State of Wisconsin **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES** 2501 Golf Course Rd. Ashland WI 54806

Tony Evers, Governor Preston D. Cole, Secretary Telephone 608-266-2621 Toll Free 1-888-936-7463



March 4, 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

MR ALLAN R SAPIK 325 TOWER AVE SUPERIOR WI 54880

> SUBJECT: BRRTS Activity #02-16-111770

> > Site Name: Former BVM Trans Axle

Site Address: 327 Tower Avenue, Superior, Wisconsin

Re: Notice of Intent to File Notice of Contamination Affidavit per Wis. Admin. Code § NR 728.11

Dear Mr. Sapik:

On October 25, 2019, the Department of Natural Resources (Department) sent you a letter requesting a site update for the above-referenced property, located at 327 Tower Avenue in Superior, Wisconsin (Property). To date, the Department did not receive a response to that previous request for information.

In accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § NR 728.11(2)(b), you are hereby notified that the Department intends to record an affidavit at the Douglas County Register of Deeds office giving notice of contamination at the Property at 327 Tower Avenue unless you respond to this second letter in writing, within 30 days of receiving this letter (date of delivery confirmation), informing the Department of your plans to finish the necessary environmental response actions at this site. As part of this response, please include the name and contact information of your environmental consultant.

The Department has also notified the mortgage lender for the Property identified below. You should provide a copy of this notice to any other parties with interest in the Property not identified by the Department.

In accordance with Wis. Admin. Code § NR 728.11(2)(c), if an acceptable response is not received within the time period set forth in this letter, the Department may, as soon as practicable but in no case less than 15 days after the 30-day deadline, record a Notice of Contamination affidavit at the office of the register of deeds for the county in which the Property is located. A copy of the Notice of Contamination affidavit to be filed is enclosed with this letter.

Your prompt attention to this request is appreciated. If you have any questions regarding this notice or how to move your site forward, please contact the project manager, Grant Neitzel, in writing at the following address:

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Remediation and Redevelopment Program Attn: Grant Neitzel 1701 N. 4th Street Superior, Wisconsin 54880



Mr. Neitzel can also be reached by phone at (715) 392-3126 or email at <u>Grant.Neitzel@Wisconsin.gov</u>. You can also contact me at (715) 685-2920 or by email at <u>Christopher.Saari@Wisconsin.gov</u> if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Saari

Northern Region Team Supervisor

Remediation and Redevelopment Program

Enclosures:

- Notice of Contamination Deed Affidavit
- DNR Responsible Party Letter, February 21, 2008

cc: Grant Neitzel – DNR Superior (via email)
Don Gerhardt – National Bank of Commerce

Wis. Admin. Code § NR 728.11 NOTICE OF CONTAMINATION

Legal Description of the Property:

Lots 19 through 22, inclusive, Block 10, West Superior, First Division, in the City of Superior

STATE OF WISCONSIN

COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

Recording Area

Name and Return Address: WDNR

Attn: Chris Saari 2501 Golf Course Road Ashland, WI 54806

I, Christopher Saari, being first duly sworn, state that:

04-804-00023-00

Parcel Identification Number (PIN)

- 1. I am a Remediation and Redevelopment Program Supervisor, employed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (hereinafter "the Department") at its Northern Region.
- 2. I have personal knowledge of the facts herein set forth and believe the same to be true.
- 3. The Department determined that petroleum-related contaminants were discharged to the former Frandsen Property, now known as the Sapik Property ("the Property"), which is located at 327 Tower Avenue in the City of Superior, County of Douglas, and which has the above legal description, have contaminated soil in the vicinity.
- 4. The Department determined that soil contamination has been identified on the Property which has not been adequately defined or remediated.
- 5. On February 21, 2008, the Department sent a Responsible Party (RP) and status update request letter to Mr. Allan R. Sapik (Mr. Sapik) advising Mr. Sapik of the statutory requirement to restore the environment at that location. The letter requested a written response within 45 days. No response to that letter has been received by the Department.
- 6. On March 31, 2008, the former Department Project Manager for the Site had a phone conversation with Mr. Sapik regarding the RP letter mailed on February 21, 2008. On the call, the Department reiterated to Mr. Sapik his responsibilities under the authority of Wis. Stat. § 292.11(3). The Department advised Mr. Sapik to contact previous owner(s) of the Property for information related to any previous environmental sampling or reports related to environmental investigations completed at the Property. The Department received no response following the phone conversation.
- 7. On November 14, 2011, the Department sent a status update request letter to Mr. Sapik and informed him of a change in project management for the Site. The letter requested a written response within 45 days. The Department received no response to that letter.
- 8. Per Wis. Admin. Code § NR 728.11(2)(a), on October 25, 2019, the Department sent a letter by certified mail to Mr. Sapik advising that a notice of contamination would be recorded if satisfactory action to address the environmental contamination did not commence. That letter requested a written response within 45 days, by December 9, 2019. The Department did not receive a response to that letter.

AFFIDAVIT Page 2 of 2

In Re: Property Located in the City of Superior Douglas County, Wisconsin Described above.

9. Per Wis. Admin. Code § NR 728.11(2)(b), on March 4, 2020, the Department sent a letter by certified mail to Mr. Sapik and the National Bank of Commerce advising that the Department has made the decision to record a notice of contamination for the above-described property at the Douglas County Register of Deeds office. The 30-day response time set forth in that letter has expired. Additionally, as required per Wis. Admin. Code § NR 728.11(2)(c), the 15-day waiting period following that deadline passed without an acceptable response.

10.	The Department records this Notice because the petroleum-related contaminants in the soil on the Property with
	the above legal description will continue to discharge into the environment, and subsequent purchasers of the
	Property could be held responsible for investigation and cleanup costs under Wis. Stat. § 292.11(3).

	Christopher A. Saari
Subscribed and sworn to before me this	day of, 20
Notary Public, State of Wisconsin	
My commission expires on:	

This document was drafted by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jim Doyle, Governor Matthew J. Frank, Secretary John Gozdzialski, Regional Director Ashland Service Center 2501 Golf Course Road Ashland, Wisconsin 54806 Telephone 715-685-2900 FAX 715-685-2909

February 21, 2008

FILE COPY

MR ALLAN SAPIK 325 TOWER AVE SUPERIOR WI 54880

Subject: Environmental Contamination at the Former BVM Trans Axle Facility

327 Tower Avenue, Superior, Wisconsin

WDNR BRRTS #02-16-111770

Dear Mr. Sapik:

The Department of Natural Resources' Remediation and Redevelopment Program is requesting your assistance with updating our records. We recently reviewed the case file for the above named site and determined that the information is not current. The Department received a complaint on October 4, 1996 of contaminated soil adjacent to the building at this property. After investigating the complaint, the Department then sent a letter to the then-current owner and operator of the property on October 24, 1996 to explain the results of the complaint investigation, and to provide notification of the owner's and operator's responsibilities to investigate the degree and extent of contamination and clean up the site. I have attached a copy of the letter for your information. These legal responsibilities are defined both in statute and in administrative codes. The hazardous substances spill law, Section 292.11 (3) Wisconsin Statutes (formerly s. 144.76(3), Wis. Stats.), states:

• RESPONSIBILITY. A person who possesses or controls a hazardous substance which is discharged or who causes the discharge of a hazardous substance shall take the actions necessary to restore the environment to the extent practicable and minimize the harmful effects from the discharge to the air, lands, or waters of the state.

Wisconsin Administrative Code chapters NR 700 through NR 749 establish requirements for emergency and interim actions, public information, site investigations, design and operation of remedial action systems, and case closure. Chapter NR 708 includes provisions for immediate actions in response to limited contamination. Wisconsin Administrative Code chapter NR 140 establishes groundwater standards for contaminants that reach groundwater.

However, since the time that the Department sent the October 24, 1996 notification letter, we have not received any information on the progress of investigative or remedial actions at the site.

A check of Douglas County property tax and land records indicates that you are now the owner of this property. As such, you could also be considered under the hazardous substances spill law to be in possession or control of contaminants released on the site. Therefore, the Department is requesting that within 45 days, by **April 6**, **2008**, you provide a summary of any investigative and/or cleanup work completed on this property of which you are aware. This summary should be submitted <u>in writing</u> to me at the above address.



Mr. Allan Sapik – February 21, 2008 Page 2

If you have questions concerning this letter or the contamination issues on the property, please do not hesitate to contact me. In addition to the above address, I can also be reached by phone at 715-685-2920, or by e-mail at Christopher.Saari@Wisconsin.gov. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Saari Hydrogeologist

attach.

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	PS Form 3800, April 2015 PSV 777	See Reverse for Instructions



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so that we can return the card to you. Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.	B. Received by (Printed Name)	☐ Agent ☐ Addressee C. Date of Delivery
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