



## State of Vermont

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January 5, 1999

ALIZABETH ARAMOWICZ SMITH  
ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR  
ST MICHAELS COLLEGE  
WINOOSKI PARK  
COLCHESTER VERMONT 05439

RE: Sites Management Activities Complete (SMAC), St. Michael's Rescue Garage, Lime Kiln Rd.,  
Colchester (Site #96-2125)

Dear Ms. Aramowicz Smith:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has reviewed the December 19, 1998 report titled, "*St. Michael's Rescue Garage, Lime Kiln Rd., Colchester, VT, UST Site Soil Testing Report,*" prepared by Watershed Environmental Services, Inc. The SMS has also reviewed information contained in the site file on the above mentioned site. With this information, the SMS can now make the following conclusions:

- On September 5, 1996 two 16 year old, 10,000 gallon #2 fuel oil tanks were removed at the St. Michael's College Rescue Garage on Lime Kiln Road in Colchester. Although the tank and associated piping were found to be in excellent condition with no apparent holes, soils in the excavation showed evidence of staining, turpentine odor and elevated volatile organic compound (VOC) contamination. Soils consisting of fine to medium sand around the tank and pipes were found to be contaminated with VOCs at concentrations ranging from 1 to 50 parts per million (ppm), as measured with a photoionization detector (PID); this is above SMS guidelines. Turpentine odors were also noted during tank excavation. Pine and cedar trees were noted in the area, a cedar root was encountered during excavation. Groundwater was encountered at a depth of 12' below ground surface (bgs); no evidence of petroleum sheen was observed.
- Two soil samples, one from the bottom of Tank Pit #2 and one from the stained soil layer encountered near the Tank #2 fill pipe were analyzed via EPA Method 8020 for purgeable aromatics. No target analytes were detected at the 20 µg/kg detection limit. Additional investigation was requested by the SMS.

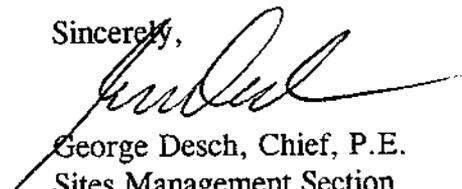
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- Because the environmental consultant, Watershed Environmental Services, felt that the observed PID responses were to naturally occurring turpentine from the pine and cedar trees in the area, an additional soil sample was requested prior to a full UST site investigation.
- On November 27, 1998 a single soil boring in the footprint of the former UST was excavated. Continuous PID screening of the soils to 15' bgs did not find any above background (0.1 ppm) VOC levels. Soil samples from 9.7-10' bgs and 12-12.5' bgs were collected for lab analysis via EPA Method 8021B (purgeable aromatic hydrocarbons) and 8100M (total petroleum hydrocarbons, TPH). The bore hole was then plugged and abandoned.
- No TPH was observed above the test detection limit of 5 mg/kg. Toluene (23.3  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ ), xylene (29.1  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ ), and 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene (10.0  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ ) were observed in the shallow soil sample. A trace of toluene in the deeper soil sample was found.
- The immediate area is served by a municipal water supply, which is not at risk from contamination from this site. The closest down-gradient sensitive receptor was identified as the Winooski River approximately 800' to the south. No water wells within 1/2-mile were identified.

Based on the above, the SMS is assigning this site a SMAC designation. This SMAC designation does not release St. Michael's College of any past or future liability associated with the petroleum contamination on-site. It does, however, mean that the SMS is not requesting any additional work in response to the September 1996 UST removal.

Please feel free to call with any questions.

Sincerely,



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

CC: Colchester Selectboard  
DEC Regional Office  
Michael Sparks, Watershed Environmental Services, Inc.