



## State of Vermont

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**Department of Environmental Conservation**  
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September 2, 2005

Janet Pressler  
Wells Trading Post  
5 Vermont Route 30  
Wells, VT 05774

RE: Sites Management Activities Completed at the Wells Trading Post, Wells, Vermont (SMS Site #99-2684)

Dear Ms. Pressler:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has received confirmation that the groundwater monitoring wells have been closed at the Wells Trading Post, which was received via fax on September 2, 2005. The SMS has also reviewed the file for the site, which details the contamination discovered during a fuel system upgrade. With this information, the SMS has made the following determination:

- On September 13, 1999, the piping system associated with the gasoline underground storage tanks (USTs) at the site was replaced as part of an installation/upgrade to the fuel system. During this procedure, soils analyzed using a photoionization detector (PID) had peak volatile organic compound (VOC) concentrations as high as 142 parts per million (ppm). Many of the PID readings taken showed no detection of VOCs. The contamination was said to be related to spillage during past tank fills. All contaminated soil was backfilled into the excavation.
- On November 15, 1999, the SMS sent a letter to the site owner requesting that site investigation activities be carried out to better define the degree and extent of contamination. Another letter was sent on October 16, 2003 requesting this action, as the site investigation had still not been carried out.
- On August 10, 2005, HEA visited the site to conduct investigation activities. Four test pits were advanced in the immediate vicinity of the current underground storage tanks (USTs) to depths ranging from approximately 3 to 7 feet below grade. No groundwater was encountered in any of the pits. Samples collected from the four test pits and the onsite drinking water well were submitted to a lab for analysis. No petroleum compounds exceeded the minimum laboratory detection limits for any of the samples. A screening of the indoor air during this inspection using a PID found no evidence of VOCs.
- On August 29, 2005, the SMS received analytical laboratory samples of groundwater from the Wells Trading Post and a neighboring drinking water well. The sample from the Wells Trading Post, which was collected from a monitoring well located approximately ten feet from the two active USTs, showed no target petroleum related compounds exceeding the minimum laboratory detection limits. Chloroethane was detected in this sample, though at very low levels (5 parts per billion). This is not a regulated compound in the State of Vermont. The neighboring drinking water well, located approximately 200 yards to the north of the fuel system, showed no detection of petroleum hydrocarbons.

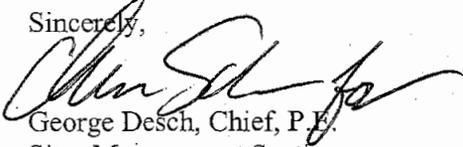
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- The SMS received confirmation via fax on September 1, 2005 that the two monitoring wells at the site had been properly closed by Morey Well Services.
- No unacceptable risk to human health or the environment is present due to the residual contamination remaining at the site, which was discovered during a fuel system upgrade.

Based on the above, the SMS is assigning this site a Site Management Activity Completed (SMAC) designation. The SMAC designation will not release the owners of the Wells Trading Post from any past or future liability associated with the petroleum contamination at the site. It does, however, mean that the SMS is not requesting any additional work in response to the contamination discovered during a fuel system upgrade in September of 1999.

Please feel free to call with any questions. I can be reached at (802) 241-3491.

Sincerely,



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

cc: DEC Regional Office (Rutland)  
Wells Town Health Officer  
Wells Select Board