



State of Vermont

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Department of Environmental Conservation
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October 04, 2002

Mr. William Hall
Manager, Facility and Vehicle Operations
United Counseling Service
Ledge Hill Drive, P.O. Box 588
Bennington, Vermont 05201

RE: Site Management Activity Completed at the Former Prospect School, North Bennington, Vermont (SMS #93-1547)

Dear Mr. Hall:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has completed a file review, for the above referenced site, referencing the contamination discovered during the removal of one (1) 2000 gallon No. 2 fuel oil underground storage tank (UST) at the former Prospect School, North Bennington, Vermont. With this information the SMS can now make the following determination:

- On December 21, 1993, petroleum contaminated soils were discovered during the removal of one (1) 2,000 gallon No. 2 fuel oil underground storage tank (UST).
- Screened soils from the UST excavation had volatile organic compound (VOCs) concentrations ranging up to 18 parts per million (ppm), as measured by a photoionization detector (PID).
- The UST was reported to be poor condition, with a one inch diameter hole in the south end bottom of the tank. The tank was reportedly half full with water.
- Approximately 4.0 cubic feet of petroleum contaminated soils were excavated and polyencapsulated on-site.
- Site soils consisted primarily of sand and gravel with cobbles, underlain by brown clay.
- Groundwater was encountered at approximately 7.0 feet below grade in the UST excavation. Seasonal high water table was estimated to be approximately 5.0 feet below grade.
- No bedrock was encountered in the excavation to a depth of approximately 8.5 feet below ground surface.
- In a letter dated February 11, 1994, the SMS approved the January 27, 1994 work plan submitted by the Environmental Access Group to treat and/or monitor the soil stockpile and perform a sensitive receptor survey.
- A revised work plan cost estimate was verbally approved on March 8, 1994.
- In letters dated August 2, 1996 and February 14, 2001, the SMS requested a copy of the Site Investigation report, or that United Counseling Service retain an qualified environmental consultant to perform the work approved in the 1994 work plan.
- Following repeated attempts by United Counseling Service and the SMS to secure the Environmental Access Group, the United Counseling Service performed the work outlined in the 1994 work plan.

- A soil sample analytical report, dated September 25, 2002, indicated the presence of toluene (2.9 ug/kg) and total xylenes (.81 ug/kg) compounds above the method detection limit (MDL) but below Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation guidelines.
- No unacceptable risk to human health and the environment is present due to the residual contamination remaining in the ground from the contaminated soils encountered during the removal of one (1) 2,000 gallon No. 2 fuel oil UST at the former Prospect School property, in December of 1993.

Based on the above, the SMS is assigning this site a Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation. This SMAC designation will not release the United Counseling Service from any past or future liability associated with the petroleum contamination at the site. It does, however, mean the SMS is not requesting any additional work in response to the UST removal from the former Prospect School property in December of 1993.

Please feel free to call with any questions. I can be reached at (802) 241-3491.

Sincerely,



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

cc: DEC Regional Office