



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jim Doyle, Governor
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February 25, 2008

Ref: DC-258

Mr. James Small
Erlich Family Limited Partnership
P.O. Box 081007
Racine, WI 53408

252010000

Subject: Acknowledgement letter for reimbursement claim to the Dry Cleaner Fund (DERF) for Express Dry Cleaning in Racine

Dear Mr. Small,

This letter is to acknowledge that we have received your claim for reimbursement under the Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Fund (DERF) program.

I will likely have some questions when I get a chance to review the files. I will contact your consultant first with my questions. After the audit is complete you will receive another letter from me that details the audit results.

Under normal circumstances, you would expect a check shortly after the audit is complete. However, a decrease in the number of active, licensed dry cleaners in the state means that revenues in the Dry Cleaner Fund are insufficient to pay current claims. In addition, there is increasing demand for reimbursements from the program, and our entire budget for the State fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007 is already committed to reimbursement requests received on a first come first served basis. The result of both these events means that your reimbursement check will be delayed. Unfortunately, I am unable to predict the length of the delay of your reimbursement, but funds will likely not be available until the summer of '09.

If you would like to see where your claim is in our payment queue, that information can be found on the **Reimbursement Requests Pending** document located in the **Program Stats** area of our webpage, <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr/financial/dryclean.html>

Regardless of the availability of funds, I will begin auditing your claim and the supporting documentation you submitted within the next few week. In this way, I can issue a payment as soon as funds are available, on a first-come, first-served basis. Feel free to call me (608-266-1967) if you have any reimbursement questions.

Sincerely,

(Signed and Mailed Feb 25, 2008)

Jillian Steffes
Dry Cleaning Fund Manager
Bureau of Community Financial Assistance

cc: Mark Drews – SER – Waukesha
William P Scott – Gonzales, Saggio, and Harlan LLP – 225 E Michigan St, 4th Floor,
Milwaukee, WI 53202-4900