



November 18, 2022

Via Email Only

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
ATTN: Jeff Paddock
107 Sutliff Ave.
Rhineland, WI 54501-3349
Jeffrey.Paddock@Wisconsin.gov

**RE: Lake Superior Cleaners - 802 Main Street West, Ashland, WI
Professional Health Care Launderers, Inc.**

Dear Mr. Paddock,

Please be advised that I have been retained for the limited purpose of responding to your correspondence of July 14, 2022. My clients have advised me that they have consulted with an Environmental Consultant who told them that the costs of the cleanup at the above property could upwards of a half million dollars. This is not something that they can afford as this real estate and building is the only asset of that corporation, and they have informed me that the value of the whole property is less than \$80,000. This is not an on-going business operation and the family is winding down the affairs of all of the companies after the passing of the patriarch, Max Blaufuss.

The Corporation is doing their best to handle this situation as responsibly as they can. They apparently have been in communication with the potential buyer that triggered all of this, and there is a possibility that he may take the property AS IS and assume the liability and the cleanup. They are still negotiating with him on that and apparently no agreement has been reached yet. More time is needed to evaluate their options. I am told that this is NOT a case of an ongoing contamination, and the contamination was done upwards of 40-50 years ago. And again, this is a business that has been shut down and is no longer operating.

The purpose of this letter to is to reach out to you to let you know that they are not just ignoring this matter, but to also inform you that they cannot afford the costs of the cleanup for a contamination dating to a time before they even owned the property. The only asset of the Corporation is this land and building, and the value is far less than the projected costs of cleanup. They would like to do their best to find a resolution to this matter that is workable for them and the Dept. of Natural Resources.

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612-209-5478 | gatewaylawoffice@gmail.com

They are also looking into hiring local legal counsel if they need it and/or pursuing a bankruptcy filing. I ask that you reach out to Betsy Blaufuss directly (612-759-7800) or Rick McMahon (612-964-3920) from Lake Superior Cleaners to see if there are some workable solutions to this matter. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration in this matter.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Brock P. Alton

GATEWAY LAW LLC

cc: John Cabak