



# State of Vermont

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
State Geologist  
RELAY SERVICE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED  
1-800-253-0191 TDD>Voice  
1-800-253-0195 Voice>TDD

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

February 19, 1999

YVONNE ROONEY  
BOX 90 STAR ROUTE  
CASTLETON VT 05735

RE: Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC), Parson's Hill Family Housing, Castleton, Vermont  
(Site #93-1414)

Dear Mrs. Rooney:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has reviewed the January 6, 1999 Summary Report prepared by Marin Environmental regarding the decommissioning of the water storage tank. The SMS has also reviewed your letter dated February 10, 1998 requesting that this site be removed from the Hazardous Waste Sites List.

The SMS has reviewed the site file and has reached the following conclusions:

1. The water supply system serving the Parsons Hill Housing Unit was first developed in 1982. In addition to serving the Parsons Hill Housing, the CW Muholland Well #3 water supply also serves other residences and businesses at Castleton. Parsons Hill Housing is a consecutively owned public community water system.
2. Perchloroethylene (PCE) was first noted in the water supply following the testing of a sample from an Apartment in the Housing Unit on March 31, 1983. The concentration of PCE was reported to be 790 ppb. This concentration represents the highest impact ever measured for PCE in this water system. Chloroform, ethylbenzene, toluene, total trihalomethanes and xylenes were also found in the water in samples collected on April 14, 1983.
3. In order to monitor the contamination found in this water supply, samples have been collected at various times from 1983 to the present. The concentrations of PCE were detected in the water system and varied over this time period.
4. The source of this contamination was investigated at various times over the history of this site. An auto dealership and auto parts store, a muffler shop, two gasoline stations, and the well construction materials were all investigated as potential sources of this problem. Soil vapor screening and soil sampling along the distribution system did not discover any subsurface contamination.

(Over)

5. The source of contamination was discovered in 1997 to be the 2,860 gallon water storage tank, and was isolated from the water system at that time. On November 30, 1998, the contaminated water in the storage tank was filtered through two activated carbon canisters, and was subsequently discharged to the Castleton Wastewater Treatment Facility. Samples collected as part of the removal of the storage tank included: an initial water sample from the tank prior to dewatering, one influent and effluent treatment system sample, three duplicate samples, an outside tank sample, and samples from the carbon treatment system. PCE was detected at various concentrations in all of these samples.

6. There is no longer any risk of this contamination affecting the water provided to Parsons Hill Housing. As a result, the SMS will no longer be providing bottled water to your tenants. Please inform them of this decision.

Based on the above, the SMS is assigning this site a Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation. This SMAC designation does not release you of any past or future liability associated with the contamination onsite. It does, however, mean that the SMS is not requesting any additional work in response to this problem. This designation does not relieve you of any requirements you may have with the Water Supply Division.

Please feel free to call with any questions.

Sincerely,



George Desch, Chief, P.E.  
Sites Management Section

CC: Castleton Selectboard  
DEC Regional Office  
Jay Rutherford, Director, Water Supply Division (WSID #5584)  
Andy Raubvogel, General Counsel, DEC  
Jan Carney, Commissioner, DOH  
Alan Biederman  
John Welch