



COLORADO

Governor Jared Polis

Mr. Jay Brown
Jaylon, Inc.
2530 Crawford Avenue
Suite 102
Evanston, IL 60201

Sent via email to: jaylon7@gmail.com

August 14, 2020

**RE: Thornton Shopping Center/Thornton, LLC
Northeast Corner of 88th & Washington
Thornton, Colorado**

Dear Mr. Brown:

Thank you for your letter, dated May 8, 2020, concerning the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and the Thornton Shopping Center, located at 88th and Washington in the City of Thornton.

First, I want to acknowledge your cleanup efforts to-date. Environmental regulation can be complicated to navigate; however, there has to be accountability from responsible parties. The State of Colorado's highest mission is to ensure the protection of human health and the environment, which includes the safety and wellbeing of our citizens. I strongly support CDPHE's fulfillment of that critical mission, and the lawful exercise of its regulatory authority.

The source of contamination on the Thornton Shopping Center property was a dry cleaning operation, which released toxic dry cleaning chemicals to soil and water over a number of years. The dry cleaning chemicals released at the site are classified as hazardous waste based on the Resource Conservation Recovery Act/Colorado Hazardous Waste Act. The illegal disposal of such waste is regulated by CDPHE under its Resource Conservation Recovery Act/Colorado Hazardous Waste Act authority.

The Thornton Shopping Center site has been heavily impacted by the toxic dry cleaning chemicals. Contamination is in groundwater off-site. Currently, there are about 100 other dry cleaning sites in the State of Colorado that have released the same material to the environment which are also subject to CDPHE's corrective action authority.

While CDPHE has required groundwater monitoring and indoor air sampling over time at the Thornton Shopping Center to ensure public health is protected, more testing and treatment must be done in order to clean up the pollution to standards.

Over the course of the last 15 years, CDPHE has attempted working with you and Thornton, LLC, in an attempt to address contamination related to the site. Furthermore, CDPHE staff have met with the City of Thornton and potential purchasers of the property to evaluate remediation that would be possible with redevelopment of the site.

In addition, it appears that you proposed the selected remediation method and plan to CDPHE. You are the responsible party for implementation of the corrective action plan proposed and cleaning up these toxic chemicals. Accordingly, I strongly urge you to comply with environmental requirements and continue communicating with CDPHE, to ensure this contamination is properly remediated.

I hope you can work with CDPHE to see this site remediated in a timely and thorough manner. Please contact your CDPHE regulator, Lindsay Masters, at lindsay.masters@state.co.us to continue this conversation, and I thank you again for bringing this matter to my attention.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jared Polis
Governor