

Stock, Paul

From: Stock, Paul
Sent: Tuesday, January 02, 2007 3:02 PM
To: 'Sandra Beck'
Subject: RE: FW: Food & Fuel (Leak Site #3534) Water Supply wells

Sandra, I got your fax of the sealing record for the Food-N-Fuel water well supply well. Thank you for sending this! You are right about the geology data. Further, I see that the sealing did not take into account potential annular migration pathway, i.e., no casing removal and or over drilling. Jeff Grugel has helped me out with some of these over the last few years. Adieu!

-----Original Message-----

From: Sandra Beck [mailto:Sandra.Beck@state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, January 02, 2007 11:11 AM
To: Paul Stock
Subject: RE: FW: Food & Fuel (Leak Site #3534) Water Supply wells

Paul,
Thanks for the Petrofund reimbursement information. MDH holds property owners liable for "addressing" out of use, unsealed wells. Homeowners have 3 options: 1) place well back into service 2) seal well 3) obtain MDH maintenance permit. In this case, once definitive well location has been identified, MDH would require the location to be excavated to assess well sealing. Well was likely bulldozed & "sealed" during parking lot development...so likely an incomplete seal. Dug wells are often 20-25 ft deep, unless they are of ceramic clay tile vintage (1.5 ft diam), in which case they may go as deep as 50 ft. I'll call Jean Nelson & see if he has any recollection of well construction. He's quite the self-educated individual.

fyi...mr. stock...i wouldn't put too much stock in geology on Graves well boring record. He isn't notorious for accurate records (he admits to me he does not put correct productivity/GPM on well record...wanting to stymie competition).

I'll keep you posted & keep pounding on doors.
Sandy

Sandra Beck
218/723-4653

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>>> "Stock, Paul" <Paul.Stock@state.mn.us> 12/26/2006 3:17 PM >>>
Sandy thanks for the quick reply! I am sorry to hear that this has been a frustrating situation for you but I sincerely appreciate your attempt to resolve this. Food for thought: there is a possibility that Petrofund reimbursement could be brought to bear for sealing this well if the Leak Site RP, Curtis Oil, recommends that the well be sealed and the MPCA approves it, AND Curtis Oil does the work (incurs the cost).

I want to let you know that Twin Ports Testing, consultant for Leak Site RP Curtis Oil, has identified the RADCO water well on their most recent receptor surveys and have also collected samples from it on 3 documented separate occasions during 2003, 2004 and 2005, all yielding no petroleum related VOCs and or GRO detections.

However, it is my understanding that ~4 ug/l benzene and ~200 ug/l DRO were detected in a recent (Fall 2006) sample from another nearby water well, located on Texas Rust Free Auto

property (4621 Lindahl Road) just west of RADCO. The sampling was done as part of a property transfer that Mark Koplitz of our Petroleum Brownfields Program (formerly VPIC) was (is?) working on (ID # PT 3653). Other than the Texas Rust Free Auto water well reportably being a little more than 60 ft deep, I know almost nothing more about the well. I wonder if the Texas Rust Free Auto water well is or should be considered a public supply?

Please know that I am looking into whether the contamination detected in the Texas Rust Free Auto water well is real (the DRO is probably a false positive but Benzene and any other VOCs can be confirmed via additional sampling) and or whether the contamination could be from the Curtis Oil Leak Site. For example, dissolved petroleum was detected in samples from the Original Food-N-Fuel water well that was reportably 52 ft deep, suggesting contamination has reached a deeper aquifer at that location (but, maybe, the contamination was due to a compromised casing and or poor annular seal?). The RP reportably sealed the 52 ft deep well (but I do not have a copy of the MDH Sealing Record) and installed the new Food-N-Fuel bedrock water well (Unique #559694). However, apparent non-tank (surficial and subsurface) petroleum-type contamination was observed on the Texas Rust Free Auto property, complicating my evaluation. Further complicating my evaluation is that the deeper geology of the site is poorly investigated; all I have to go on is the MDH Well and Boring Record for Unique # 559694 which indicates there is no obvious aquifer in the unconsolidated glacial overburden on top of bedrock (except for sand and gravel from 0 to 20 ft bgs, it is all clay and sandy clay from 20 to 60 ft bgs, where upon bedrock was encountered).

Thanks!

Paul Stock

-----Original Message-----

From: Sandra Beck [mailto:Sandra.Beck@state.mn.us]

Sent: Tuesday, December 26, 2006 2:35 PM

To: Paul Stock

Cc: Mark Malmanger

Subject: Re: FW: Food & Fuel Water Supply well

Paul,

It has been difficult finding responsible party contact information. First, environmental consultant said Curtis Oil owned property. Curtis claims property of well is owned by Eugene Nelson. Eugene claims he owns only a 20 ft strip of property btwn Curtis Oil's (Casa Latte) property, and RADCO's to the west. The strip is used to access his peat farm north of Casa Latte (not sure if this is current coffee shop name but is very close). Jean claimed RADCO property owner is Carey McManus. Come to find out, RADCO property is owned by Ardie Usan who winters in Florida.

I've been working piecemeal in a protracted approach to gather information on well location. Eugene (Jean) Nelson 218/729 6268, former property owner, met on site 10-25-06 to show me location of former well, to his best recollection. It had been located in foundation of former restaurant owned & operated by his mother (remnant of foundation exists). Jean claims the land the well was located upon is now owned by RADCO, 5497 Miller Trunk Hwy. (I do have a site diagram from environ. consultant drawing but location is non-definitive. I drew a sketch during visit w/Jean that i can fax you)

I've left messages w/RADCO 218/729-5792 twice to get me phone number of RADCO's landlord, property owner Ardie Usan. I first left my message w/employee, then w/manager, Mr. Arnovich, to no avail. I also left a message w/RADCO owner, Phil Reese, 218/829 1447 re: phone number and/or address of Ardie Usan. I would like to discuss w/owner prior to sending out an MDH request to abandon an unsealed unused well to ensure they do indeed own land where restaurant was located upon.

Have you looked at RADCO's water supply well? Jean pointed out the 6" steel cased well located on SE corner of bldg. I don't see it listed in your receptor survey, but it's not far from site MWS.

If i don't hear back from RADCO owner, Mr. Reese, i will go ahead & send out a request to seal unused unsealed well. We will need an aerial photo showing restaurant location...and since location is close to Hwy 53, would think MNDOT would have aerial photos.

*MDH Sealing Record #54921
4" casing, 60' deep, screen?
(TPT 3-28-03 AMR)*

Sandy

Sandra Beck
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>>> "Stock, Paul" <Paul.Stock@state.mn.us> 12/26/2006 11:09 AM >>>

Sandy, sorry to bring this up so much later but I wanted to inform you that, based on information supplied to the MPCA, there have been 3 water supply wells at this site:

- 1) inactive/unused/abandoned (not sealed?) water well (known only from blueprint) located on very west side of property;
- 2) petroleum contaminated shallow (~50 ft???) water well sealed in 1997; and
- 3) present active well (Unique #559694) installed in 1997.

The main purpose of this email is to tell you that the MPCA is not sure of the status of above Well #1 and we think that the MDH should consider investigating whether this well presently exists and if so, that it is permitted. We are also concerned that this well could act as potential migration pathway for near surface contamination to a deeper aquifer.

Sarah Larsen - MPCA PM for this Leak Site indicated that MDH was notified about this well before but I have not seen any indication whether there was or will be any MDH follow-up (site inspection?) regarding this suspected well. Please let me know if MDH has or will follow-up on this well. In addition, please let me know if MDH needs further assistance from us (such as a copy of the blueprint showing the well location).

Thank you!

Paul Stock
MPCA

-----Original Message-----

From: Stock, Paul
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2006 4:43 PM
To: 'Sandra Beck'
Cc: Larsen, Sarah
Subject: RE: Food & Fuel Water Supply well

Sandra, this well is the replacement well for a shallower well which was contaminated at our Leak Site #3534, Junction Food-n-Fuel, Hermantown, MN site. Yes, the replacement well has been sampled (by the RP's consultant) a number of times over the years and I believe we still require annual sampling. My (somewhat foggy) memory tells me that no VOCs and GRO have been detected. Sarah Larsen in our St. Paul office is the PM and has the file in case you need additional information or documentation. Good luck!

Paul Stock

-----Original Message-----

From: Sandra Beck [mailto:Sandra.Beck@state.mn.us]
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2006 3:38 PM
To: Paul.Stock@state.mn.us
Subject: Fwd: Food & Fuel Water Supply well

LEAKSITE #3534

Paul,
Would you happen to know if the on-site (newer one) has been tested for Petroleum Constituents by MPCA or RP? thanks

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218/723-4653

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>>> Sandra Beck 10/5/2006 12:48 PM >>>

Mark,
Do you know who's working on this petroleum release site?

Food & Fuel has several monitoring wells located on the property. The defunct fireplace retailer is being converted to a coffee shop/cafe.

I asked the property owner, Gene Nelson, if he recalled this well has ever showed signs of contamination. He didn't think so. Said the old water supply well was contaminated & was sealed.

I've forwarded the well record & info. regarding cafe-startup to our non-community water supply sampler, Larry Peterson but haven't heard back from him.

I spoke with the entrepreneur-coffee shop owner & she said she'd tested the well & it passed all tests. Wondering if PCA has any history of testing this well? The construction record is likely non-representative of true well construction...i can explain if you want to know more.

Will be talking w/driller to get clarification.

Sandy

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