



State of Vermont

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Department of Environmental Conservation
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AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Environmental Conservation
Hazardous Materials Management Division
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August 1, 1994

Milly Archer
UVM-Risk Management Department
109 South Prospect Street
Burlington, VT 05405-0016

RE: Petroleum contamination at Southwick Hall, UVM, Burlington
(Site #90-0601)

Dear Ms. Archer:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has received a petition for Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation for the above site from Milly Archer dated July 7, 1994. Based on the information contained in the July 7 letter as well as from the site file, the SMS has concluded the following:

1. The source of the contamination at the site is from diesel that was stored in the former underground storage tank (UST) which when removed had at least one visible hole present. All soils within the excavation which had PID readings above 10 ppm were stockpiled onsite. The estimated 5 cubic yards of stockpiled soils contained contaminant levels of at least 50-60 ppm as measured by a photoionization detector. During the tank removal, a sheen was observed in a storm water manhole adjacent to the location of the removed UST, as well as at the out fall culvert to which the manhole discharges.

2. The leaking UST was removed on October 16, 1990. A water sample taken from the out fall was analyzed using EPA 418.1, and was found to contain contaminant levels of 0.8 ppm total petroleum hydrocarbons. An oil/water separator was installed in the manhole and the University monitored the site daily, excluding weekends, for more than three weeks. The sheen decreased to the point where it was no longer present in the manhole and the out fall. In a letter dated November 29, 1990, the SMS recommended that onsite monitoring be discontinued but requested that the stockpiled soils be properly treated.

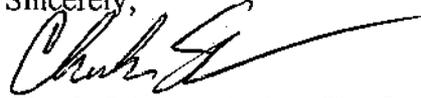
3. At an unknown date, these 5 cubic yards of petroleum contaminated soils were moved to Centennial Field. It is unclear whether these soils were ever monitored by the University since the SMS has not received any sampling data pertaining to the stockpile. In a July 7, 1994 letter from Milly Archer of the University of Vermont, it was stated that the stockpile was no longer at Centennial Field since it was believed to have been disposed of at the Essex Landfill sometime in late 1990 or early 1991. As there are no sampling data available, it is not known whether these soils contained contaminant levels below the 40 ppm requirement for landfill disposal. Also, it does not appear that the DEC was notified, as is required, prior to the disposal

of the soils.

5. Due to the low level of contaminants detected in the groundwater which was mitigated by the use of an oil/water separator, the removal and disposal of contaminated soils, and the lack of significant risk to potential receptors, any residual contamination left does not appear to pose an unacceptable risk to health, safety, or the environment.

Based on the results of this investigation, the site is eligible for a Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation. Sites which the Hazardous Materials Management Division have determined require no further management are given the SMAC designation. This designation does not release the University of Vermont from any past or future liability which may arise from the petroleum contamination which originated from the leaking underground storage tank at the University of Vermont. It does mean that the SMS is not requiring that any additional work be performed at this site in response to the initial contamination measured on the property. Please feel free to contact myself or Richard Spiese with any further questions or comments you may have.

Sincerely,



Chuck Schwer, Acting Chief
Sites Management Section

cc: Sharon Foley Bushor, President, Burlington City Council
DEC Regional Office

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