

State of Vermont
Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management Division
103 South Main Street/West Building
Waterbury, VT 05671-0404
(802) 241-3888
FAX (802) 241-3296

January 22, 2007

Ms. Sheila Danforth
8392 Vermont Route 25
East Corinth, VT 05040

RE: Site Management Activity Completed Designation, West Topsham General Store
West Topsham, Vermont (Site #90-0559)

Dear Ms. Danforth:

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Sites Management Section (SMS) has had the opportunity to review this site for a Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation. A SMAC designation is now appropriate for this site given that all groundwater monitoring wells have either been destroyed or been properly decommissioned; as documented in the ECS letter dated January 12, 2007. This decision is described below.

This site was opened in July 1990, after petroleum contamination was identified during the removal of two gasoline underground storage tanks. To accommodate the replacement tanks, a total of 50 cubic yards of petroleum contaminated soils were stockpiled onsite for passive treatment via polyencapsulation. These soils were then spread the following year, and screening by a state inspector indicated no evidence of residual contamination. Groundwater was encountered at about nine feet below ground surface. The soil permeability was likely high, as soils encountered during the closure were fine to coarse sand, silt, gravel, cobbles, and small to large boulders. A total of four groundwater monitoring wells were installed using the excavator during the tank closure.

Since the tank closures there have been six groundwater monitoring rounds, which included sampling the onsite drinking water supply. Only two of the wells ever contained contaminant levels exceeding "Enforcement Standards" of the "Vermont Groundwater Protection Rule and Strategy." Contaminant concentrations decreased in these wells over time, and during the last sampling round there were no detections in any well. No petroleum contaminants were ever found in the water supply. The Waits River was 850 feet from the former tank area and was not found to be threatened by the release.

Based on the above, the SMS has determined that this site is now eligible for a SMAC designation. The following conclusions have been made by the SMS:

- there is no longer an ongoing source of gasoline contamination with the replacement of the former gasoline tank systems;
- all groundwater monitoring wells have been properly closed to ensure that they cannot serve as a potential conduit between surface releases and groundwater;

(Over)



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- any residual soil and groundwater contamination is limited to the immediate area of the former gasoline release(s) and will be naturally attenuated over time; and
- the residual contamination does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or to the environment.

Based on the above, the gasoline contamination no longer poses an unreasonable risk to human health and safety or to the environment. Therefore, the SMS is assigning this site a SMAC designation. This designation does not release Ms. Sheila Danforth of any past or future liability associated with any residual gasoline contamination originating from West Topsham General Store. It does, however, mean that the SMS is not requesting any additional work at this time. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact either me, or Matt Moran, at 802-241-3888.

Sincerely,



George Desch, Chief
Sites Management Section

cc: Topsham Selectboard
Topsham Health Officer
DEC Regional Office
Christopher Kinnick, ECS (*electronically*)