

March 22, 2017

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
700 NE Multnomah St. Suite 600
Portland, OR 97232-4100

Re: Notice of Civil Penalty Assessment and Order
Case No. LQ/SW-NWR-2017-006

Request for contested case hearing

Valet Waste is requesting a contested case hearing with respect to the civil penalty issued for mixing source separated recyclable material with solid waste at the Deveraux Glen Apartments in Portland, which we received on March 6, 2017.

We are committed to working with the Oregon DEQ, Metro and all local governments to reduce recycling contamination, increase recycling participation and provide recycling education to all multifamily properties.

Per our conversation this week, we took the action to describe several common ways in which blue bags can end up in solid waste containers at a multifamily property. Our property managers have opted for a five night per week service, and residents can access the source separated recycling and solid waste containers at any time and improperly dispose of their material in blue bags. Property management maintenance can also contribute to source separated recyclables in the waste stream when acting to decontaminate recycling containers based on feedback from the hauler. There are various ways that blue bags can end up in the waste stream, under which we have no control. We are happy to use these instances as educational opportunities, and as we align ourselves to the standard of education established by the DEQ, we will only get better. We respectfully request any documentation for the accountability or standard we were held to, so that we can verify that it was indeed a Valet Waste associate.

Sincerely,



Heath Hallada
Vice President of Sustainability
Valet Waste
HHallada@valetwaste.com