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Department of Environmental Conservation  
Waste Management Division  
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AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

October 27, 2008

Mr. Adam Hilliker  
Hilliker's General Store  
2519 VT Route 105, Apt. A  
Newport Center, VT 05857

RE: Sites Management Activities Completed, Hilliker's Store, Newport Center, (SMS Site #1997-2262)

Dear Mr. Hilliker:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has recently conducted a review of the above referenced site file. Information contained within the site file includes the following:

- On October 20, 1997, three Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) were removed from the Hilliker's General Store property, including two 4,000 gallon gasoline tanks and one 2,000 gallon diesel tank. During excavation, a photoionization detector (PID) was utilized to screen soils for volatile organic compounds (VOCs); readings ranged from 0.9 to 415 parts per million (ppm) in the excavation pit associated with the gasoline tanks, and from 0.0 to 1,352 ppm in the diesel tank excavation. Groundwater was not encountered at a maximum excavation depth of approximately 16 ft below ground surface (bgs). Approximately 60 yds<sup>3</sup> of petroleum contaminated soils from the former gasoline tank area were excavated and stockpiled on-site following the removal of the two tanks. Soils excavated during the removal of the diesel tank were backfilled.
- An Initial Site Investigation (ISI) was conducted on January 20, 2004. Three soil borings were advanced for the collection of soil samples. During boring, soils screened with a PID exhibited VOC concentrations ranging from 0.0 to 141 ppm, with the highest readings in each boring ranging from between 5 and 14 ft bgs. Soil samples were collected from the bottom of each boring and analyzed for petroleum VOCs via EPA Method 8021B and for Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) via EPA Method 8015 GRO and DRO. Samples collected from SB-1 and SB-3 (corresponding with the gasoline UST area) contained one or more petroleum related contaminants at levels below the EPA Region IX Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRGs) for both residential and industrial area. None of the samples contained TPH in excess of laboratory method detection limits. Additionally, a sample was collected from the on-site backup water supply well for VOC analysis via EPA Method 524.2. No petroleum related contaminants in excess of laboratory method detection limits were present in the drinking water sample. Groundwater was not encountered at a maximum boring depth of 24 ft bgs, and indoor air screening of the facility basement via PID revealed no VOC contamination.
- The petroleum contaminated soil stockpile was sampled and analyzed for VOC content on June 24, 2004. Five samples were collected from the pile; PID readings ranged from 0.7 to 9.4 ppm.
- An additional round of soil stockpile sampling was conducted on May 16, 2008. Ten samples were collected from various locations in the pile, and analyzed for petroleum VOCs with a PID. None of the samples exhibited VOC concentrations in excess of 0.0 ppm.

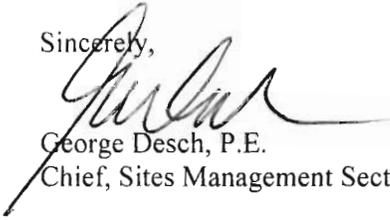


- On October 27, 2008, the SMS received verbal confirmation that the soil stockpile located on the Hilliker's General Store property was thin-spread in August 2008.

Based on the above, it appears that this site does not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the SMS is assigning the site a Sites Management Activities Completed (SMAC) designation. The SMAC designation does not release Adam Hilliker from any past or future liability associated with the petroleum contamination at this site. It does, however, mean the SMS is not requesting any additional work in response to the UST removal at this time.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me; I may be reached at (802) 241-3491.

Sincerely,



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

CC: Jay Gonyaw – REA (submitted electronically)  
DEC Regional Office – St. Johnsbury (submitted electronically)  
Newport Center Town Select Board  
Newport Center Town Health Officer