



State of Vermont

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation
Department of Environmental Conservation
State Geologist
RELAY SERVICE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED
1-800-253-0191 TDD>Voice
1-800-253-0195 Voice>TDD

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management Division
103 South Main Street/West Office
Waterbury, Vermont 05671-0404
(802) 241-3888
FAX (802) 241-3296

September 13, 2001

Board of Trustees
Beeman Elementary School
50 North Street
New Haven, Vermont 05472

RE: Petroleum Contamination at the Beeman Elementary School, New Haven, Vermont (SMS Site # 2001-2903)

Dear Sirs:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has received the Underground Storage Tank (UST) closure report which outlines the subsurface conditions for the above referenced site. The fieldwork was conducted by South Mountain Research and Consulting Services on July 9 and 10, 2001. The report is dated July 14, 2001 and summarizes the degree and extent of contamination encountered. The USTs removed include:

- UST #1 - 10,000 gallon No. 2 fuel oil UST

During the site activities, screened soils had concentrations up to 52 parts per million (ppm) as measured by a photoionization detector (PID). The peak PID reading was measured at a depth of 10.0 feet below ground surface (fbgs) in the UST excavation. Approximately 110 cubic yards of excavated soil were stockpiled off-site due to the presence of PID elevated headspace readings. Two confirmatory soil samples from the hardpan base of excavation were laboratory analyzed for BTEX and MTBE by Method 8021B and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPHs) by Method 8015-DRO (diesel range organics). No petroleum-related compounds targeted by the 8260 method or the 8015 method were detected above reporting limits in either sample. The limits of soil contamination were defined by an 'excavation to clean' process.

Site soils consisted of medium to coarse grained fill surrounded by native dense glacial till. Perched groundwater/infiltrated surface water was encountered on the hardpan base at a depth of approximately 12.0 fbgs. Actual depth to groundwater and bedrock base on the on-supply well log is approximately 180.0 feet.

The Beeman Elementary School was inspected for sensitive receptors. The possible receptors potentially affected include the site soils, the school building and an the on-site supply well. Additional potential receptors were the Cedar Swamp along the Little Otter Creek approximately 0.6 miles to the northeast and a tributary to the Little Otter Creek approximately 0.3 miles to the south of the former UST.

Based on the report information, the SMS requests that the Beeman Elementary School retain the services of a qualified environmental consultant to perform the following:

- Develop a plan to treat and/or monitor the stockpiled soils. The soils must remain located in an area such that they have a low potential to impact nearby receptors. The soils must also remain properly encapsulated in plastic. **The plan should demonstrate that child and public access to the soils is sufficiently restricted.** If the soil pile is located in an area subject to public activity and where public access is unrestricted, the soil pile should be surrounded by fence. The fence should be no less than 3 feet in height and of durable construction.
- Submit a summary report that outlines the work performed, as well as provides conclusions and recommendations. **As appropriate** include analytical data; a site map showing the location of any potential

sensitive receptors, stockpiled soils and monitoring or sample locations; an area map; detailed well logs; and a groundwater contour map.

Please have your consultant submit a preliminary work plan and cost estimate within fifteen days of your receipt of this letter, so it may be approved prior to the initiation of onsite work. Enclosed please find a list of consultants who perform this type of work as well as the brochure "*Selecting Your UST Cleanup Contractor*," which will help you in choosing an environmental consultant.

Based on current information, the underground storage tank at the Beeman Elementary School is eligible for participation in the Petroleum Cleanup Fund (PCF). You must provide written proof to the SMS that you hold no other applicable insurance in order to receive reimbursement from the PCF. The owner or permittee must pay for the removal and/or repair of the failed tank(s), and for the initial \$10,000.00 of the cleanup. The fund will reimburse the tank owner or permittee for additional eligible cleanup costs of up to \$1 million. All expenditures must be pre-approved by the Agency or performed in accordance with the "*Site Investigation Guidance*" expressway program. Please refer to the enclosed guidance document titled, "*Procedures for Reimbursement from the Petroleum Cleanup Fund*" for additional information concerning the PCF.

The Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources reserves the right to seek cost recovery of fund monies spent at the Beeman Elementary School if the Secretary concludes that the Beeman Elementary School is in significant violation of the Vermont Underground Storage Tank Regulations or the Underground Storage Tank statute (10 V.S.A., Chapter 59).

We are here to help make this process as effective and uncomplicated as possible. Please review the enclosed documents and call me with any questions you may have. I can be reached at (802) 241-3876.

Sincerely,



Chuck Schwer, Supervisor
Sites Management Section

Enclosures (3)

cc: New Haven Selectboard w/o enclosure
New Haven Health Officer w/o enclosure
DEC Regional Office w/o enclosure
Kristen Underwood, South Mountain Research and Consulting Service w/o enclosure

CS
newhavenESSoilsonly.wpd