



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

North Central District Headquarters
Box 818
Rhinelander, Wisconsin 54501
(715)362-7616

Carroll D. Besadny
Secretary

September 25, 1987

Mr. Philip Christensen
C. M. Christensen Company
Lake Street
Phelps, Wisconsin 54554

Dear Mr. Christensen:

On August 25, 1987, I had an opportunity to meet with Don Grass as it relates to the old pole dipping operation in Phelps. The purpose of my visit was to first look at the waste chemicals that were involved in a breakin earlier this summer. Upon reviewing the site, it appears that all the chemicals have been removed and were in the possession of Mr. Grass. Upon reviewing the information available, it is possible that these materials may be hazardous as defined by both State and Federal regulations. You are required under State law to determine if the material is hazardous. If so, the material will have to be properly disposed of. I have enclosed a list of such facilities for your information.

The second area of concern centered on the dipping operaton at the old pole plant. Upon reviewing the site, I found areas where the smell of diesel fuel could still be noted in the soil, as well as penta sludge on the ground in the areas of the old dip tank.

Wisconsin's hazardous waste and groundwater laws do regulate operations which may or have discharged materials which may cause environmental problems. Recently, we have had a number of situations where pentachlorophenol from dipping operations have caused substantial environmental problems. Because of the potential for problems at this site, as well as the observed materials, I am requesting that you contact a consultant firm to do an in-field conditions report to determine what impacts this operation may have had on the groundwater and wetlands at this facility.

Such an investigation would include groundwater monitoring, soil samples and other related activities to determine what materials are present and their impacts on the environment. I am requesting that you inform the Department within 14 days as of the date of this letter of your intentions. A draft scope of work should be submitted within 60'days.

Mr. Philip Christensen - September 25, 1987

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If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate in contacting me at the District Office, (715)362-7616.

Sincerely,

Gary Kulibert
District Solid Waste Coordinator

GK:da

Enc.

cc: Bureau of Solid Waste, SW/3

D. K. Tyler, Woodruff

Vilas County Sheriff's Dept., Courthouse, Eagle River, WI 54521