December 26th, 2023

Ken Hugoniot, Public Records Administrator
Jefferson County
1820 Jefferson Street
PO Box 1220, Port Townsend, WA 98368
publicrecords@co.jefferson.wa.us

Re: Public records related to ground-disturbing activities and dangerous waste storage at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds

Dear Mr. Hugoniot:

Center for Sustainable Economy, its members, and its local partners are concerned about recent ground disturbing activities on portions of the Jefferson County Fairgrounds that have left deep ruts and contaminated water on site as well as storage of contaminated drums containing residues of oil and other petroleum products, some of which are open and venting fumes. These activities took place during the late summer and early fall of 2023. Please see attached photos regarding the affected parcels.

We are concerned that none of this activity has been legally permitted. In order to identify the responsible parties and any actions Jefferson County has or will take to mitigate these impacts, please provide us with the following records pursuant to the Public Records Act (42.56 RCW) and Jefferson County’s policies and procedures to implement this statute:

1. Records identifying the person(s) responsible for ground disturbing activities depicted in Exhibit A at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, which took place in the late summer and fall of 2023.

2. Records that identify the person(s) responsible for storing used oil drums and tires at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds depicted in Exhibit A.

3. Records of any permits or other written or verbal authorizations issued by Jefferson County or any other unit of state or local government for the ground disturbing activities and waste storage depicted in Exhibit A.

4. Records of any environmental analysis associated with ground disturbing activities and waste storage depicted in Exhibit A at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

5. Records of any payments to the person(s) responsible for ground disturbing activities or waste storage at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds depicted in Exhibit A.
We are requesting these records in order to educate our members and partners about the purpose of the ground disturbing and waste storage activities depicted in Exhibit A and the extent to which Jefferson County has knowledge of such activities. As such, we have no commercial interest in these records. I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

John Talberth
Center for Sustainable Economy
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Port Townsend, WA 98368
(510) 384-5724
jtalberth@sustainable-economy.org
Exhibit A:
12-22-23 Conditions at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds