



# Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

## Site Visit Notes:

Date and Time:	12-7-09. I arrived at the site at ~09:00 and departed ~10:40.
Site:	Leak #3534, Junction Food-n-Fuel.
MPCA Staff Present:	Kevin Mustonen.
Others Present:	Laura Novitzki (Twin Ports Testing), Dennis Koepp and helper (Denny's Drilling), Radco staff, and Steve Pelto (MMT Heating and Cooling).
Weather Conditions:	15°F, NW winds ~ 5 mph.
Visit Regarding:	Upcoming water well replacement.

Notes: Last week Laura Novitzki requested my presence at today's meeting to discuss the placement of the new water supply wells slated for installation at the Radco and MMT properties.

Radco: We discussed estimated daily water use with Radco staff and arrived at the conclusion that replacing their drift well with a (lower yield) bedrock well probably won't affect their current water use patterns. Laura and Dennis believe they have found an area where the well can be installed and still meet all of the setbacks dictated by the well code. Note: Radco is renting the building and Laura has discussed the well replacement with the property owner and his main concern is keeping his tenants happy (i.e., he is okay with replacing the current well as long as the new well functions properly).

MMT: Steve Pelto (owner of MMT) stated that he feels he is being pushed into a new well by the MPCA when he doesn't really want another well. He feels his wishes are being ignored and that he doesn't have any say in the matter even though he is the property owner. Steve believes that the City of Hermantown is eventually going to extend the municipal water line past his property (it is currently ~½ mile away) and he believes it would be a better use of money and make more sense to hook him up to municipal water instead of installing another well that can't be guaranteed to be clean (Steve even stated that he would be will to chip in some money to help pay for the municipal hookup). I told Steve that it is unlikely that Petrofund would be willing to pay out the large amounts of money required to extend the municipal water line if a well could be installed for less money. I also told Steve that he shouldn't feel that he is being forced into anything and that if he wanted to deny access to his property that he should say so before the well is installed and we will decide where to go from there (I pointed out that if he chose to pursue that route, the next round of discussion would occur at a level higher up than myself). Steve implied that he would accept a new well as a last resort; however, he still has concerns about it being a "Band-Aid" fix instead of a true fix (i.e., a municipal water hookup) and that he would want a letter from the MPCA stating that the well would be guaranteed to be clean forever. I told Steve that I would pass his concerns along to Sarah Larsen (PRP PM for the site) and that someone would be contacting him in the next few days. Steve would like future decisions to be documented in writing. Note: from discussions with Steve, it sounds like a bedrock well should be able to meet their daily water use requirements.

Steve's contact information is as follows: Steve Pelto, MMT Heating & Cooling, 5501 Miller Trunk Highway, Hermantown, MN 55811, phone: 218-729-1585, email: [www.mmtheating.com](http://www.mmtheating.com)

The well replacement activities for both sites are currently on hold until this issue is addressed.

-Kevin Mustonen