
Mr. C's Dry Cleaners Recon

DER Site Management, June 7-8, 2011

Site Report and Meeting Notes

By Will Welling, NYSDEC, Project Manager, Mr. C's 915157

On Tuesday morning, June 7, 2011, I drove to the Mr. C's site in East Aurora. I inspected the grounds of the Agway remediation. I noted new crushed stone in the parking lot areas which open to Whaley Avenue. It looked nice. I photographed some of our remedial areas including behind the library.

At approximately 11:00 AM I went across Main Street to the East Aurora village offices. I introduced myself and asked if I could speak with a representative from the village. The mayor was not in. I was introduced to Mr. Bryan Gazda, Village Administrator. I gave him my card.

I explained that I had received copies of newspaper articles which presented plans for library expansion, a new fire station and plans to relocate the town offices. From reading the articles it seemed to me that both the town and village were unaware of our remediation taking place on parcels they wished to develop. I said that I didn't want things to go too far if the village and town were truly uninformed. I would hate to see anyone blind sided by not knowing what we were doing across the street.

Inside Mr. Gazda's office I provided him with a brief, not too technical introduction to our remediation at Mr. C's. I gave him a 18" x 22" site plan showing all wells and piping so he would see what we have in the area behind the library and across the street from the village offices. He had only been in office a short time and said he was unaware of the extent of the Mr. C's remediation. He was aware of wells on the Agway property and thought that was all there was to the remediation.

We walked across the street and I showed him the treatment plant door with its contact information sign, I showed him where the water lines run and where some of our pumps are located in the parking lot. We walked over to the library. I showed him the wells in the back paved area so he would have an idea of the existing infrastructure. The wells have all been recently labeled with silver paint pen. Bryan Gazda was able to go from his hand-held drawing to the well on the ground with perfect ease. Thank-you, E&E and Iyer Environmental, for marking the wells so clearly. It was a beautiful sight!

I explained that I am the project manager for the remediation and the technical contact for engineering matters. I said I would like one municipal contact person for

communication.

With respect to development, I said that we had run the Mr. C's remediation for approximately ten years. We took over the remediation equipment from the Agway petroleum remediation and were continuing to run it because it seemed to be having a beneficial effect. The Agway remediation, being merely an add-on, could be decommissioned if there were a plan to develop the empty lot.

We do have wells and piping in areas as shown on the drawing. Since we have been operating the remedy for almost ten years, we are in the process of evaluating the progress and we are examining ways to enhance or modify the remediation. We want to clean up the site and we want closure. We will be looking into biological treatment as a way to attack the remaining groundwater contamination. We will be attempting a pilot study in the present year. What I tried to convey is that we can be worked with as a partner. Some of our infrastructure may be able to be decommissioned as no longer needed. Some piping or wells might have to be moved and moving costs would have to be born by the town or village. I encourage development and didn't want the town or village to be making decisions out of unfounded fear based upon incomplete knowledge of the remediation.

I said that the Region will be dealing with the sensitive issues associated with the site. I do not live in the area and do not wish to get involved in the local political issues. My involvement is strictly the technical remediation of the Mr. C's site. We have Ecology & Environment working through an engineering contract to remediate the site and they have a subcontractor, Iyer Environmental, who performs day-to-day operations at the site. Any existing technical information the village or town may wish to use in their planning would be available through me.

I made this introduction because it seemed to be needed and even overdue. We can be somewhat flexible and worked with; we will be changing some components of the remediation over time, and eventually we will stop pumping groundwater. Once that happens we will no longer need the associated underground plumbing.

I said that we probably would need six months to study any plan the town or village might come up with for the properties involved in our remediation. The earlier we are included in the discussion, the better because it would save time.

I concluded saying I would send Bryan PDF copies of the site drawing and the 2004 soil vapor maps I showed him.

After lunch, in early afternoon, I went to the Aurora Town offices to introduce myself there. I spoke briefly to the Town Clerk, Martha L. Librock and gave her my card. She has longevity as a town employee and said she knew all about the Mr. C's remediation. She said the town was aware of what we had there. I said I was the technical contact

for the site and they should direct engineering plans and questions to me. It was a very brief exchange, perhaps five minutes.

Later that day Bryan Gazda called me on my cell phone. He asked if I could attend a meeting with the mayor on Wednesday. I suggested 3:00 PM because I was busy in the morning.

On Wednesday, June 8, 2011, I met Mayor Allan A. Kasprzak, Village Administrator Bryan Gazda, and the Town of Aurora Code Enforcement Officer and Assistant Building Inspector, Bill Kramer. I briefly covered the same points I presented to Bryan the day before. I told them that I am the technical contact for the site. The Region handles the day to day and public matters and issues pertaining to the site. They thanked me and the meeting concluded after about one half hour.

Photos with Notes

Photo

Description

Whaley Avenue parking lot and sidewalk-

new crushed stone.



Library driveway



Pumping well on the Pitt property (right)



Library pumping wells



Same area, view more to the back



Agway remediation, 2-part panorama



Facing Mr. C's



View of DEC's treatment plant door

