23014990



Bruce P. Mason Lawrence D. Mishkin David W. Silver Keith J. Wenk

Timothy E. Hirsch OF COUNSEL Adam E. Berman Leonard Mason Nancy L. Nagel

By Facsimile (414) 263-8606; Original by Certified Mail; Return Receipt Requested State of Wisconsin

Department of Natural Resources Southeast Region Headquarters 2300 N. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212-0436

January 18, 2006

#### CHICAGO • NORTHBROOK

1033 Skokie Boulevard Suite 250 Northbrook, Illinois 60062

> 847-656-6000 Fax 847-656-6010

Writer's Direct Dial:

(847) 656-6070

#### Re: <u>Reported Contamination at the Town 'N' Country Laundromat, Inc.</u> 7513 45th Avenue, Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin (the "Property")

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Mike Silver ("Silver"), the President and sole shareholder of Town N Country Laundromat, Inc. ("TNC"), to address several issues related to the environmental condition of the Property.

TNC acquired the assets of the laundromat located at the Property from Robert O. Kruger d/b/a Town N' Country Laundromat in December 1994, and entered into a new lease for the Property with the owner, Town 'N' Country Building Corporation. Mr. Kruger informed Silver that the Property was contaminated prior to Mr. Kruger's ownership of the laundromat, and that Mr. Kruger converted the dry cleaning system to prevent any future spills or contamination. From the date of acquisition through the date of this letter, TNC has utilized the services of Safety Kleen and its predecessor to remove all tetrachloroethylene and related filters from the Property without any incident of spillage or leakage. (I will forward complete records from Safety Kleen to the Department upon my receipt thereof.) In addition, TNC has fully complied with all licensing requirements imposed by the DNR and has paid all taxes associated with its operation of the laundromat on the Property including, but not limited to, the taxes related to the Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Fund Program ("DERF").

Sometime during either July or August 2005, the Property was sold by the party who had owned the Property during TNC's entire tenancy to a third party purchaser (the "New Owner"). It is my understanding that the New Owner, prior to its acquisition of the Property, performed at least a Phase I, and possibly a Phase II, environmental examination of the Property.

According to D.J. Burns ("Burns") of Drake Environmental, Inc., Craig Yale, one of the principals of the New Owner ("Yale") directed Burns to file a Fax Notification for Hazardous Substance Discharge (the



State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources January 18, 2006 Page -2-

"Notice") with the Department to report the findings of the Phase I and/or Phase II to the Department. (Copies of Burns' fax cover sheet and the Notice are attached to this letter.) According to Burns, Yale instructed him to list Silver as the "Responsible Party" in the Notice, which Burns did without first speaking or in any way obtaining the prior consent of Silver. When asked why he filed the Notice without Silver's consent, Burns said that Yale told him Silver "was a family friend" and Silver had approved of the filing. In a recent office conference, Yale denied that he referred to Silver as a "family friend", but instead told Burns that Yale and Silver had "mutual friends". Whether Yale told Burns that Silver was a family friend or that they had mutual friends is irrelevant because, in either case, Yale's statement was made to induce Burns to file the Notice without Silver's consent, but in Silver's name so that Yale and the New Owner could obtain financial assistance from DERF to clean up the contamination on the Property. Consequently, Burns filed the Notice with the Department on or about August 4, 2005, without first inquiring as to whether Silver consented to the filing or if Silver was even a Responsible Person.

Subsequently, on or about August 9, 2005, the Department sent a letter (copy enclosed) to Silver, in care of D.J. Burns at Drake Environmental, describing Silver's legal responsibilities related to the environmental condition of the Property. Then, on November 10, 2005, three months after the date of the letter, Yale sent a copy of the Department's letter to Silver. It was at this point in time that all the facts surrounding the filing of the Notice were first presented to Silver.

On December 2, 2005, I sent a letter to Yale (copy enclosed) on behalf Silver and TNC demanding that he immediately retract the incorrect and unauthorized Notice because, based on the facts set forth above, Silver is not a Responsible Person. As of the date of this letter, neither Yale nor Burns have filed a retraction of the Notice. Consequently, on behalf of Silver and TNC, please remove Silver's name from the Notice. In addition, please demand that Yale and Burns re-file the Notice listing the correct person as the Responsible Party.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly.

Sincerely yours,

David W. Silver

Enclosures

cc:

Mr. Mike Silver Mr. Craig Yale (w/out encl.) Mr. D.J. Burns (w/out encl.)

11/17/2005 15:57	7 4143844344	DRAKE ENV	PAGE 02
State of Wisconsin Department of Natural F	Resources	Fax Notification For Ha	zardous Substance Discharge ( <u>Non-Emergency Only</u> Form 4400-225 (07-03) Page 1 of 2
Emerge	ncy Discharges / Spill	s should be reported via the 24-Hour H	lotline: 1-800-943-0003
Stats., Section NR 706 three methods: telepho visiting a Department of all necessary informati violating the reporting to Each day of continued information from this for also be made available	5.05(1)(b), Wis. Adm. Coo oning the Department (tol office in person. If you ch on is included. However requirements of ch. 292 V violation is a separate of orm for any purpose other to requesters under Wis	ust be reported immediately according to de, requires that hazardous substance disc Il free Spill Hotline number above), telefaxin oose to notify the Department by telefax, you use of this form is not mandatory. Under s. Wis. Stats., shall be no less than \$10 nor m ffense. It is not the Department's intention t r than program administration. However, in sconsin's Open Records Law (ss. 19.31 – 1 d with this form, to assist the DNR in proces	harges are to be reported by one of ng a report to the Department or bu should use this form to be sure that 292.99, Wis. Stats., the penalty for nore than \$5000 for each violation. o use any personally identifiable formation submitted on this form may 9.39, Wis. Stats.).
discovery of a potentia Underground Pe Aboveground P Dry Cleaner Fac Other - Describe	I release from (check on etroleum Storage Tank S etroleum Storage Tank S billity (DERP eligibility bas	ystem System sed on: 🔲 Facility owner/operator 🔲 Prope	
	1		(414)263-8483
Name	The second s	Firm Deake Environmen	Date FAXed to DNR
D Box	ens	Firm DRAKE ENVIRONMENT	A 1255 4, 2005
Mailing Address	O SOUTH 11th 5		(Area Bode) Phone Number
	MILWHUKEE V	UI 33204	(414)384-1440
2. Site Informatio			
		lude local name of site/business, <u>not</u> res	ponsible party name, unless a
residence / vacant pro	perty Town 'N	COUNTRY LAUNDEDNU	- 11×.
	et address, not PO Box.	If no street address, describe as precise	
	THs 60 & 123 on E side	of CTH 60	• •
7513 45th			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Municipality (City, Villa	-	municipality in which the site is located, r	ot mailing address/city
PLEASANT	PRMRIE		
County: KENIOSHA	Legal Description:	14. NE 114. Section _11_, Tn_1	_, Range _2.2.
Responsible Pa	arty (RP) and/or RP Re	owner name that is responsible for clean	12 · · · 유명은 이상한 방법이 있는 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
MICHHEL S			
Reported in com	pliance with s. 292.11(2	2), Wis. Stats., by a local government exe ormation see <u>http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/li</u>	mpt from liability under ability/muni_1.html
1 1 1 7 1	1177		

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Contact Person Name (if different) DT BUEAL	5	Phone (444)	384-1440
Mailing Address	City	State	ZIP Code
530 South 11th Street	MILWAUKEE	M	53204

(continued)

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State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources	Fax Notificatio	n For Hazardous Substance Discharge ( <u>Non-Emergency Only</u> ) Form 4400-225_(07-03) Page 2 of 2
4. Hazardous Substance imp Identify hazardous substance disch		
	algeo (check an that eppiy).	
METALS Arsenic Chromium Lead Mercury Metals (specify): SOLVENTS Solvent-Chlorinated	INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS Ammonia Cyanide Paint PCB's VOC's Fertilizers Pesticide/Herbicide/Insecticide(s)	PETROLEUM Diesel/Fuel Oil Engine Oil/Waste Oil Mineral/Transmission/Hydraulic Oil Gasoline (Pb/Non-Pb/Unknown) Jet Fuel/Kerosene MTBE VOC's PAH's/SVOC
Solvent-Non Chlorinated	Leachate	Petroleum-Unknown Type Unknown Other (specify):
Impacts to the environment (enter "	K" for known/confirmed or "P" for potent	
Air Contamination Co-contamination Concrete/Asphalt Contained/Recovered Contamination Within 1 Me Contaminated Private Wel Contaminated Public Well Contaminated Public Well	Groundwater Contan	Koil Contamination     Storm Sewer Contamination     Surface Water Contamination     Within 100 ft of Private Well     Within 1000 ft of Public Well
Date Date	ite assessment Other - Descr	ide: BY DRAKE (7/05) ? OTHERS
Lab results: Lab results will be faxed upo	•	
Additional Comments: Include a brie hazardous substances that have be		to halt the release and contain or cleanup
•		
FAX numbers to report non-emerge	ency releases in DNR's five regions are	as follows:
	u Lac (except City of Waupun - see Sou	<i>ith Central Region</i> ), Green Lake, Kewaunee, wano, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago counties
Northern Region (715-365-8932); At Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burn Sawyer, Taylor, Vilas, Washbu	nett, Douglas, Forest, Florence, Iron, Lang	glade, Lincoln, Oneida, Polk, Price, Rusk,
South Central Region (608-275-333 Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Fond Sauk counties	8); Attention - RR Program Assistant: du Lac ( <i>City of Waupun only</i> ), Grant, Gr	reen, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Richland, Rock,
Southeast Region (414-263-8483); A Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee	Attention - RR Program Assistant: , Racine, Sheboygan, Walworth, Washing	jton, Waukesha counties
Adams, Buffalo, Chippewa, Cla	) <b>; Attention – RR Program Assistant:</b> rk, Crawford, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, npealeau, Vernon, Wood counties	Juneau, LaCrosse, Marathon, Monroe, Pepin,

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NUU-19-2004 07:01

112 400 0004 F.DULL

# GABRIEL

1,2-Dichlombenzene

1,3-Dichlorobenzene

1,4-Dichlorobenzene

1.1-Dichloroothane

1,2-Dichloroethanc

1,1-Dichloroethene

1,2-Dichlotoptoptac

ois-1,2-Dichlorochene

trans-1,2-Dichloroethene

Dichlorodifluoromethano

A#2+71= \$*1+17+5741					
Sample Description: Sample Date: Date Analyzed: Collected By: Method: SW-846-8260B	Location: B-5 (4) 11/09/04 11/11/04 Gabriel	7509 S. 45th Street		Sample No.: Date Received; Matrix: Anolyst; Units:	2004110051-25 11/9/2004 Solids AS 18/Kg (Wet wt)
PARAMETER	RESULT	RL.	PARAMETER	RESULT	RL
Accione	BRL	200	1.3-Dichlutoptopane	ND	25
Begzene	ND	25	2,2-Dichioropropunc	ND	25
Bromobenzene	ND	23	1_1-Dichloropropene	ND	25
Bromochloromethane	ND	25	cia-1,2-Dichloropropene	ND	25
Bromodichloromethage	ND	25	trans-1,3-Dichleropropene	ND	25
Bromotorm	ND	50	Sthylbenzeno	ND	25
Brontomethane	ND	25	Heuchlorobuladiese	ND	25
n-Batythenzene	ND	さら	3-Hoxenone	ND	23
2-Butanone (MBK)	ND	100	Iodomethane	ND	100
sec-Butylbenzene	ND	25	Isopropylbenzene	ND	25
tert-Bulylbonzena	ND	25	4-Isopropyl tolucno	ND	25
Carbon disulfide	ND	100	Methylene chlorido	ND	50
Carbon tetrachloride	ND	.25	4-Methyl-2-pentenone	ND	25
Chlorobenzene	ND	25	Methyl tort-butyl ether	ND	25
Chloroethane	ND	50	Naphthalenc	ND	25
Chloroform	ND	25	n-Propy/benzene	ND	25
Chloromethane	ND	50	Styrene	ND	25
2-Chlorotolucric	ND	25	1,1.1,2-Tetrachloroethano	ND	25
4-Chloroselucas	ND	25	1, 1, 2, 2-Tetrachiorochane	ND	25
Dibromochloromethane	ND	25	Teimchloroethene	12400	E 23
1,2-Dibromo-S-chloropropane	ND	25	Toluenc	NĎ	25
1.2-Dibromoethane	ND	25	1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene	ND	25
Dibromomethans	ND	25	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	ND	25
			a s s and s s s and		- 4

1,1,1-Trichloroethanc

1,1,2-Trichlomethana

Trichlorofluoromethane

1,2,3-Trichloropropane

1.2,4-Trunethylbonzeno

1,3,5-Trimethylbonzonc

Trichlorosthene

Vinyl chloride

Vinyl acame

Xylenes (total)

ND

ND

ND

ND

ND

ND

<u>۾ 18</u>

ND

ND

4560

Е

25

23

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25

25 25

25

50

100

50

:..

 SURROGATE
 %RECOVERY
 LIMITS

 Dibromotherrenethane
 104
 79-123

 Teluene-48
 77 Q\*
 88-119

 4-Bromotherrenethane
 0 \*
 79-117

35

25

25

25

25

25

25

25

25

25

Abbreviations: ND= Compound nor detected J= Concentration < RL, based on detection limit E= Result exceeds calibration curve BRL- Below reportable limits Q= Recovery outside limits All= Matrix interference: RL= Reporting limit

Comments: Initial dilution factor of 5. • high summerization of Tetrachloroethese caused the instrument to stop.

ND

ND

ND

ND

ND

ND

ND

2070

BRJ.

ND

E.

SCREENING CALY	
Data Release Authorized by: 1 Pane Qu	Date: 111104
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and a support of the second second Second second	

**CHAIG G. YALE** & ASSOCIATES, INC.

# REAL ESTATE

Thursday, November 10, 2005

Mr. Mike Silver 1573 Lancelot Highland Park, IL 60035

> Re: Town 'N' Country Laundromat, Inc., 7513 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Pleasant Prairie

Dear Mike:

Enclosed is a copy of the letter from the DNR in regards to the above mentioned property. Drake Environmental will be handling this for us.

If you have any questions, please call me.

Sincerely, Craig Vale, President CRAIG G YALE & ASSOCIATES, INC

enc/



# State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jim Doyle, Governor Scott Hassett, Secretary Gloria L. McCutcheon, Regional Director Southeast Region Headquarters 2300 N. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212-0436 Telephone 414-263-8500 FAX 414-263-8606 TTY 711

August 9, 2005

FID: 230142990 BRRTS: 02-30-543696

Michael Silver % DJ Burns Drake Environmental 530 S. 11<sup>th</sup> Street Milwaukee, WI 53204

Subject: Reported Contamination at the Town 'N' Country Laundromat, Inc., 7513 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Pleaseant Prairie

Dear Mr. Silver:

On August 4, 2005, DJ Burns, Drake Environmental on behalf of Town 'N' Country Laundromat, Inc. notified the Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) that soil and potential groundwater contamination had been detected at the site described above.

Based on the information submitted to the WDNR, we believe you are responsible for restoring the environment at the referenced site under Section 292, Wisconsin Stats., known as the hazardous substances spills law.

This letter describes your legal responsibilities as a person who is responsible under section 292.11, explains what you need to do to investigate, and clean up the contamination; provides you with information about cleanups, environmental consultants, and possible financial assistance; and working cooperatively with the Department of Natural Resources and Department of Commerce ("Commerce").

#### **Legal Responsibilities:**

Your legal responsibilities are defined both in statute and in administrative codes. The hazardous substances spill law, Section 292.11 (3) Wisconsin Statutes, states:

• RESPONSIBILITY. A person who possesses or controls a hazardous substance which is discharged or who causes the discharge of hazardous substance shall take the actions necessary to restore the environment to the extent practicable and minimize the harmful effects from the discharge to the air, lands, or waters of the state.

Wisconsin Administrative Code chapters NR 700 through NR 749 establish requirements for emergency and interim actions, public information, site investigations, design and operation of remedial action systems, and case closure. Chapter NR 708 includes provisions for immediate actions in response to limited contamination. Wisconsin Administrative Code chapter NR 140 establishes groundwater standards for contaminants that reach groundwater.



#### **Steps to Take:**

The longer contamination is left in the environment the farther it can spread and the more it may cost to clean up. Quick action may lessen damage to your property and neighboring properties and reduce your costs in investigating and cleaning up the contamination. To ensure that your cleanup complies with Wisconsin's laws and administrative codes, you should hire a professional environmental consultant who understands what needs to be done. These are the first three steps to take:

- 1. Within the next **30 days**, you should submit <u>written</u> verification (such as a letter from the consultant) that you have hired an environmental consultant. If you do not take action within this time frame, the WDNR may initiate enforcement action against you.
- 2. Within the next 60 days, your consultant should submit a work plan and schedule for the investigation. The consultant must comply with the requirements in the NR 700 rule series and should refer to WDNR technical guidance documents. To facilitate prompt agency review of your reports, your consultant should use the site investigation and closure formats which are available online at www.dnr.state.wi.us.

Once an investigation has established the degree and extent of contamination involved at your site, your consultant will be able to determine whether Commerce or the Department of Natural Resources has authority over the case.

- 3. Within 30 days of completion of the site investigation, you or your consultant must provide a site investigation report per s. NR 716.15. As the remedial activities proceed, you or your consultant should also provide a brief progress report at least every 90 days as required by s. NR 724.13(3), Wis. Adm. Code. Quarterly reports need only include one or two pages of text, plus any relevant maps and tables. Should conditions at your site warrant, we may require more frequent contacts.
- 4. Sites where discharges to the environment have been reported are entered into the Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System ("BRRTS"), a version of which appears on the Department's Internet site. You may view the information related to your site at any time (<u>http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/brrts</u>) and use the feedback system to alert us to any errors in the data.

If you want a formal response from the Department on a specific submittal, please be aware that a review fee is required in accordance with ch. NR 749, Wis. Adm Code If a fee is not submitted with your reports, you should proceed under the advice of your consultant to complete the site investigation to maintain your compliance with the spills law and chs. NR 700 through NR 749. Do not delay the investigation of your site by waiting for a Department response. We have provided detailed technical guidance to environmental consultants. Your consultant is expected to know our technical procedures and administrative codes and should be able to answer your questions on meeting cleanup requirements.

All correspondence regarding this site should be sent to:

Victoria Stovall, Program Assistant Remediation and Redevelopment Program Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources 2300 North Martin Luther King Drive Milwaukee, WI 53212 Unless otherwise requested, please send only one copy of plans and reports. To speed processing, correspondence should reference the BRRTS and FID numbers (if assigned) shown at the top of this letter.

## Additional Information for Site Owners:

Information to help you select a consultant, and materials on controlling costs, understanding the cleanup process, and choosing a site cleanup method are enclosed. In addition, Fact Sheet 2, Voluntary Party Remediation and Exemption from Liability provides information on obtaining the protection of limited liability under s. 292.15, Stats.

#### Financial Assistance:

Reimbursement from the Petroleum Environmental Cleanup Fund (PECFA) may be available for some of the costs of cleaning up contamination from eligible petroleum storage tanks. Please refer to the enclosed information sheet entitled "Information about PECFA" for more information on eligibility and regulations for this program. For more information on the PECFA program, please call the Department of Commerce at 608-266-2424 or visit their web site at:

http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/COM/Com-Petroleum.html. Funding is also available for cleanup at some drycleaning sites.

Call the DNR Victoria Stovall, Program Assistant at (414) 263-8688 for more information on eligibility or visit the RR web site. http://www.dnr.statelwi.us/org/aw/rr. You may also contact this person for all other questions regarding this letter.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely.

Victoria Stovall Program Assistant Remediation & Redevelopment Program Southeast Region

- Enclosures: 1. Fact Sheet
  - 2. Selecting a consultant
  - 3. Fact Sheet 2, VPLE
  - 4. Env. Services Contractors List
  - 5. Inf. About PECFA Fact Sheet

cc: WDNR SER Files



Bruce P. Mason Lawrence D. Mishkin David W. Silver Keith J. Wenk

Timothy E. Hirsch Of COUNSEL Adam E. Berman Leonard Mason Nancy L. Nagel

### By Certified Mail;

Return Receipt Requested Craig G. Yale Craig G. Yale & Associates, Inc. 1141 G Lake Cook Road Deerfield, Illinois 60015

#### CHICAGO • NORTHBROOK

1033 Skokie Boulevard Suite 250 Northbrook, Illinois 60062

> 847-656-6000 Fax 847-656-6010

Writer's Direct Dial:

(847) 656-6070

#### Re: Mike Silver and Town 'N' Country Laundromat, Inc. ("TNC")

December 2, 2005

Dear Craig:

I am writing this letter on behalf of my father, Mike Silver, who is the President of TNC. Through several telephone conversations with D.J. Burns of Drake Environmental, Inc., I have discovered that you directed Mr. Burns to file a Notification for Hazardous Substance Discharge (copy enclosed) on which you instructed Mr. Burns to list Michael [sic] Silver as the "Responsible Party". Mr. Burns followed your direction because you told him that my father was a "family friend" and that the filing would be acceptable to him. The hazardous condition on your property pre-existed TNC's tenancy in the shopping center and TNC has always operated a closed loop system to prevent any further environmental damage. Consequently, neither my father nor TNC is a Responsible Party.

My father never authorized you or anyone else to file this notification on his behalf. Therefore, on behalf of my father and TNC, I hereby demand that you file an immediate retraction of the Notification. If you fail to do so by December 9, 2005, my father and TNC will consider all remedies available including, but not limited to, meeting with the appropriate regulators from the State of Wisconsin.

If you have any questions, please call.

Sincerely yours, David W. Silver

Enclosures cc: Mike Silver Perry J. Snyderman, Esq.