VERMONT

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

State of Vermont
Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management & Prevention Division
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January 16, 2013

Bennington Rescue Squad
Attn: Bill Hathaway
120 McKinley St.
Bennington, VT 05201

RE: Site Management Activity Completed, Bennington Rescue Squad, 120 McKinley St., Bennington, VT (SMS Site #2011-4200)

Dear Mr. Hathaway:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has received the well closure report for the above referenced site, which was submitted by Paul D.G. Miller and dated December 31, 2012. Subsurface contamination was encountered at this site during the removal of a heating oil UST. Based on the information presented in the report, we have made the following conclusions:

- On July 21, 2011, a 1,000-gallon #2 heating oil UST was removed from the site. This tank was found abandoned in an area behind the onsite building. It is not clear what the historic use of the tank was. The tank cavity was found to be in excellent condition, though the piping was heavily corroded. Soils surrounding the tank were screened for volatile substances using a photoionization detector (PID) and had readings up to 209 parts per million (ppm). No groundwater or bedrock was encountered in the excavation. The full extent of contamination was not determined.

- On November 28, 2011, five soil borings were installed in the vicinity of the former UST. During this process, soils were screened for volatile substances using a PID and readings up to 103 ppm were recorded in the source area boring. No elevated PID readings were recorded in the other borings. Four of the five soil borings were developed into groundwater monitoring points. Groundwater samples were collected from the four onsite monitoring wells (BRS-1 through BRS-4) and analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH). BRS-1, the source area well, was found to have an elevated concentration of acetone. It is unclear whether acetone is present in the environment or if it might be a laboratory contaminant. The detected concentration is far below the Vermont Groundwater Enforcement Standards (VGES) value of 700 ppb. No VOCs or TPH were recorded in the other monitoring points.

- A survey of sensitive receptors was conducted as part of the site investigation work. Potential receptors of contamination include groundwater and soils in the vicinity of the UST. All properties in this area are served by the municipal drinking water system. There does not appear to be a significant impact to the shallow groundwater table at this property. Residual soil contamination should diminish over time.

- The four monitoring wells at the property were closed on December 13, 2012.

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- 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 former 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 closure of the UST in 2011.

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

Sincerely,

Chuck Schwer, Section Chief
Site Management Section

c: Paul D.G. Miller, consultant
DEC Regional Office
Bennington Town Selectboard
Bennington Health Officer