



# Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

520 Lafayette Road North | St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4194 | 651-296-6300

800-657-3864 | Use your preferred relay service | [info.pca@state.mn.us](mailto:info.pca@state.mn.us) | Equal Opportunity Employer

January 11, 2017

Kelly Johnson  
Inter City Oil Company Inc  
PO Box 3048  
Duluth, MN 55803

RE: Petroleum Storage Tank Release  
Site: Junction Oasis, 1711 Hwy 210, Carlton, Carlton County 55718  
MPCA Site ID: LS0020296

Dear Kelly Johnson:

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has learned there was a petroleum tank release at the Site referenced above. As the owner/operator of the tank(s), you are responsible for the contamination caused by the release. According to state law, you must investigate and if necessary, clean up the contamination.

## Your first step

Complete and submit the enclosed *Leak Site Ownership Form* **within 30 days**. If you believe that you are not legally responsible for the release, please contact me immediately.

### Definition of legally responsible:

You are considered legally responsible for a petroleum tank release if you owned or operated the tank either *during or after* the release, unless specifically exempted under the law.  
See Minn. Stat. §115C.021.

## Next steps

Hire a qualified environmental consulting firm to help you investigate and address the contamination. A site investigation must fully define the extent and magnitude of the soil and/or groundwater contamination caused by the release. Investigation and cleanup guidance documents, standardized report forms, and related information are located at the following website: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/petroleum-remediation-program>. Once the investigation is complete, your consultant should summarize the results in an MPCA report form, including a recommendation for additional investigation or monitoring, corrective action, or site closure. If your site is high priority (see below), you must submit the report to the MPCA **within 90 days** of the date of this letter. For all other sites, you must submit the report **within 10 months**.

High-priority sites have one or more of the following conditions. See guidance document 1-01 *Petroleum Remediation Program General Policy* for detailed descriptions of each condition. If you are uncertain whether your site is high priority, please contact me.

- Existing or high risk of drinking water contamination
- Existing or high risk of vapor intrusion into occupied buildings or risk of explosive vapor buildup
- Surface water impacts
- Recent or ongoing releases
- Petroleum free product

## Paying for the work

The Minnesota Petrofund helps tank owners, operators, and volunteer property owners pay for the cost of investigating and cleaning up contamination from petroleum tank releases. You will receive a

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separate mailing from the Minnesota Department of Commerce, which administers the Petrofund, explaining eligibility criteria and how to apply for reimbursement. Please note that applicants are required to use an environmental consulting firm registered with the Petrofund and obtain written competitive bids. Read the Petrofund mailing thoroughly so you know how to be eligible for the maximum reimbursement.

**Please respond**

Your timely response is important. If you do not submit the completed *Leak Site Ownership Form* within 30 days, the MPCA will assume that you do not intend to comply and will begin enforcement actions. Also, please be aware that failure to cooperate in a timely manner will reduce your reimbursement from the Petrofund. Finally, should you fail to take necessary corrective actions, the MPCA may take them on your behalf and request the Petrofund to recover the costs from you.

If you have questions about this letter or the MPCA's requirements, please contact me at 651-757-2838 or [gary.zarling@state.mn.us](mailto:gary.zarling@state.mn.us). Additional contact information is listed below.

Sincerely,



Gary Zarling  
Project Manager  
Petroleum Remediation and Redevelopment Section  
Remediation Division

GWZ:kg

Enclosures

Cc: Carol Conway, Clerk-Treasurer, City of Carlton  
Dane Johnson, Fire Chief, City of Carlton  
Heather Cunningham, Zoning & Environmental Services, Carlton County  
Mark Millsop, Millsop Associates, Crosby  
Ginger Commodore, Department of Commerce (ec)

**Contacts and more information:**

Please have your MPCA Site ID available when calling about your site

**MPCA Project Manager for this site:** 651-757-2838 or [gary.zarling@state.mn.us](mailto:gary.zarling@state.mn.us)

**Petrofund:** Reimbursement questions? 651-539-1515 or 800-638-0418,  
or go to <http://mn.gov/commerce/industries/fuel/petrofund/index.jsp>

**MPCA Petroleum Remediation Program guidance documents:**

<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/waste/waste-and-cleanup/cleanup/cleanup-guidance.html>

**MPCA Brownfields Program:** Selling or redeveloping contaminated property?

Go to <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/lupg7f9>