-requirements>
3. **A work plan and schedule for completing the cleanup.** The schedule for completing cleanup actions must be included with your response and should include significant milestones, such as remedial investigation results, quarterly ground water compliance monitoring events, feasibility study evaluations, and anticipated submittal of documents and requests for Ecology opinions. Contingencies and alternative approaches should be identified if the cleanup is not progressing within the expected time frame.
4. **A VCP "Change of Contact Form" for each of the following VCP project contacts, if applicable:** project manager, project billing contact, project consultant, project attorney, or property owner. A dated form should be submitted for each contact for which these project roles has changed. The form is located at:  
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/ECY070218.html>

Please note that any change in the VCP Customer organization (a representative of which signs the VCP Agreement) requires termination of the existing Agreement and completion of a new VCP application and agreement.

Long-term ground water monitoring alone is not considered by Ecology to be a remedial activity and will not be used to determine that a Site is actively conducting cleanup. If monitoring is very close to completion, Ecology may allow the project to remain in the VCP for closure.

## **Next Steps**

Based on your response, Ecology may contact you to discuss whether continuing participation in the VCP is warranted at this time. If the VCP is terminated, you can always re-apply in the future to the VCP, when more remedial activities have occurred or a request for opinion is

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needed. Ecology's decision to terminate participation will be provided in writing. **Please note that if no response is received within 30 days of the date of this letter, Ecology may close the VCP Agreement governing this project.**

#### **Contact Information**

We are committed to working with you to accomplish the prompt and effective cleanup of your Site. If you have any questions about this request, please contact me by phone at (425) 324-1892 or by email at [michael.warfel@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:michael.warfel@ecy.wa.gov).

Sincerely,



Michael R. Warfel  
VCP Site Manager  
Toxics Cleanup Program, NWRO

cc: Kim Ninnemann, Stratum Group ([kim@stratumgroup.net](mailto:kim@stratumgroup.net))