50 Century Hill Drive, Latham, NY 12110 518.786.7400 FAX 518.786.7299 ctmale@ctmale.com



April 26, 2010

Mr. Michael P. McLean, P.E. NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation Region 5 Office 1115 NYS Route 86, PO Box 296 Ray Brook, New York 12977-0296

Re: 2009 Annual Site Management Plan Report Former Independent Leather Tannery Site (#B-00158) City of Gloversville, Fulton County C.T. Male Project No. 10.1125

Dear Mike:

C.T. Male Associates, P.C. (C.T. Male) has completed a site visit to observe the site's surface cover at the Former Independent Leather Tannery Site in Gloversville, New York in accordance with NYSDEC approved Site Management Plan dated January 13, 2009. This letter serves as the 2009 Annual Report.

Also required by the site's Site Management Plan is groundwater sampling and analysis as part of the long term groundwater monitoring program. This sampling is required every two years and is due in July 2010. Accordingly, the results of the groundwater sampling will be provided under separate cover when available.

Background

The remedial action for the Former Independent Leather Tannery site has included placement of a surface cover system across the site in 2006/2007, mainly consisting of vegetated soil with isolated areas of gravel covered access drives. The Cayadutta Creek traverses the Former Independent Leather Tannery site generally in a north-south direction, where the creek is confined on both sides by varying 6 to 9 feet high retaining walls constructed of laid up stone/mortar or poured in-place concrete. The creek walls are acting as a component to the remedy in that it is limiting direct contact with the existing site soils. Portions of the retaining walls were repaired as part of a CERCLA emergency response action completed by EPA in 2001/2002, and also by the City of Gloversville in 2008.



April 26, 2010 Mr. Michael P. McLean, P.E. Page - 2

In October 2008, at the time of the final completion of the City's creek wall repair, the annual surface cover site visit for 2008 was performed. The site's surface vegetation was stable with a mixture of grass and weeds, and no unvegetated areas were observed other than the disturbance resulting from the creek wall repair work by the City. This area was noted as an area to check as part of the annual surface cover site visit for 2009.

Annual Monitoring of the Surface Cover System

On March 16, 2010, the ±3.7 acre site was traversed on foot to observe the condition and adequacy of the site's surface cover system (i.e., barrier to contact with existing soil). The surface vegetation was stable with a mixture of grass, weeds and moss. There were no unvegetated areas, erosion, animal holes, or other surface disturbances observed except for the following minimal conditions. Photos taken during the site visit are attached to this letter.

- There were two animal burrows along the eastern property line along the bike path at the very edge of the surface cover system limits, as shown on the attached Figure 1. The burrows were partially underneath the chainlink fence following the site's property lines. There were obvious soil piles of surface cover material present adjacent to the burrow holes.
- There was erosion noted in the edge of the gravel apron by the bridge over the Cayadutta Creek (east side), as shown on the attached Figure 1. The depth of eroded area was on the order of eight inches, not deep enough to expose the underlying demarcation layer. The length of the erosion was about 20 feet long and about 1 to 2 feet wide.
- There were four relative small areas of poor vegetative growth in the north-eastern portion of the site, as shown on the attached Figure 1. The areas were stable with no on-going erosion, but vegetative growth was scarce.
- There was a relatively large area of heavy moss growth on the western side of the site, as shown on the attached Figure 1. The moss growth appears to be inhibiting the growth of grass, but the surface is still stable with no on-going erosion.

April 26, 2010 Mr. Michael P. McLean, P.E. Page - 3

There were two separate piles of sand along Main Street as shown on the attached Figure 1 that appeared to be left from a pile of snow from plowing activities. The sand was covering the surface and may have limited grass growth.

The previous year's annual site observation (2008) identified weak or potential lack of good vegetated growth in the area disturbed by the creek wall repair in 2008. This area was well vegetated and not to be considered a continuing concern.

Conclusions - Surface Cover System

The surface cover system is well established at the project site as the remedial actions were completed in 2006 and the surface cover restored in 2007. The creek wall failure in 2008 temporarily breached a portion of the surface cover system by exposing a localized area of the existing soils. Based on a March 16, 2010 site visit this particular area is no longer a concern as the vegetative cover is well established.

At the completion of the March 16, 2010 site visit, the areas bulleted above as potential deficiencies were shown to Mr. Robert Abel, Director of Public Works, the contact for the Former Independent Leather Tannery project site. Mr. Abel reported that all of the areas (except for the heavy moss growth) were addressed on March 17, 2010 to improve the affected surface cover conditions. Because the areas noted were not critical repairs (i.e., no demarcation fabric exposed and only surficial impairment), a subsequent site visit was not warranted.

The area of heavy moss growth on the west side of the site is not jeopardizing the integrity of the surface cover system, the City of Gloversville has been cautioned that this may have a negative impact on the level of grass growth and should be monitored closely. The City intends to evaluate methods to improve grass growth.

Summary

Based on our site observations, to the best of our knowledge, information and belief, the institutional and engineering controls to be put in place with the pending environmental easement pursuant to the SMP, are still in place, have not been materially altered and are still effective in achieving their objectives. The condition of the site was observed by C.T. Male during site observation on March 16, 2010, and the remedy and protective cover appear to have been maintained throughout the year. Based on these observations; the conditions of the site remain protective of human health and the environment.

April 26, 2010 Mr. Michael P. McLean, P.E. Page - 4

The City of Gloversville understands that the condition of the site, specifically the thickness of the surface cover system and vegetative cover, must be monitored and maintained throughout 2010 in accordance with the NYSDEC approved Site Management Plan. The next annual site management plan site visit and report will be completed in the fall months of 2010 and submitted to NYSDEC.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (518) 786-7548.

Sincerely,

C.T. MALE ASSOCIATES, P.C.

My A. Mans

Jeffrey A. Marx, P.E. Project Engineer

Review and Approved By:

Kirk Moline

Project Manager

Att Figures Pictures

c: Robert Abel, City of Gloversville Deanna Ripstein, NYSDOH

Figure 1 Surface Cover Condition Observations

ROJ. NO: 10.1125 CALE : AS SHOWN

ARCHITECTURE & BUILDING SYSTEMS ENGINEERING * CIVIL ENGINEERING ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES * SURVEY & LAND INFORMATION SERVICES

Attachment No. 1 Site Visit Pictures

PHOTO LOG

NUMBER DESCRIPTION

Standing on bridge on-site looking west at surface cover on the west side of the creek.
Standing on bridge on-site looking northwest at surface cover on the west side of the creek.
Standing on bridge on-site looking north.
Standing on bridge on-site looking northeast at surface cover on the east side of the creek.
Standing on bridge on-site looking southeast at surface cover on the west side of the creek.
Standing on bridge on-site looking south at surface cover on the west side of the creek.
Standing on bridge on-site looking southeast at surface cover on the east side of the creek.
Minor erosion on the east side of the creek along the gravel apron to the bridge.
Drainage swale off-site along the eastern property line.
Drainage swale off-site along the eastern property line.
East side of the site surface cover.
Poor vegetative cover on the east side of the creek.
East side of the creek looking north from the top of the hill along the eastern property line.
East side of the creek looking west from the top of the hill along the eastern property line.
East side of the creek looking south from the top of the hill along the eastern property line.
Animal burrows along the eastern property line.

Picture #12771: Animal burrows along the eastern property line.

Picture #12772: Poor vegetative cover along the eastern property line.

Picture #12773: Poor vegetative cover on the east side of the creek on hill.

Picture #12774: Poor vegetative cover on the east side of the creek along northern

fence line.

Picture #12775: Most recent creek retaining wall repair and west side of the site.

Picture #12776: Excess sand from snow plowing pile along South Main Street.

Picture #12777: West side of site surface cover along South Main Street.

Picture #12778: West side of site surface cover along western creek wall.