

MEMORANDUM

TO: Whitingham Town Garage Site File (#95-1931)

THRU: Chuck Schwer, Supervisor - Evaluate and Control Sites Management Section *CS*

FROM: Tim Copley, Assistant Hazardous Materials Specialist Technical Services Section *TC*

DATE: March 6, 1996

SUBJECT: Petroleum contamination at Whitingham Town Garage

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The Sites Management Section (SMS) has received a site assessment report outlining the subsurface conditions for the above referenced site, submitted by Don Tourangeau of Griffin International on November 22, 1995. This report summarizes the degree and extent of contamination encountered during the assessment. The tank removed from the area of the Old Fire Station was a 1,000 gallon, #2 fuel oil, underground storage tank (UST). A 10,000 gallon, diesel UST was closed in place at the town garage due to its proximity to a telephone pole, a guy wire anchor for the telephone pole, an underground power wire, and an aboveground gasoline tank.

During the #2 fuel oil tank pull, soils screened at 10 feet below ground surface (bgs) had peak volatile organic compound (VOC) concentrations of 16.2 parts per million (ppm) as measured by a photoionization detector (PID). The average contamination at that location was 3 ppm and all other contamination in the excavation ranged from non-detect to 3.2 ppm. Due to the small amount of soil contamination found, the soil was returned to the tank pit. Although soil contamination above 10 ppm is not typically allowed to be used as backfill, the very low concentrations found and the fact that only a small amount of soil was above guideline levels did not appear to be enough to justify removal and treating. Groundwater was encountered on bedrock at 10.5 feet bgs. Free product was not found to be present.

During the closure of the 10,000 gallon diesel UST, two holes were drilled in the bottom of the tank to assess the contamination under the tank. Due to the high groundwater, soil could not be screened from the north end of the UST so a water sample was collected and the headspace was screened with the PID. Neither the south end soil sample or the north end water sample had detectable levels of VOCs. The tank was filled with sand.

Due to these current conditions, the SMS has determined the following:

- the 1,000 gallon, #2 fuel oil UST has been removed from the ground and the 10,000 gallon, diesel UST has been closed in place, and are no longer a continuing source of petroleum contamination at this site;

- groundwater has not been contaminated in the area of the USTs
- any residual contamination does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

Based on these findings, the SMS has determined that no further site management activities are necessary. This does not release the Town of Whitingham of any past or future liability which may arise from the petroleum contamination discovered to have originated from the USTs at the Whitingham Town Garage site. It does mean that the SMS is not requiring any additional work be performed in response to the contamination discovered at this site.

cc: Wayne Corse, Town of Whitingham  
Whitingham Selectboard  
Whitingham Health Officer  
DEC Springfield Regional Office  
Don Tourangeau, Griffin International

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