

State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Tommy G. Thompson, Governor George E. Meyer, Secretary William R. Selbig, Regional Director Northeast Region Headquarters Green Bay Service Center 1125 N. Military Avenue P.O. Box 10448 Green Bay, Wisconsin 54307-0448 Telephone 920-492-5800 FAX 920-492-5913 TDD 920-492-5912

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November 5, 1998

Oakfield Properties, Inc. Donald Mueller 201 Main Street Oakfield WI 53065

SUBJECT: Reported Contamination at Oakfield Properties, Inc., 201 Main Street, Oakfield, Wisconsin BRRTS CASE #02-20-202459

Dear Mr. Mueller:

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has been notified of petroleum and chlorinated compound contamination at the above referenced location.

Based on the information received by the Department of Natural Resources, we believe Oakfield Properties, Inc. is responsible for restoring the environment at this site under Section 292.11, Wisconsin Stats., known as the hazardous substances spills law. Your responsibilities include investigating the extent of the contamination and then selecting and implementing the most appropriate remedial action. Enclosed is information to help you understand what you need to do to ensure your compliance with the spills law.

The purpose of this letter is threefold: 1) to describe your legal responsibilities, 2) to explain what you need to do to investigate and clean up the contamination, and 3) to provide you with information about cleanups, environmental consultants, possible financial assistance, and working cooperatively with the Department of Natural Resources.

Legal Responsibilities:

Your legal responsibilities are defined both in statute and in administrative codes. The hazardous substances spill law, Section 292.11 (3) Wisconsin Statutes, 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.



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Wisconsin Administrative Codes chapters NR 700 through NR 728 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.

Steps to Take:

The longer contamination is left in the environment the farther it can spread and the more it may cost to clean up. Quick action may lessen damage to your property and to neighboring properties and reduce your costs in investigating and cleaning up the contamination. To ensure that your cleanup complies with Wisconsin's laws and administrative codes, you should hire a professional environmental consultant who understands what needs to be done. These are the first four steps to take:

1. By December 7,1998, please submit written verification (such as a letter from your consultant) that you have hired an environmental consultant. You will need to work quickly to meet this timeline.

2. By January 7, 1999, your consultant should submit a workplan and a schedule for conducting the investigation. The consultant should follow the Department's administrative codes and our technical guidance documents. Please include with your workplan a copy of any previous information that has been completed (such as an underground tank removal report or a preliminary soil excavation report).

3. Please keep us informed of what is being done at your site. You or your consultant should provide us with a <u>brief</u> report at least every 90 days, starting after your workplan is submitted. These quarterly reports should summarize the work completed since the last report. Quarterly reports need only include one or two pages of text, plus any relevant maps and tables. However, please note that should conditions at your site warrant, you may receive a letter requiring more or less frequent contacts with the Department.

4. When the site investigation is complete, your consultant should submit a full report on the extent and degree of soil and groundwater contamination and a proposal for cleaning up the contamination.

Due to the number of contaminated sites and our staffing levels, we will be unable to respond to each report. To maintain your compliance with the spills law and chs. NR 700 through NR 728, do not delay the investigation and cleanup of your site by waiting for DNR responses. We have provided detailed technical guidance to environmental consultants. Your consultant is expected to be familiar with our technical procedures and administrative codes and should be able to answer your questions on meeting Wisconsin's cleanup requirements.

Your correspondence and reports regarding this site should be sent to the Department at the following address:

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Dave Carper – RR/3 PO Box 7921 Madison WI 53707

Unless otherwise requested, please send only **one duplexed copy** of all plans and reports. Correspondence should be identified with the assigned **DNR identification number BRRTS CASE #02-20-202459.**

Information for Site Owners:

Enclosed is a list of environmental consultants and some important tips on selecting a consultant. Also enclosed are materials on controlling costs, understanding the cleanup process, and choosing a site cleanup method. This information has been prepared to help you understand your responsibilities and what your environmental consultant needs to do. Please read this information carefully.

If you have any questions about this letter or your responsibilities, please call Dave Carper at (608) 267-6823.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

-cpt

Roxanne Nelezen Chronert Spills Coordinator - Hydrogeologist

Enclosure

NOV - P

cc:

Joseph Wm. Renville - LS/5

Dave Carper - RR/3

Atty. Lauren L. Azar; One South Pickney Street; PO Box 1806; Madison WI 53701-1806

Atty. Daniel Gustafson, Whyte, Hirschboeck, Dudek, S.C., Suite 2100, 111 East Wisconsin Avenue, Milwuakee, WI 53202-4894

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