

State of Vermont

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management Division
103 South Main Street/West Building
Waterbury, VT 05671-0404
(802) 241-3731
FAX (802) 241-3296

February 2, 2009

Mr. Chris Higgins
Birch Hill Investments, Inc.
5905 The Loop
South Woodstock 05071

RE: Petroleum Contamination

Site: Birch Hill Residence, 106099 South Rd., South Woodstock, VT (SMS Site #2008-3884)

Dear Mr. Higgins:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has received the *Underground Storage Tank (UST)-Site Assessment* for the above referenced property, which was submitted by Applied GeoSolutions (AGS) and dated November 15, 2008. Soil contamination was identified at this site following removal of an underground storage tank (UST).

On October 15, 2008, a 1,000-gallon heating oil UST was removed from the property. The tank was in poor condition, with significant rusting and pitting and at least one pinhole. Soils screened for volatile substances using a photoionization detector had readings as high as 106 parts per million (ppm). After the removal of approximately five cubic yards of contaminated soil, no significant contamination remained in the area as confirmed by PID readings, and visual and olfactory measures. A confirmatory soil sample was collected from the final excavation and submitted to a laboratory for analysis of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH). No petroleum-related contaminants were detected in the sample.

It appears that the bulk of petroleum contamination has been removed from this site. Before the SMS can assign this property a Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation, we ask that you have your environmental contractor complete the following:

- Screen any indoor air spaces adjacent to the former tank using a PID.
- Transport the soil stockpile to an approved disposal facility when the site conditions permit.
- Collect a drinking water sample from the onsite water supply well and have this analyzed for VOCs using EPA Method 524.2.

Please have your consultant submit a cost estimate for the above site work within **15 days** of your receipt of this letter.

Based on current information, the UST investigation work at this property is eligible for participation in the Petroleum Cleanup Fund (PCF). Birch Hill Investments 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

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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 \$250.00 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.

Please feel free to call if you have any questions. I can be reached at (802) 241-3731.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ashley Desmond", is written over the typed name and title.

Ashley Desmond, Environmental Analyst
Site Management Section

Enc (1): Procedures for Reimbursement from the Petroleum Cleanup Fund

- c: Eric Swiech, AGS (submitted via e-mail)
- DEC Regional Office – Springfield (submitted via e-mail)
- Woodstock Selectboard w/o enclosure
- Woodstock Health Officer w/o enclosure