

## STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1250 W Alder St • Union Gap, WA 98903-0009 • (509) 575-2490

April 10, 2017

Farley Walker Business Manager Ellensburg School District 1300 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Ellensburg, WA 98926

Re: No Further Action (NFA) Determination for:

Site Name:

Ellensburg School District Transportation

Site Address:

1501 East Capital Avenue, Ellensburg

Facility/Site Number:

54157662

Cleanup Site ID Number:

6246

Dear Mr. Walker:

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) appreciates your cooperation with the above-referenced Site. As you know, environmental work was recently completed by GeoEngineers. As a result of the work completed, Ecology has determined **no further remedial action** is necessary. Please refer to the following for site history, contamination information, and data analysis regarding Ecology's determination.

On August 17, 2000, a fuel dispenser located on the east side of the facility was removed. On August 24, 2000, one 2,000-gallon gasoline (tank 1), one 12,000-gallon diesel (tank 2), one 12,000-gallon gasoline (tank 3), and one 1,500-gallon waste oil (tank 4) underground storage tank (UST) were decommissioned and removed. Soil samples collected from beneath the diesel dispenser indicated the diesel-range petroleum hydrocarbons (DRPH) concentration (12,000 parts per million [ppm]) exceeded the Washington State Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Method A cleanup level (2,000 ppm). A groundwater sample collected from the tank 1, 2 and 3 excavation contained detectable gasoline-range petroleum hydrocarbons (GRPH), benzene, toluene and xylene concentrations; however, only benzene exceeded the current MTCA Method A cleanup level. Additional remedial actions were not taken at that time.

In 2016, Ecology received funding through the Model Remedies Grant Program (the Grant Program) to provide additional site characterization to assist a limited number of leaking underground storage tank (LUST) sites towards closure. The intent of these proposed activities was to further characterize previously identified petroleum impacts at LUST sites still awaiting receipt of a NFA determination from Ecology. As a result, the Ellensburg School District Transportation site was selected to receive a portion of these funds.



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To perform the proposed characterization activities funded by the Grant Program, Ecology retained GeoEngineers of Spokane, Washington. GeoEngineers subsequently coordinated and directed the advancement of 3 soil borings at the Site on October 31, 2016. Three soil and three groundwater samples were collected in the vicinity of the former UST cavity to evaluate for the presence of residual hydrocarbons beneath this area of the Site. Laboratory analyses of these samples did not detect concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons or associated constituents above their associated MTCA Method A cleanup levels (CULs). A more detailed summary of these activities is provided in the attached Site Summary Report.

## **Determination**

Ecology has evaluated the results of the further characterization activities completed in October of 2016, and has concluded that **no further remedial action** is necessary to clean up residual petroleum hydrocarbon contamination at the Site. That conclusion is based on the following analysis:

- Decommissioning and removal of the original, on-Site USTs has removed the source of petroleum hydrocarbons and related constituents beneath the Site;
- Concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons and related constituents were not detected in the soil samples, collected at the Site on October 31, 2016, above their respective MTCA Method A CULs; and
- Concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons and related constituents were not detected in the groundwater samples, collected at the Site on October 31, 2016, above their respective MTCA Method A CULs.

As a result of this information, Ecology is issuing an NFA determination for the Site using Model Remedy No. 1, as identified in Ecology's "Model Remedies for Sites with Petroleum Contaminated Soils" (Publication No. 15-09-043, September 2015). Under this option, it has been determined that the historic removal of contaminated soil has achieved Method A CULs beneath the Site.

This determination is based on the information contained in the Site Summary Report and associated analytical reports and documentation. Additional documents related to the reported historical release of petroleum hydrocarbons from the Site UST system are kept in the Central Files of the Central Region Office of Ecology for review.

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## Limitations

- 1. This opinion does not settle liability with the state. Liable persons are strictly liable, jointly and severally, for all remedial action costs and for all natural resources damages resulting from the release or releases of hazardous substances at the site. This opinion does not:
  - Change the boundaries of the site.
  - Resolve or alter a person's liability to the state.
  - Protect liable persons from contribution claims by third parties.

To settle liability with the state and obtain protection from contribution claims, a person must enter into a consent decree with Ecology under RCW 70.105D.040(4).

- 2. This opinion does not constitute a determination of substantial equivalence. To recover remedial action costs from other liable persons under MTCA, one must demonstrate that the action is the substantial equivalent of an Ecology-conducted or Ecology-supervised action. This opinion does not address whether the actions taken at this site are substantially equivalent. Courts make that determination. See RCW 70.105D080 and WAC 173-340-545.
- 3. The state, Ecology and its officers and employees are immune from all liability, and no cause of action of any nature may arise from any act or omission in providing this opinion. See RCW 70.105D.030(1)(i).

## **Contact Information**

If you have any questions about this opinion, please contact me by e-mail at jeff.newschwander@ecy.wa.gov or by phone at (509) 454-7842.

Sincerely,

Jeff Newschwander

Site Manager

Toxics Cleanup Program – Central Region Office

Enclosures (1)