



State of Vermont

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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May 17, 2001

GRACE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
JEFF FREEMAN
8 COURT STREET
RUTLAND, VERMONT 05701

RE: Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC), Grace Congregational Church, SMS Site #97-2209
Rutland, Vermont

Dear Mr. Freeman:

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Sites Management Section (SMS) has reviewed the Lincoln Applied Geology (LAG) letter report titled "*Grace Congregational United Church of Christ, Rutland, Vermont-Site Status Report*" dated January 22, 1999 and the site file. The SMS can now make the following conclusions:

- Subsurface investigative work and three rounds groundwater monitoring were conducted at this site following the discovery of a petroleum release. This release was detected during the May 20, 1997 removal of one 5,000 gallon and one 2,000 gallon underground storage tank (UST) containing No. 2 heating oil.
- To define the degree and extent of soil and groundwater contamination, two soil borings were advanced and five groundwater monitoring wells were installed. Depth to bedrock is relatively shallow at this site and there is a discontinuous perched aquifer. MW-2 and -4 have always been dry. During the installation of the two monitor wells and soil boring closest to the UST locations (SB-1, MW-3, and -5) soil volatile organic compound (VOC) contamination as measured by photoionization detector (PID) was noted.
- The basements of the site and neighboring buildings were screened via PID and no VOCs were noted.

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- The groundwater contaminants noted in MW-5, the 2,000 gallon UST monitor well, have decreased to levels below the Vermont Groundwater Enforcement Standards (VGES) since the first sample date (11/13/97). Levels in MW-3, the 5,000 gallon UST monitor well, are also below the VGES, however the detection limit for benzene and MTBE exceed the VGES. In addition 280 mg/L of total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) were found here on 11/11/98. TPH does not have a VGES, however it is used as an indicator for petroleum contamination.
- The site is located in a historical district of Rutland and served by municipal water. The LAG sensitive receptor survey indicates that the release neither threatens human health nor the environment, as long contact with residual soil and groundwater contamination is prevented.

Based on the current conditions at this site, the SMS has determined that this site is now eligible for a SMAC designation. This means that the SMS has determined the following:

1. The 2 USTs have been removed from the ground and are no longer a continuing source of petroleum contamination at this site;
3. Residual soil and groundwater contamination is limited to the vicinity of the former UST area and will be naturally attenuated over time;
4. A Notice to Land Records has been recorded (Book #396 and Page #638) at the Rutland City offices regarding the residual contamination on-site and;
5. Any residual contamination does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment.

Therefore, the SMS is assigning this site a Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation. This SMAC designation does not release Grace Congregational Church of Rutland 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 the monitoring wells are no longer used or maintained, then they must be properly closed to eliminate a possible conduit for contaminant migration into the subsurface. This closure typically involves filling the wells with a grout material to prevent fluid migration in the borehole. Specific requirements for well closure are outlined in Section 12.3.5 in Appendix A of the Vermont Water Supply Rule-Chapter 21. Also, the road box or stand-up well guard for a monitoring well must be removed before well closure is

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considered complete.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact either me or Gerold Noyes at (802)-241-3888.

Sincerely,



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

CC: Rutland Selectboard
Rutland Officer
DEC Regional Office
Jason Barnard, Lincoln Applied Geology