



## State of Vermont

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November 5, 1999

STEVE GREENFIELD  
VERMONT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
58 EAST STREET  
MONTPELIER VT 05602

RE: Site Management Activity Completed, Catamount Dyers - Holden Leonard Mill, Bennington (VTDEC Site #77-133).

Dear Mr. Greenfield:

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Sites Management Section (SMS), has recently reviewed the *Completion of Remedial Action Report* which provides a summary of remedial activities which has occurred on-site. This report was prepared by Griffin International on September 10, 1999. From this report and other information contained in the site file, the SMS concludes the following:

- The original Holden Leonard Mill was constructed in 1865 for the purpose of manufacturing textiles. The mill was home to a succession of textile firms and other companies throughout its history. Since 1989, a series of sampling efforts have been conducted on the site to assess whether any contamination existed on the property from past uses of the property.
- In November 1996, the Vermont Department of Health (VDOH) completed a Preliminary Baseline Risk Assessment of the property. The report concluded that a potential risk existed with the potential ingestion of and/or dermal contact with surface soil since some areas of the property contained concentrations of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs), arsenic, and Total Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs).
- No defined pattern of PAHs, arsenic and PCB concentrations were delineated in surface soils. Based on the Risk Assessment, the SMS and the VDOH concluded that in order to reduce the risk to an acceptable level, certain areas of the property would have to be restricted to human activity or the potential pathway of contaminate migration would have to be eliminated.
- In August 1997, a 15,000-gallon underground storage tank (UST) and a 19,000-gallon UST were removed from the site. No concentrations of volatile organic compounds above method detection limits were found in groundwater samples and no evidence of a substantial release was documented.
- Remedial activities which included encapsulation of risk-sensitive areas was completed pursuant to

a Corrective Action Plan which was developed for the site in August 1998. Actual remediation activities was completed in the fall of 1998.

Based on the above, the SMS has determined that this site is now eligible for a Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation. The SMS concludes that:

- the nature and extent of contamination has been adequately defined;
- sources of contamination have been adequately remediated so that potential exposure pathways have been mitigated;
- groundwater enforcement standards are met on the property;
- any residual contamination does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment and;
- a Notice to Land Records was filed with the Town of Bennington which advises the public that prior to any subsurface work at the property the SMS must be notified. This information was recorded in book 356, page 177 on October 29, 1999.

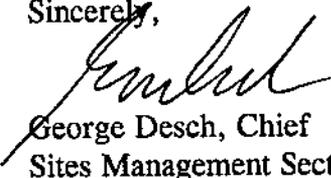
Based on these findings, the SMS has determined that site management activities have been completed. The completion of these activities does not release VEDA of any past or future liability which may arise from the contamination discovered at the Catamount Dyers - Holden Leonard Mill site. It does mean that the SMS is not requiring any additional work to be performed in response to the contamination discovered at this site.

If the monitoring wells are no longer used or maintained, then they must be properly closed to eliminate a possible conduit for contaminant migration into the subsurface. This closure typically involves filling the wells with a grout material to prevent fluid migration in the borehole. Also, the road box or stand-up well guard for a monitoring well must be removed before well closure is considered complete. Specific requirements for well closure are outlined in Section 12.3.5 in Appendix A of the Vermont Water Supply Rule-Chapter 21.

If you have any additional questions or comments, please feel free to contact either me or Bruce Linton at (802) 241-3888.

The SMS appreciates your continued cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
George Desch, Chief  
Sites Management Section

cc: Daniel Walton, MSI, Inc.  
Erik Sandblom, Griffin International  
Timothy Corcoran, Bennington Town Clerk  
DEC Regional Office