



# Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

520 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-3898

Telephone (612) 296-6300



December 3, 1990

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

Dear Mr. Scott:

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

This letter is to supersede our previous letters to you dated November 28, and November 29, 1990. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you. 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 have determined that the cleanup performed in response to the petroleum tank release at the siteresferenced 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 to determine the vertical extent of contamination 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, 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 and removal of the tank and soils, a total of 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, ethylbenzene, xylenes (BETX) 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 ethylbenzene 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 NE 1/4 of the SW 1/4 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, except for monitoring of land-applied petroleum contaminated soils, in response to this release. 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

JAG:np

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