

State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Scott McCallum, Governor
Darrell Bazzell, Secretary
William H. Smith, Regional Director

Northern Region Headquarters
107 Sutliff Ave.
Rhinelander, Wisconsin 54501
Telephone 715-365-8900
FAX 715-365-8932
TTY 715-365-8957

December 5, 2001

RICK SCOGLIO
1637 80TH ST
BALSAM LAKE, WI 54810

Re: PAPS GENERAL STORE, **BRRTS # 03-49-223213**

Dear MR. SCOGLIO:

In the past the Department of Natural Resources has informed you of responsibility to address contamination which resulted from a release of petroleum related compounds. The purpose of this letter is to alert you to a change that takes effect this month relating to the reimbursement of eligible costs under the Petroleum Environmental Cleanup Fund Act or PECFA. On December 22, 2001 the amount of financial assistance that the Department of Commerce is able to reimburse under the PECFA program for eligible costs associated with the cleanup of petroleum related contamination associated with the release from an above ground or underground storage tank will be reduced due to statutory requirements.

Under current law a responsible party must pay a \$2,500 deductible and 5% co-payment of eligible costs associated with underground storage tanks and a \$15,000 deductible and 2% co-payment for cost over \$200,000 for above ground tanks. Both provisions will change to a \$10,000 deductible with no co-payment on December 22nd. In addition the maximum amount of an award will be reduced from \$1,000,000 to \$190,000.

The changes may have a significant impact on your ability to adequately address contamination present on the property. 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 neighboring properties and reduce your costs in investigating and cleaning up the contamination. Please remember that you have legal responsibility as outlined in Section 292.11 (3) Wisconsin Statutes, which states:

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.

In order to qualify for the current deductible and maximum award the following activities must occur before December 22, 2001. 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. The Department has spelled out the process that must be followed in selecting the consultant. Those procedures are covered in the attached fact sheet. Once the consultant is hired you should submit written verification (such as a letter from the consultant) that they have been hired. The consultant should immediately begin the investigation of the degree and extent of contamination. The Department of Commerce has established rules, COMM 47.335(4) which states that "an investigation shall be considered started if, after confirmation of contamination is obtained, additional soil borings, soil sampling or monitoring well construction have begun..."

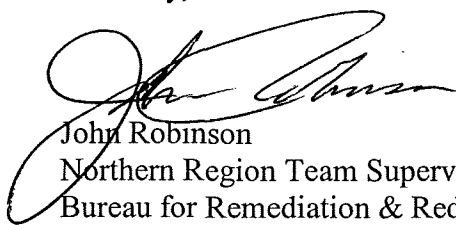
Our records indicate that you may not have begun the investigation of the contamination. If you have begun, please work with your consultant to make sure that you qualify for the current award. The Department has provided detailed technical guidance to environmental consultants. Your consultant is expected to know our technical procedures and administrative codes and should be able to answer your questions on meeting cleanup requirements.

All correspondence regarding this site should be sent to:

Danielle Lancour
Remediation and Redevelopment Program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
107 Sutliff Ave.
Rhineland, WI 54501

For more information on the PECFA program, please call the Department of Commerce at 608-266-2424 or visit their web site at: <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/COM/Com-Petroleum.html>. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter, please feel free to contact me at (715) 365-8976 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



John Robinson
Northern Region Team Supervisor
Bureau for Remediation & Redevelopment

Enclosures: PECFA Fact Sheet
Selecting a consultant