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FEDERAL EXPRESS

April 26, 2017
File #34283.000

Mr. Howard Caine – SR-6J
Remedial Project Manager
Waste Management Division
USEPA Region V
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Re: NPI Monthly Progress Reports for March 2017
USEPA CERCLIS ID WID006196174
WDNR BRRTS 02-09-000267 and FID 609038320

Dear Howard:

In accordance with the requirements of the Administrative Order for Remedial Action between National Presto Industries, Inc. (NPI) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), effective July 16, 1992, and the Unilateral Order between NPI, the USEPA, and National Defense Corporation, effective October 21, 1993, enclosed are two copies each of Progress Reports Nos. 297 and 246, respectively, prepared for the NPI site in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Please call if you have any questions or need additional information about either report.

Sincerely,

GANNETT FLEMING, INC.

Clifford C. Wright, P.E., P.G.
Project Engineer

CCW/jec/Enc.

Electronic cc: Mae Willkom (WDNR/Eau Claire)
Mark Wichman (USACE)
Derrick Paul (NPI)
Dennis Kugle (Gannett Fleming)

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INTERIM REMEDIAL ACTION
ON-SITE GROUNDWATER
PROGRESS REPORT NO. 297
MARCH 2017
NATIONAL PRESTO INDUSTRIES, INC. SITE
EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN

This progress report is prepared and submitted in accordance with the reporting requirements contained in the Administrative Order for Remedial Action between National Presto Industries, Inc. (NPI) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), effective July 16, 1992.

During March 2017, Southwest Corner extraction wells EW-5 and EW-6 remained offline; on January 16, 2017, EW-6 was shut down for a 12-month trial period, as approved by both agencies. During the week of March 20, first quarter groundwater monitoring was conducted. Trichloroethylene (TCE) concentrations in monitoring well MW-76A rebounded from <0.33 to 4.6 micrograms per liter. Contributing factors may include the:

- Relatively high groundwater levels late last year.
- Shutdown of EW-6 on January 16, 2017.

It appears rising water levels may have “flushed out” residual TCE previously trapped in or just above the capillary fringe. Consequently, NPI plans to re-install and restart the pump in EW-6 this week, per our November 2016 *EW-5 Status Report and Work Plan for a 12-Month Trial Shutdown of EW-6* document, as you and I discussed over the phone on April 25th.

REMEDIAL DESIGN/REMEDIAL ACTION
MELBY ROAD DISPOSAL SITE SOIL VAPOR EXTRACTION SYSTEM
PROGRESS REPORT NO. 246
MARCH 2017
NATIONAL PRESTO INDUSTRIES, INC. SITE
EAU CLAIRE, WISCONSIN

This progress report is prepared and submitted in accordance with the reporting requirements summarized in Section XI - Order, Paragraph 58 - Progress Reports of the Unilateral Order between National Presto Industries, Inc. (NPI), National Defense Corporation, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), effective October 21, 1993.

On December 6, 2016, the soil vapor extraction (SVE) system at the Melby Road Disposal Site was shut down for a 6-month trial period, as approved by both agencies. However, the SVE system operated for about 175 hours between March 14 and 21, 2017, with one blower running for quarterly field screening and sampling. Data collected during this period show that the blower ran at an average flow rate of 130 actual cubic feet per minute (acfm) and the manifold vacuum was less than 1 inch of water column, when operating. To minimize condensate production during periods of cold weather operation, a variable frequency drive was installed in the fall of 2015 and used to reduce the extraction flow rate of a single vacuum blower from 570 to <230 acfm.

Additional monitoring performed on March 21st included:

- Field screening the 12 vent wells (VW-1 through VW-12) and SVE exhaust gas with a flame-ionization detector for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and methane.
- Sampling the SVE exhaust gas for laboratory analysis of trichloroethylene (TCE); 1,1,1-trichloroethane (TCA); tetrachloroethylene; and 1,1-dichloroethane.

As anticipated, there was a measureable increase in overall VOC concentrations between December 2016 and March 2017. However, the concentration of individual VOCs fluctuated (e.g., TCA increased and TCE decreased), and both vapor-phase TCA and TCE concentrations remained more than two orders of magnitude below calculated threshold levels corresponding to the federal maximum contaminant level and NR 140 enforcement standard for both compounds in groundwater. Background information on the threshold levels is summarized in our April 2016 *Modified Cold Weather Operation of the MRDS SVE System Assessment Report*. No issues related to the trial seasonal shutdown of the MRDS SVE system were observed. More detail will be provided in a separate letter report that will be submitted to both agencies by July 15, 2017. Copies of the laboratory analytical results and field data sheets are available upon request.