



State of Vermont

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Department of Environmental Conservation
State Geologist
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Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management Division
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September 30, 2005

Burke Mountain Operating
Attn: Dick Andross
Mountain Rd.
PO Box 247
East Burke, VT 05832

RE: Sites Management Activities Completed designation
Site: Burke Mountain Ski Area, Burke, Vermont (SMS Site #96-2113)

Dear Mr. Andross:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has received confirmation that the monitoring wells were properly closed at the above referenced site. The SMS has also reviewed the site file, which details the contamination related to a gasoline underground storage tank (UST) that was removed from the property. With this information, the SMS has made the following determination:

- On November 12, 1996, a 500-gallon gasoline UST and 3,000-gallon diesel tank were removed from the above referenced property by the Johnson Company. The tanks were said to be in good condition.
- During excavation of the gasoline tank, soils screened using a photoionization detector (PID) had a peak volatile organic compound (VOC) concentration of 130 parts per million (ppm). Contamination was found to be widespread, with soils 35-feet from the tank exhibiting PID readings of up to 33 ppm at a depth of 2 feet below grade. Soils surrounding the diesel tank showed only minor petroleum contamination, and were determined to not warrant further investigation. The Johnson Company proposed a series of soil borings/monitoring wells to further investigate the petroleum contamination related to the gasoline tank.
- On November 26, 1996, the Johnson Company advanced five soil borings (SB-1 through SB-5) at the property in the vicinity of the former gasoline tank. Headspace readings up to 130 ppm were recorded using a PID at a depth of 5-6 feet below grade. At a depth of 10-12 feet below grade, these readings had decreased to 1.7 ppm. The peak reading from all of the other soil borings was 0.3 ppm. Three of the borings (SB-1, SB-4 and SB-5) were developed into groundwater monitoring wells (MW-101, MW-102 and MW-103, respectively).
- On December 6, 1996, groundwater samples were collected from the three onsite monitoring wells: MW-103 had concentrations of benzene and MTBE in excess of the Vermont Groundwater Enforcement Standards (VGES). MW-102 had measurable concentrations of both toluene and MTBE.
- On May 25, 2005, Dufresne-Henry conducted an additional round of groundwater sampling at the property. The three samples were tested using EPA Method 8021B and showed no target petroleum contaminants in excess of the minimum laboratory detection limits.

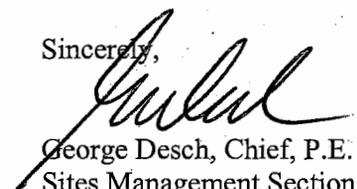
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- On September 19, 2005, the SMS received confirmation that the three monitoring wells located at the site were properly abandoned by Gould Well Drilling.
- No unacceptable risk to human health or the environment is believed to be present due to any residual contamination remaining at the site from the 500-gallon gasoline UST.

Based on the above, the SMS is assigning this site a Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation. The SMAC designation will not release the Burke Mountain Ski Area from any past or future liability associated with the petroleum contamination at the site. It does, however, mean that the SMS is not requesting any additional work in response to the contamination discovered during the removal of the 500-gallon gasoline UST in November of 1996.

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 – St. Johnsbury (submitted electronically)
Burke Health Officer
Burke Town Select Board