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October 15, 2020

Mr. Jeremy Giordano  
Environmental Engineer  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Region 3  
Division of Environmental Remediation Spill Prevention, Response and Remediation  
21 South Putt Corners Road, New Paltz, NY 12561

Re: Spill Closure Request  
NYSDEC Spill # 18-01592  
317 Main Street, Cornwall, New York

Dear Mr. Giordano:

Having completed soil remediation to the extent practicable and having found dramatic improvement in groundwater quality as a result of such remediation, we hereby request that NYSDEC Spill # 18-01592 be closed out by NYSDEC.

On September 30, 2020, we sampled an existing groundwater monitoring well (MW) located in the front lot of the referenced property in the same location as a previous temporary MW where contaminated soil was remediated by excavation in 2018. The purpose of the sampling was to compare pre-remediation and post-remediation concentrations of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in groundwater so as to assess the effectiveness of the soil remediation toward improvement of groundwater quality at the site and to demonstrate, if appropriate, that Spill # 18-01592 may be closed out by NYSDEC.

As tabulated below, VOC concentrations have diminished dramatically from 3/20/18 to 9/30/20, demonstrating that removal of the source of the VOCs in 2018 was highly effective in improving groundwater quality at the site. Groundwater quality should continue to improve by the natural attenuation processes of dilution and dispersion as groundwater continues to pass through the subsurface.

As you recommended based on your review of the 2018 LCS soil and groundwater investigation, the monitoring well in the soil excavation area was re-sampled to determine if the source removal was effective in reducing contaminant concentrations in groundwater on-site. A significant reduction in groundwater contamination did indeed occur and supports this request that NYDEC close out the spill..

As documented by the WCD Group in their February 8, 2019 Status Report, all readily accessible petroleum-impacted soil was excavated and disposed off-site. That knowledge, along with the significant reduction in groundwater contamination, as reported herein, supports this request that the referenced spill be closed out.

As reported by WCD, exploratory test pits in the former gasoline underground tank area

between the front of the building and Main Street confirmed that area to be the source of the previously detected groundwater contamination. Subsequently, WCD collected waste characterization samples and supervised off-site disposal of petroleum contaminated soil and the backfilling of the excavation area with clean materials.

Comparison of pre- and post-remediation groundwater quality is tabulated below:

Groundwater Testing Results  
317 Main Street, Cornwall, New York

Sample ID	TPMW1	MW	NYSDEC Groundwater Class GA Criteria
Date Sampled	3/20/18	9/30/20	
Units	ug/L	ug/L	
Methylcyclohexane	344 J	NR	NL
Benzene	4,380	68	1
Toluene	2,460	7.2	5
Ethylbenzene	3,830	390	5
Naphthalene	968 J	74	10
O-Xylenes	2,920	8.4	5
M&P-Xylenes	12,600	24	5
Tert-butylbenzene	579	ND<5	5
Isopropylbenzene	NR	20	5
N-Propylbenzene	536	43	5
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	3,850	49	5
1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	965	ND<5	5

Table Notes:    µg/L = micrograms per liter.  
                  NR = Not Reported.  
                  NL = Not Listed.  
                  J = Indicates an estimated value.  
                  ND = None Detected (followed by detection limit).  
                  NYSDEC Groundwater Criteria (Class GA) = 6 NYCRR Part 703  
                  (June 1998 and April 2000 Addendum).  
                  Laboratory report on 9/30/20 sampling is attached.

Thank you in advance for your review of this matter. We look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,



Theodore J. Stevens, P.E., L.E.P.  
*Stevens Engineering and Environmental Services, LLC*

Enclosure: Laboratory Report