



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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February 6, 2009

Nelson Blanchard  
243 Putnam St.  
Bennington, VT 05201

**RE: Site Investigation Activities**  
**Site: Blanchard Residence, 243 Putnam St., Bennington (SMS Site #2008-3866)**

Dear Mr. Blanchard:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has received the *Summary Report* for the above referenced property, which was submitted by ECS, Inc. and dated October 4, 2008. A heating oil underground storage tank (UST) release resulted in subsurface contamination at this site. Following review of this report and the information in the site file, the SMS has made the following conclusions:

- On September 10, 2008, petroleum sheens were noted on groundwater at this property during repair to the basement drainage system. Water infiltrating the basement was being pumped into a sink which drained to the municipal sewer. ECS collected a water sample from the drainpipe inlet (inside the residence) and analyzed this for volatile organic compounds (VOCs). No petroleum contamination was detected above the minimum laboratory detection levels. The drain inlet was screened for the presence of volatile substances using a photoionization detector (PID) and had readings up to 22 parts per million (ppm). No elevated PID readings were recorded in the adjacent indoor air spaces.
- On September 11, 2008, a 550-gallon heating oil UST was removed from the property. The tank was in fair condition, with some rusting and pitting but no perforations. This tank had reportedly been drained of oil 18 years prior when it was taken out of service. Soils screened using a PID had readings as high as 105 ppm immediately below the tank. Copper feed lines and approximately 4 tons of contaminated soil were removed from the tank pit. A groundwater seep entered the excavation from beneath the adjacent building foundation at a depth of 8 feet below grade. This water was diverted from the tank pit using an earthen dam, and groundwater was pumped from the excavation into a 55-gallon drum. At a depth of 8.5 feet below grade, the maximum PID reading in soils was 8.5 ppm. Three confirmatory soil samples were collected from the final excavation and submitted to a laboratory for analysis. Two were analyzed for VOCs and one for both VOCs and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH). No petroleum-related contaminants were detected in any of the samples.
- Contaminated soils were transported to Maxymillian Technologies in Pittsfield, MA for disposal. The drum of contaminated groundwater was transported to Medina, Ohio for treatment at Vexor Technology.

OVER→

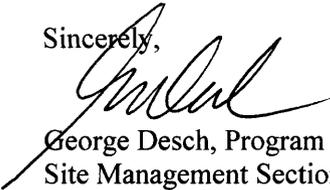


- A survey of sensitive receptors was conducted as part of this investigation. It appears that groundwater contamination at the site was minimal. All properties in the immediate vicinity of the former school are served by the municipal water system. Based on PID readings and olfactory observations, it does not appear that petroleum contamination has impacted the indoor air of the residence. The source of contamination and the bulk of contaminated soil have been removed from the property.
- No unacceptable risk to human health or the environment is believed to be present due to any residual contamination remaining at the site from the 550-gallon heating oil UST.

Based on the above, the SMS is assigning this property a Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation. The SMAC designation will not release the owner(s) of the property from any past or future liability associated with the petroleum contamination at the site. It does, however, mean that the SMS is not requesting any additional work in response to the contamination discovered during the removal of the UST in September, 2008.

Please feel free to call myself or Ashley Desmond of the SMS at (802) 241-3888 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



George Desch, Program Manager, P.E.  
Site Management Section

- c: Alicia Flammia, ECS, Inc. (submitted via e-mail)  
DEC Regional Office – Rutland (submitted via e-mail)  
Bennington Selectboard  
Bennington Health Officer