



State of Vermont

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February 28, 2001

Mr. Brian Todd Murphy
Burlington News Agency
11 Hercules Drive
P.O. Box 510
Colchester, Vermont 05446

RE: Site Management Activity Completed at the Burlington News Agency (SMS Site # 96-2119), Burlington, Vermont

Dear Mr. Murphy :

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has completed a file review, for the above referenced site, referencing the contamination discovered during the routine removal of one (1) 1,000 gallon diesel fuel underground storage tank (UST) and one (1) 2,000 gallon gasoline UST, at the Burlington News Agency, 11 Hercules Drive, Colchester, Vermont. With this information the SMS can now make the following conclusions:

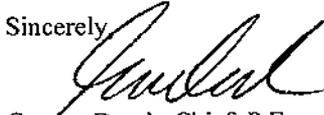
- On November 13, 1996, petroleum stained contaminated soils were encountered during the routine removal and replacement upgrade of one (1) 1,000 gallon diesel fuel UST and one (1) 2,000 gallon gasoline UST.
- During site activities, approximately 22 cubic yards of contaminated soil with photoionization detector (PID) concentrations up to 150 parts per million (ppm) were removed from the excavation and polyencapsulated on-site. Soils with the peak PID concentrations were in the vicinity of the pump island.
- Contaminated soils with PID vapor levels above 20 ppm were removed from the tank pit.
- No groundwater or free phase product was encountered in the excavation.
- On March 28, 1997, soils from five soil borings, advanced in the area surrounding the location of the former USTs, were screened for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) with a PID. The samples were analyzed for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX) using EPA Method 8020 w/ methyl tert butyl ether (MTBE). No BTEX compounds were detected in the samples and the level of MTBE was below the specific analytical detection limits.
- On March 28, 1997, a groundwater sample was collected from a temporary monitoring well in SB #1. The sample was analyzed for BTEX using EPA Method 8020 w/ MTBE. No BTEX compounds were detected in the sample and the concentration of MTBE was well below the Health Advisory level.
- In a letter dated April 30, 1997, the SMS acknowledged that no additional subsurface investigation was necessary and that soil stockpile could be thin-spread on site once the soils were within the Agency *Guidelines for Petroleum Contaminated Soil and Debris*.
- On November 16, 1998, six soil stockpile samples were collected from 1.0 feet deep in the soil pile and screened using a PID. The peak concentration was 0.6 ppm and there was no visual or olfactory evidence of petroleum contamination.
- In a letter dated December 23, 1998, the SMS gave permission for the soil stockpile to be spread on-site.

- In a letter dated February 26, 2001, Brian T. Murphy, of the Burlington News Agency, confirmed that the soil stockpile had been dismantled and spread in the summer of 2000.
- 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 routine removal and replacement upgrade of one (1) 1,000 gallon diesel fuel UST and (1) 2,000 gallon gasoline UST from the Burlington News Agency in November of 1996.

Based on the above, the SMS is assigning this site a Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation. This SMAC designation will not release you 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 USTs removal from the Burlington News Agency in November of 1996.

Please call me with any questions you may have. I can be reached at (802) 241-3491.

Sincerely



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

cc: Colchester Select Board w/o enclosure
Colchester Health Officer w/o enclosure
DEC Regional Office w/o enclosure
Roger Binderd, Binderd Environmental