



State of Vermont

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August 5, 1997

MR ROGER TETREAUULT
VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS AND GENERAL SERVICES
2 GOVERNOR AIKEN AVENUE
MONTPELIER VERMONT 05633

RE: Environmental Site Investigation Report dated July 11, 1997 for Brandon Training School
Brandon, Vermont (Site #97-2153)

Dear Tetreault:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has reviewed the above report by Lincoln Applied Geology (LAG). The site investigation was initiated after soil contamination was found during the removal of a 1,000-gallon underground storage tank (UST). The investigation consisted of a soil vapor survey with 38 points, four test pits, and monitoring wells installed in three of the test pits.

For each vapor point, soils were screened using a photoionization detector (PID) at depth intervals of 0.5 feet, 1.0 feet, and 2 feet. Soil vapor points near the former UST and dispenser area had PID readings that ranged from zero to 2.2 parts per million (ppm). Soil vapor points downgradient from the contaminant source area had PID readings at or slightly above background. PID readings of the soils excavated from the test pits were above background only in test pit one, which is the closest test pit to the former UST area. In this pit, PID readings ranged from 130 ppm to 150 ppm.

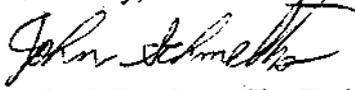
Groundwater samples and water level measurements were taken from MW-1, MW-2, MW-3, and test pit one on May 8, 1997. A monitoring well was not placed in test pit one because of the large boulder fill at this location that would likely severely damage or destroy a monitoring well. Depth to groundwater was between 4.5 feet and 6 feet, and groundwater flow direction was north. All four sampling points were downgradient from the former UST area, with MW-2 and MW-3 being the farthest downgradient. Groundwater samples were analyzed for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes, and methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) using EPA Method 8020. Contaminant concentrations in the sample from test pit one were slightly above the Vermont Groundwater Enforcement Standards (VGES) for benzene, with a concentration of 5.4 parts per billion (ppb); the VGES for benzene is 5 ppb. Low concentrations of ethylbenzene (6.8 ppb) and xylenes (69 ppb) were detected in MW-1. No contaminants were detected in MW-2 and MW-3. Based on the receptor survey, LAG states that the nearest sensitive receptor is at least 3,000 feet from the site.

(Over)

In the report, LAG recommends one additional round of sampling in September 1997 to confirm the low concentrations obtained in the initial round of sampling. The SMS agrees with this recommendation. If the concentrations remain the same or decline in the next round of sampling, the SMS will consider assigning this site a Sites Management Activities Completed (SMAC) designation. In addition, a cost estimate was included for the additional round of sampling and summary report. The SMS agrees with the estimate; therefore, the cost to perform the additional sampling and reporting should not exceed \$667.50.

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

Sincerely,



John Schmeltzer, Site Project Manager
Sites Management Section

CC: Jason S. Barnard, Lincoln Applied Geology
sites/972153/bts1.ltr