



November 29, 1990

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

520 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-3898

Telephone (612) 296-6300



Mr. Gerry Scott
Hallock School District
Box 670
Hallock, Minnesota 56728

Dear Mr. Scott:

RE: Petroleum Tank Release Site Closure/Off-Site Soil Analysis
Required At Land Application Site
Site: Hallock High School, Hallock
Site ID#: LEAK00001318

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) staff has reviewed your report received on May 24, 1990, prepared for you by Midwest Environmental Control Corporation (MECC) and has determined that the cleanup performed in response to the petroleum tank release at the site referenced above has adequately addressed the petroleum contamination, and therefore, the file regarding this release will be closed. However, follow-up soil analysis as outlined in part III.C of the MPCA document "Land Application of Petroleum Contaminated Soil: Single Application Sites" (April 25, 1990) is still required. The MPCA form "Soil Monitoring Results for Land-Applied Petroleum Contaminated Soil" should be used for reporting results. Failure to fulfill monitoring requirements may result in MPCA staff recommending a reduction in potential Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Account reimbursement.

On July 17, 1989, a petroleum tank release at the above-referenced site was reported to the MPCA. The release was discovered during a site investigation conducted by MECC of Minneapolis on behalf of Hallock High School. Observations and organic vapor headspace readings taken while performing a soil boring indicated extensive soil contamination. Subsequently, the following corrective actions have been taken in response to the release:

1. Hallock Schools retained MECC to observe and document the removal of a 10,000 gallon underground fuel oil storage tank (UST).
2. On November 2, 1989, prior to the excavation, two soil borings were advanced adjacent to the existing tank to determine the vertical extent of the contamination.

The 10,000 gallon tank and approximately 400 cubic yards of petroleum contaminated soil showing elevated levels of organic vapors were excavated. Ground water was not encountered during the excavation.

Following the excavation/removal of the tank and soils, four soil samples were taken from the bottom and the sides of the excavation. The chemical analyses indicate that soils were removed down to a contamination level below detection limits for benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, xylenes and total hydrocarbons (THC) as fuel oil.

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According to the project manager at MECC, approximately 5 cubic yards of lightly contaminated soil remain just outside of the northwest corner of the tank excavation basin. An organic vapor headspace analysis from an HNU indicated 10.9 parts per million (ppm) contamination in this area.

3. On November 18, 1989, three soil borings were advanced in locations surrounding the excavation area to confirm that all contaminated soils were removed. The chemical analyses for ethyl benzene and THC as fuel oil were below detection limits. However, low levels of benzene, toluene, xylenes, and THC as gasoline were found, but were all below 1 ppm.
4. After MPCA approval on September 25, 1990, the 400 cubic yards of contaminated soil was applied to land located in the NE¼ of the SW¼ of Section 13, Township 161 N, Range 49 W, in Kittson County.

Based on the currently available information, we believe these actions have adequately addressed the petroleum tank release. Therefore, MPCA staff does not intend to require any more cleanup work or investigation in response to this release, except for monitoring of land-applied petroleum contaminated soils. However, the MPCA reserves the right to reopen this file and require additional work if in the future more work is determined to be necessary, and this letter does not release any party from liability for this contamination.

Because you performed the requested work, the state may reimburse you for a major portion of your costs. The Petroleum Tank Release Cleanup Act establishes a fund which in certain circumstances provides partial reimbursement for petroleum tank release cleanup costs. This fund is administered by the Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board (Petro Board). More specific eligibility rules are available from the Petro Board (612/297-4017).

Thank you for your cooperation with the MPCA in responding to this petroleum tank release to protect the public health and the environment of the state of Minnesota. If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please call me at 612/643-3431.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Golden
Project Manager
Tanks and Spills Section
Hazardous Waste Division

cc: Mr. Henry Noel, City Clerk, Hallock
Mr. Tim Roman, Fire Chief, Hallock
Mr. Gary Rice, Kittson County Solid Waste Officer
Mr. Craig Diekvoss, MECC