



State of Vermont

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September 4, 1996

ATTN JOHN FIGURELLI
SEA CONSULTANTS INC
750 OLD MAIN ST SUITE 100
ROCKY HILL CT 06067-1567

RE: Initial Site Investigation for the East Calais Post Office - East Calais, VT (Site #95-1885)

Dear Mr. Figurelli:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has reviewed the SEA Consultants, Inc. Site Investigation Report dated July 19, 1996, referenced above. Based on the findings reported in that document and the UST Closure Report, the SMS has determined the following:

1. A 1,000 gallon, #2 fuel oil underground storage tank (UST) was removed and contaminated soil was backfilled because the extent of the contamination was unknown. Soil contamination during the removal was found at a concentration up to 42.3 parts per million (ppm) as measured with a photoionization detector (PID).
2. Five soil borings were advanced in the vicinity of the former tank pit. The only borings with PID readings above background levels were found in the boring the furthest south of the former tank pit (B-1) and the boring directly adjacent to the south end of the former tank pit (B-2). Soils in B-1 had a PID reading of 4.2 ppm at 35 to 37 feet below ground surface (bgs). Soils in B-2 had a peak PID reading of 58.1 ppm at 10 to 12 feet bgs.
3. Soil samples were collected for analysis for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) by EPA Method 8260 and for total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) from B-1 (35-37 ft), B-2 (10-12 ft and 40-42 ft), and B-3 (6-8 ft). Soil samples were collected for analysis for only TPH from B-4 (10-12 ft) and B-5 (10-12 ft). B-2 had a TPH concentration of 3,100 ppm and some VOCs indicative of a blended fuel oil detected at lower levels at 10-12 ft bgs. TPH was not detected in the B-2 sample collected at 40-42 ft bgs and there were very low levels of only two VOCs found in that sample.

As a result of 2 and 3 above, it appears that the remaining residual contamination is limited to the area directly adjacent to the former tank pit and also does not extend vertically towards the bedrock.

4. No groundwater was encountered during the advancement of soil borings and bedrock refusal was encountered at depths ranging from 9 feet bgs to 42 feet bgs.

5. There are no private drinking water supplies nearby as the area is supplied with municipal water. The source for this system is a surface reservoir which is more than a half mile from the site.

6. There is no indoor air impact to the post office building, the basement of which is adjacent to the former tank pit.

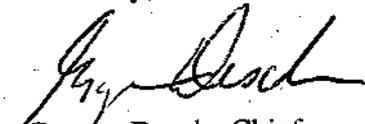
Due to the above findings and the fact that no additional soil could be removed without compromising the integrity of the building foundation, SEA Consultants, Inc. recommended that no further work be performed at the site.

Based on the current conditions at this site, the SMS has determined that this site is now eligible for a SMAC (Site Management Activity Completed) designation. This means that the SMS has determined the following:

- the UST has been removed from the ground, and is no longer a continuing source of petroleum contamination at this site;
- groundwater has apparently not been impacted;
- all petroleum contaminated soil was backfilled back into the excavation, however, it appears that the remaining residual contamination has not adversely impacted the immediate surroundings; and
- any residual contamination does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

Based on these findings, the SMS has determined that site management activities have been completed. The completion of these activities does not release The United States Postal Service of any past or future liability which may arise from the petroleum contamination discovered to have originated from the USTs at the East Calais Post Office site. It does mean that the SMS is not requiring any additional work be performed in response to the contamination discovered at this site. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact either me or Tim Copley at (802)241-3888.

Sincerely,


George Desch, Chief
Sites Management Section

cc: Calais Selectboard
DEC Barre Regional Office
John Figurelli, SEA Consultants, Inc.