



State of Vermont

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Waste Management Division
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September 17, 1997

WAYNE AND CYNTHIA HELMS
PO BOX 728
WOODSTOCK VT 05091

RE: Sites Management Activity Completed at the Helms Property (former Lindgren Property)
Woodstock, Vermont (Site #96-1968)

Dear Mr. and Ms. Helms:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has reviewed the site monitoring report dated April 18, 1997, the supplemental letter report dated May 1, 1997, and the site assessment report dated August 18, 1997, for the removal of a 2,000-gallon #2 fuel oil underground storage tank (UST). With the information presented in these and previous reports, the SMS has the following understanding about the petroleum contamination on the Helms Property:

- Petroleum contamination was found in the excavation of a 500-gallon gasoline UST, which was removed on March 27, 1996. The photoionization detector (PID) reading, which measures vapors of volatile organic compounds, was 2,428 parts per million (ppm) from a soil sample taken next to fill port at a depth of 8 inches. A PID reading of 2,140 ppm was obtained from a soil sample taken one foot below the UST. A test pit, located about 15 feet south of the UST, was excavated to a depth of 4.5 feet. At the bottom of the test pit, the PID reading was 410 ppm. The tank and test pits were backfilled with their respective soil. No contaminated soil required stockpiling.
- On April 24 and April 26, 1996, four shallow monitoring wells (MW-1, MW-2, MW-3, and MW-4) were installed to depths ranging from about 9 feet to 21 feet. Based on the water level measurements taken at the site on April 29, 1996 and April 8, 1997, groundwater flow direction was southerly and westerly, respectively. Detectable PID readings (greater than 1 ppm) were found in all wells. Based on the April 8, 1997 water level measurements, depth to groundwater ranged from 0.63 feet to 1.65 feet.
- Water samples were collected from the four monitoring wells on April 8, 1997, and were analyzed for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes, and methyl tertiary butyl ether. None of these compounds were detected above the Vermont Groundwater Enforcement standards. The highest detectable concentration of contaminants was 37 parts per billion of total xylenes in MW-2.

(Over)

- The drinking water well for this residence was analyzed for total petroleum hydrocarbons using EPA Method 8100. No compounds above detection limits were found.
- On May 7, 1997, Dufresne-Henry performed a PID screening of the basement, which is located immediately west of the former gasoline UST. The PID readings in the basement ranged from 0.8 ppm to 2.3 ppm. It is unlikely that these readings are from petroleum contamination from the UST because there are two 275 gallon #2 heating oil tanks and an oil fired furnace in the basement. The PID in the living room, which is at ground level, was 1.5 ppm.
- On August 5, 1997, a 2,000-gallon #2 fuel oil UST was removed. Based on the site assessment by Dufresne-Henry, the tank was in good condition and no visual or olfactory evidence of significant petroleum contamination was found in the tank pit. PID readings in the pit ranged from 1.6 ppm to 2.0 ppm.
- No unacceptable risk to human health and the environment is present due to any residual contamination remaining in the ground from the removal of the USTs. The nearest downgradient water supply is about 800 feet away. The nearest offsite surface water is an unnamed stream about 200 feet southwest of the site.

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 petroleum contamination remaining in the ground from the removed USTs. It does, however, mean that the SMS is not requesting any additional work at this time.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (802) 241-3886.

Sincerely,



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

CC: Bruce Cox, Dufresne-Henry, Inc.
Woodstock Selectboard
DEC Regional Office

JSS:wp51/sites/961968/hr3.ltr

*Received 9-25-97
what is locatable address of
this problem?
George J. Finer
Selectman Town of Woodstock*