



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
CLEANUP

December 11, 2013

Michael J. Thorner
Thorner, Kennedy & Gano P.S.
POB 1410
Yakima, WA 98907-1410

Dear Mr. Thorner,

On August 2, 2013, the Washington State Patrol exploded a pipe bomb containing mercury in the parking lot adjacent to the alley between Eleventh and Twelfth South Avenues in Yakima. During the detonation, mercury sprayed onto the parking lot of 101 South Twelfth Avenue, the parking lot of 207 South Twelfth Avenue and the alley from Chestnut Street to the south property line of 207 South Twelfth Avenue. Mercury was also found on the concrete sidewalk between the grass lawn and the parking lot of 101 South Twelfth Avenue.

The Washington State Department of Ecology requested assistance for the cleanup from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and I responded to the mercury release that afternoon. The mercury was too imbedded in much of the asphalt of the parking lots, alley, and sidewalk to be cleaned by any known mercury removal mechanism. As such, I directed subcontractors to cover the most highly contaminated area of the parking lot of 101 South Twelfth Avenue with a thick layer of hot asphalt. The concrete sidewalk and northern approach to the alley from Chestnut Street were sealed with concrete sealer. The remaining contaminated asphalt areas were covered with a cold asphalt slurry to seal the mercury in place.

These actions were taken to protect people from the immediate danger to human health by inhalation of mercury vapors. The sealants should remain in place indefinitely. However, if you or your agents or any future purchasers of the affected property penetrate the sealants to perform work, mercury could be released and spread to the environment. For that reason, it is important that precautions be taken to prevent releasing the sealed mercury. These include maintaining the sealants on the affected asphalt and concrete areas and properly disposing of any material removed from the affected areas.

A copy of the removal action report is included and both that report and this letter will be filed in the EPA site file for this response and will be available as public documents to future purchasers of the affected properties. If you have any questions, please contact me at (206) 553-0062 or email me at parker.kathy@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy Parker".

Kathy Parker, On Scene Coordinator



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
CLEANUP

December 11, 2013

Duane Gordon
Enigma
207 South 12th Avenue
Yakima, WA 98907

Dear Mr. Gordon,

On August 2, 2013, the Washington State Patrol exploded a pipe bomb containing mercury in the parking lot adjacent to the alley between Eleventh and Twelfth South Avenues in Yakima. During the detonation, mercury sprayed onto the parking lot of 101 South Twelfth Avenue, the parking lot of 207 South Twelfth Avenue and the alley from Chestnut Street to the south property line of 207 South Twelfth Avenue. Mercury was also found on the concrete sidewalk between the grass lawn and the parking lot of 101 South Twelfth Avenue.

The Washington State Department of Ecology requested assistance for the cleanup from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and I responded to the mercury release that afternoon. The mercury was too imbedded in much of the asphalt of the parking lots, alley, and sidewalk to be cleaned by any known mercury removal mechanism. As such, I directed subcontractors to cover the most highly contaminated area of the parking lot of 101 South Twelfth Avenue with a thick layer of hot asphalt. The concrete sidewalk and northern approach to the alley from Chestnut Street were sealed with concrete sealer. The remaining contaminated asphalt areas were covered with a cold asphalt slurry to seal the mercury in place.

These actions were taken to protect people from the immediate danger to human health by inhalation of mercury vapors. The sealants should remain in place indefinitely. However, if you or your agents or any future purchasers of the affected property penetrate the sealants to perform work, mercury could be released and spread to the environment. For that reason, it is important that precautions be taken to prevent releasing the sealed mercury. These include maintaining the sealants on the affected asphalt and concrete areas and properly disposing of any material removed from the affected areas.

A copy of the removal action report is included and both that report and this letter will be filed in the EPA site file for this response and will be available as public documents to future purchasers of the affected properties. If you have any questions, please contact me at (206) 553-0062 or email me at parker.kathy@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathy Parker".

Kathy Parker, On Scene Coordinator