

State of Vermont

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Waste Management Division  
103 South Main Street/West Building  
Waterbury, VT 05671-0404  
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Ashley.Desmond@state.vt.us

June 4, 2007

Norton Gas, Inc.  
Attn: Diane Audet  
PO Box 11  
Norton, VT 05907

**RE: UST Closure**  
**Site: Norton Gas, 24 Route 114, Norton, VT (SMS Site #2007-3654)**

#### FIRST LETTER

Dear Ms. Audet,

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has received the report detailing the closure of two underground storage tanks (USTs) at the above referenced property. Subsurface contamination was discovered during the site activity. Fieldwork was conducted by Lincoln Applied Geology (LAG). The following USTs were removed from the property:

- UST #001, a 1,500-gallon diesel UST
- UST #002, a 1,000-gallon kerosene UST

The USTs were stated to be in fair condition upon removal. Water had infiltrated the diesel tank, while the kerosene tank was found to have approximately 60 gallons of product. Soils screened for petroleum vapors using a photoionization detector (PID) had a peak readings up to 728 parts per million (ppm). Groundwater was not encountered in the excavation to a depth of over 10 feet below grade. All contaminated soils were backfilled into the respective excavations. It was noted that contamination identified at the property may have originated from former gasoline tanks, which were removed from the property in 1989 and 1990. There are two active gasoline USTs currently at the site which are monitored periodically for evidence of a release.

A survey of sensitive receptors was conducted during the UST closure activities. LAG identified nearby drinking water wells as potential receptors of contamination. Other potential receptors of contamination at this property include groundwater, soils and indoor air.

Based on the report information, the SMS concurs with the recommendations of LAG for additional investigation at this property. Due to the risk to nearby receptors, the SMS requests that you have your environmental consultant perform the following:

- **Further define the degree and extent of contamination to the soil.**
- **If appropriate, determine if the airspace beneath the site and adjacent building(s) (e.g. basements) has been impacted by the release using a PID.** Wall and floor construction and susceptibility to vapor migration should be noted. PID measurements should be made in cracks and/or joints likely impacted. If the airspace has been impacted, SMS requests confirmatory sampling and laboratory analyses be performed using EPA Method TO-2.

OVER→



- **Determine the degree and extent of contamination, if any, to groundwater.** A sufficient number of monitoring sites should be installed to adequately define the severity of site contamination. Analyze groundwater samples for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) using EPA Method 8260 and Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) using EPA Method 8015 (GRO). At sites proximal to water supply sources, determine the hydrologic relationship of the contaminated area to the water supply source. Pumping influences should be considered in the evaluation.
- **Assess the potential for contaminant impact on sensitive receptors.** Base this update on all available information and include basements of adjacent buildings, nearby surface water, any proximal drinking water sources, wetlands, sensitive ecologic areas, outdoor or indoor air, sewers, or utility corridors. Sample and analyze any onsite water supply wells and any other at-risk water supplies for VOCs using EPA Method 524.2.
- **Determine the need for long-term treatment and/or monitoring that addresses groundwater contamination.**
- **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.

Based on current information, the costs associated with investigation/remediation at this property are eligible for participation in the Petroleum Cleanup Fund (PCF). Norton Gas, Inc. must provide written proof that no other applicable insurance is available in order to receive reimbursement from the PCF. Documentation required must include a complete copy of the applicable property or liability policy that was in place on the date the contamination was discovered; and a pollution coverage statement from the insurance carrier. The statement must include name and address of the insurer, the name of the policyholder, policy number(s) and dates of coverage. Also necessary, the name and telephone number of the claims analyst or contact person, and if coverage is denied, then a statement referencing specific policy language invoked to deny coverage of the claim.

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 Procedure" expressway program. Please refer to the enclosed guidance document titled, "Procedures for Reimbursement from the Petroleum Cleanup Fund" for additional information concerning the PCF.

I will be the SMS contact for this site. Please feel free to call me with any questions you may have. I can be reached at (802) 241-3731.

Sincerely,



Ashley Desmond, Environmental Analyst  
Sites Management Section

Enc: (2)

c: Iossy Medvinsky, LAG  
DEC Regional Office – St. Johnsbury w/o enclosure (submitted via e-mail)  
Norton Selectboard w/o enclosure  
Norton Health Officer w/o enclosure