

State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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George E. Meyer, Secretary
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Southeast District Annex
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January 29, 1997

IN REPLY REFER TO FID# 246046350
County of Ozaukee

Mr. V.S. Rane, Registered Agent
Unitech Resources Inc.
748 Young Street
Midland, Ontario, Canada L4R 2E5

**SUBJECT: Alleged Hazardous Substance Release at W124 N10014 Wasaukee
Road, Mequon, Wisconsin**

Dear Mr. Rane:

The Department has information that hazardous substances may have been released at Cermatics, Inc., W124 N10014 Wasaukee Road, Mequon, Wisconsin. This allegation is based on information obtained from Cermatics during its hazardous waste licensing and corrective action activities and from Department files. The alleged releases occurred when Peter Rasmussen was the owner of Ecolab, prior to October 1986. Ecolab shared the property with Cermatics. The corporation that you represent, Unitech Resources Inc., is the current owner of the property on which Cermatics is located. The Department of Natural Resources identifies Unitech Resources Inc. as a potential responsible party to investigate and clean up the contamination. The purpose of this letter is: to make sure individuals know their responsibilities under the law and act accordingly; to explain what you need to do to investigate and clean up the contamination; to provide you with information about cleanups and environmental consultants; and to assist you in working cooperatively with the Department of Natural Resources.

This letter is being sent to you to notify you that you have the option to proceed with a voluntary cleanup under the NR 700 rule series. The rules found in chs. NR 700-728, Wis. Adm. Code, have been developed to provide direction and continuity in remediation of land and groundwater that has been contaminated by hazardous substances. Chapters NR 700-728, Wis. Adm. Code, establish requirements for the emergency and interim actions, public information, site investigation, design and operation of a remedial action system, and case close-out. Ch. NR 140 establishes groundwater quality standards, and Ch. NR 720 establishes procedures to determine soil clean-up standards. Investigation and remediation plans must conform to Department rules and must be implemented in a timely fashion. However, if you do

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not adequately address the alleged contamination without delay at the Cermatics property in compliance with the requirements of the NR 700 rules series, the Department reserves the right to proceed against Unitech Resources Inc. under the Wisconsin spill law or other applicable authorities.

Case Information:

Information obtained from Cermatics and from Department files indicates that PCB-contaminated wax was stored outside on the ground, in drums, and in trailers on the property shared by Cermatics and Ecolab when Peter Rasmussen was the owner of Ecolab. These drums remained on-site at least into 1989. Department sampling and inspections in 1987 indicate that some of the drums leaked, and an oily liquid was observed on the ground nearby. Also, a former Ecolab employee alleges that wax was buried in a trench adjacent to the building that is currently used for solvent storage. Further investigation is needed in several areas to determine the extent of the alleged contamination.

Steps to Take:

The longer contamination is left in the environment, the further it may spread and the more difficult it may be to clean up. To ensure that your investigation and cleanup comply with Wisconsin's environmental regulations, you should hire a qualified environmental consultant. These are the first steps to take:

- 1.) Send this Department written verification (such as a letter from the consultant) that you have hired an environmental consultant.
- 2.) Your consultant must submit, on your behalf, a work plan and schedule for conducting the investigation. The consultant must follow ch. NR 716 and any other applicable administrative codes and technical guidance documents. You should include with your work plan a copy of any previously completed investigation or remediation work at the site.
- 3.) Keep the Department informed about what is being done at your site. You or your consultant must provide the Department with a brief report every 90 days, starting after the work plan is submitted. These quarterly reports should summarize the work completed since the previous report. Quarterly reports should include only a few pages of text accompanied by any pertinent maps, tables, and analytical results.

Please note that should conditions at your site warrant more frequent contacts with the Department, you will receive a letter from the Department spelling out the requirements for more frequent contacts or reporting.

- 4.) When the site investigation is complete, your consultant must submit a full report on the degree and extent of contamination and a cleanup proposal (refer to chs. NR 722 and 724).
- 5.) All correspondence to the Department should be identified with the file reference information given in the upper right corner of first page of this letter: FID#246046350, Ozaukee County, RR file.
- 6.) Direct reports and correspondence to: John Krahlung, Environmental Repair Section, Southeast Region Office at the above letterhead address.

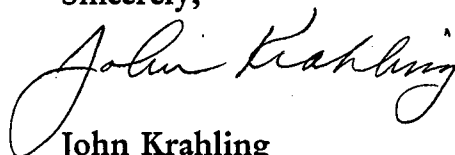
Additional Information:

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

You may obtain copies of the administrative codes and statutes mentioned in this letter from Document Sales, Wisconsin Department of Administration, P.O. Box 7849, Madison WI 53707. Call 608-266-3358 or 1-800-362-7253 for credit card orders.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call me at 414-229-0857.

Sincerely,



John Krahlung
Hydrogeologist

Enclosures:

Selecting An Environmental Consultant
Environmental Services Contractors List
Quarterly Updates for Cleanup of Contaminated Properties

cc: James Schmidt - SER RR Team Leader
Mulholland/Bartolerio/Cermatics HW CA file - WA/3