



May 3, 2018

Blake Bennett, PhD
Materials Management Section
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
700 NE Multnomah St, Suite #600
Portland, OR 97232

Dear Blake,

Thank you for sending the final audit report.

We are pleased that the auditor found the program to be in compliance with all statutory requirements and the requirements of the Program Plan. We retain our view that the audit report is flawed to the extent it fails to use objective benchmarks as the basis for conclusions and recommendations contained in the report. We noticed that the auditor addressed many of the inaccuracies and mischaracterizations that we pointed out previously, but several such issues still remain, and a few others were introduced by the auditor's latest revisions. I have shared some of them with you in conversation and would be happy to revisit them in the hope that misperceptions between us do not persist.

That said, we do not feel it is necessary or productive to dwell on PaintCare's lingering reservations with the audit report. We are interested in moving the program forward, which may include discussing with DEQ any of the recommendations that it believes are important. In particular, we take to heart the auditor's recommendation that PaintCare and DEQ work to improve communication with one another.

We look forward to working collaboratively with DEQ towards improving the program for the residents of Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeremy Jones".

Jeremy Jones
West Coast Program Manager
PaintCare