

Milw. Co.
99 ERR/ERP
FID # 241170490

November 6, 1994

Ms. Margaret M. Graefe
Hydrogeologist, Environmental Repair program
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Southeast District-Annex building
P.O. Box 12436
4041 North Richards Street
Milwaukee, Wi. 53212

Re: Redi-Quick Dry Cleaners
9510 W. Greenfield ave., West Allis

Dear Ms Graefe:

This letter is in response to your letter of June 28, 1994 regarding the property located at 9510 /w. Greenfield Avenue in West Allis. I would like to provide you with a bit of background regarding this property.

The property is currently owned by my mother, Ruth Barnekow. The property was formerly owned by both my mother and father. My father's name was Chester F. Barnekow. He deid in 1986.

In approximately 1979, My father and mother leased the property to Dorothy and Serb Gruichich who began to operate a dry cleaning business at the site. Dorothy and Serb Gruichich entered into a lease agreement with my parents. That lease arrangement has continued to the present day. Although Dorothy and Serb Gruichich are the named lessees under the lease agreement, their son, Sam Gruichich, has operated the dry cleaning business on a day-to-day basis for the past several years. The dry cleaning business operated by the Gruichich family at 9510 W. Greenfield Avenue is known as "Redi-Quick Dry Cleaners."

The Department's letter stated that chlorinated contaminants have been found at or in the vicinity of the property. The placement of such materials at the site was not caused by my parents, the owners of the property. During the summer of 1993,

Dorothy Gruichich called us to inquire about the progress of our work to remove underground storage tanks from the property. As you know, this work began in 1989 and dealt with tanks which stored petroleum products. During the conversation in 1993 Dorothy Gruichich inquired as to how the tank removal work was going. I told her that the petroleum clean-up was progressing well, but that recent samples from the test wells had indicated the presence of solvents in the groundwater. Dorothy Gruichich stated that they (the Gruichich) were intending to buy a new machine that was "air-tight," because their old dry cleaning machine was "leaking bad." On the basis of this conversation, I believe that the Redi-Quick dry cleaning operation may be responsible for the chlorinated contaminants that have been detected in the groundwater at this Property.

My parents never operated a dry cleaning business at the property. My father passed away in 1986, and my mother now is the sole owner of the property. She is an elderly women with limited financial resources. My mothers income is based on her social security benefits and the monthly rental payments she recieves from the Redi-Quick dry cleaning operation under the lease for the property. The rental income is \$1,200 per month, but my mother is also responsible under the lease agreement for paying \$2,350 per year in property taxes for the property. My mother is not in a financial position to be responsible for conducting an environmental investigation and/or remediation at this property.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding this situation.

Very truly Yours,

Kristine Hein

Kristine Hein
P.O. Box 551
Florence, Wi. 54121