



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

Northwest Region

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TTY 711

October 11, 2021

Lauren Mancuso
Union Pacific Railroad
1408 Middle Harbor Road
Oakland, CA 94607

Re: PCB Areawide – N Bradford St. ROW, Portland, Oregon
ECSI ID# 6480

Dear Ms. Mancuso:

The purpose of this letter is to provide Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR) with options related to polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) soil contamination present along the UPRR tracks located on N Bradford St. between N Baltimore Ave. and N Philadelphia Ave. in Portland, Oregon (hereafter Site). Information obtained by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality indicates that you are the owner and/or operator of this Site. As an owner and/or operator, you are a potential responsible party for historical and/or ongoing releases of hazardous substances from this Site (Oregon Revised Statute 465.200 et seq.)

DEQ has assigned a high priority to this Site for further investigation and remedial action. The basis for this determination is discussed later in this letter. Given the high priority, the following options are available to you:

1. Conduct investigation and remedial action under DEQ's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). With this option, parties obtain regulatory review and DEQ oversight of all remedial action work performed to investigate and cleanup contamination. In the VCP, you pay an initial deposit, typically \$5,000, to cover DEQ's anticipated oversight costs. You will be invoiced if total costs exceed the initial deposit, or reimbursed if total costs are less than the deposit. If you elect to join the VCP, you must send a signed VCP Intent to Participate form to DEQ. Additional information on the VCP and the VCP Intent to Participate form are available at DEQ's web page: <https://go.oregon.gov/xMVpE>.
2. Wait for DEQ to place you under an enforcement order. With this option, DEQ may place you under an enforcement order if you have not entered the VCP within 30 business days or if the complexities of remedial action warrant an enforcement order.

DEQ is also discussing the Site with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Removal Program. DEQ may request EPA perform removal actions to address immediate risks to human health. EPA would seek recovery of costs from appropriate responsible parties.

As mentioned above, DEQ has assigned a high priority to this Site for further action. The information supporting this decision is summarized below:

- Several source control investigations have been performed in and near the Site associated with the Portland Harbor Superfund Site. PCBs were detected in multiple samples collected along the rail line at concentrations up to 21.7 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) during these investigations.
- The Site is adjacent to Cathedral Park. Community members frequently cross the railroad tracks in the area of contaminated surface soil to access the park. Community members have expressed concerns about exposure to the contamination.
- Historical railroad operations may have contributed to PCB contamination. The extent of PCB contamination along the UPRR right-of-way has not been delineated in an area that is frequently used by the general public as they cross or walk along the rail line to get from one part of Cathedral Park to another.

Under Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 465.260, DEQ has the authority to recover remedial action costs, which include site assessment activities. Please note, DEQ intends to collect costs incurred to date in addition to oversight costs that will be incurred in the future.

DEQ would like to offer to meet with you to discuss these options if desired. Please notify DEQ of your interest in entering the VCP within the next 30 days. You may contact the Project Manager, Franziska Landes, at 503-229-5538 (or franziska.landes@deq.state.or.us) if you have any questions or comments or would like more information on the VCP.

DEQ looks forward to working with you to cleanup and protect Oregon's environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Parrett', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kevin Parrett, Manager
Northwest Region Cleanup Program