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State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Southern District Headquarters  
3911 Fish Hatchery Road  
Fitchburg, Wisconsin 53711  
TELEPHONE 608-275-3266  
TELEFAX 608-275-3338

George E. Meyer  
Secretary

September 28, 1993

File Ref: Ripon FF/NN Site, #915

Ms. Linda Nachowicz  
USEPA, Region 5  
HSRW-6J  
77 W. Jackson Blvd  
Chicago, IL 60604

SUBJECT: Ripon FF/NN Quarterly Update

Dear Ms. Nachowicz:

The past three months at the Ripon FF/NN landfill has been spent waiting for lab results, developing a short list of parameters for sampling from the lab results, and securing offsite access permission for well installation.

Due to a problem with the lab, results from the second round of leachate sampling were delayed by a couple of weeks. This data was used to develop a short list of parameters for future sampling. Future sampling of monitoring wells will consist of VOCs, metals and cyanide. One additional round of semi-volatile compounds will also be collected. Based upon the results of that sampling, semi-volatiles may also be added to this list.

Sampling of private wells near the landfill has been completed. One home detected benzene at concentrations less than the drinking water standard. The follow up sample from this house didn't have any VOCs detected in it. This house will be sampled again in the future. Because of the location of this house relative to the landfill, and other houses, I don't think the VOC detect is from the landfill. However, placement of additional monitoring wells and future sampling will help to answer that question. All other houses within one-half mile that were sampled had no VOC detects.

During the first round of drilling, the RP Group was not able to secure offsite access permission for all of the monitoring wells. This problem was later resolved and additional wells were installed in August. In addition, the work plans call for the installation of a very deep piezometer. This well will be installed to about 350' and will be sampled at certain intervals while drilling. The drilling of that well started on September 27. It should be completed in 8 to 10 days of drilling.

Ms. Linda Nachowicz - September 28, 1993

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Once that well has been installed, the monitoring wells will be sampled again to determine the extent of groundwater contamination.

This is a summary of events at the Ripon FF/NN site over the past three months. If you have any questions, I can be reached at the number below.

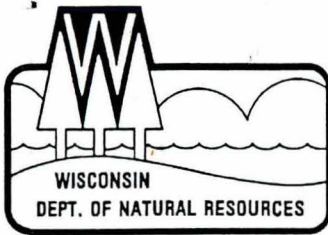
Sincerely,



Stephen M. Ales  
District Hydrogeologist  
(608) 275-3310

cc: Jane Lemcke - SW/3

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Secretary

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Southern District Headquarters  
3911 Fish Hatchery Road  
Fitchburg, Wisconsin 53711  
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June 22, 1993

File Ref: Ripon FF/NN landfill Superfund Site

Ms. Linda Nachowicz  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
HSRW-6J  
77 W. Jackson Blvd  
Chicago, IL

SUBJECT: Quarterly Update for Ripon FF/NN Site

Dear Ms. Nachowicz:

This is another quarterly update for the Ripon site. The first one was sent to Jim Mayka about three months ago. Now that you have been assigned to work on it, I will start sending the updates to you. I am glad to have met you out at the site a few weeks ago. Too often I only speak with staff from EPA over the phone; it was nice to meet you in person. I am also glad that you have visited the site. It always helps to have a mental image of a site rather than just maps and plan sheets. Listed below is a summary of site activities over the past couple of months.

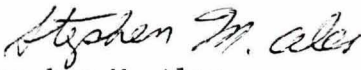
1. As of today, 13 of the scheduled 18 monitoring wells to be installed in the first phase of drilling have been completed. The large cobbles present at the site have caused numerous drilling problems. At one hole, the drill stem became stuck in the hole, and then the rig broke down while trying to retrieve the stem. Weather has also caused a couple days of delay. The drillers have had to shut down on four or five occasions due to lightening or high winds.
2. Eight borings to determine the landfill cap construction have been completed. These borings were spread out across the cap. Soil samples were collected from five locations and the samples were analyzed for physical characteristics such as atterberg limits and grains size.
3. A magnetic survey of the area revealed four "magnetic hotspots". These were areas in which the survey crew could not ascertain while in the field the cause for the magnetic anomaly. A backhoe brought in to excavate the four areas revealed only fencing and other metallic debris. No barrels or other potential contaminant sources were discovered.
4. Three leachate wells were installed as part of the drilling. Two of those wells have been sampled for VOCs, metals and semi-volatiles. The third well didn't have enough leachate in it to sample.

5. Seventeen of the 21 private wells within one-half mile of the site have been sampled for VOCs. One home did have low level hits of benzene and 1,4 dichlorobenzene. A resample of the well has been scheduled. At this point I don't know whether the hits are from the landfill or not. Two private wells between the landfill and the well with the detects are clean. Simon Hydro-Search, the PRP consultant is now trying to get well log information for the wells.

That is a summary of site activity over the past couple of months. If you are planning another trip to Wild Rose and want to stop at the site on your way, give me a call and I can let you know whether field work will still be going on.

If you have any questions about the site, you can call me at 608-275-3310.

Sincerely,



Stephen M. Ales  
District Hydrogeologist

cc: Jane Lemcke - SW/3, GEF II

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Secretary

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Fitchburg, Wisconsin 53711  
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March 16, 1993

File Ref: Ripon FF/NN Superfund Site

Mr. James Mayka  
USEPA, Region 5  
HSRW-6J  
77 W. Jackson Blvd  
Chicago, IL 60604

SUBJECT: Quarterly Update on Ripon FF/NN Site, Ripon, WI

Dear Mr. Mayka:

As part of the agreement worked out between our agencies for this site, I am writing you with the first quarterly update on site progress. Since no formal format for updates was included in our agreement, I will use a narrative format. If you would like another format, please feel free to let me know.

#### Background Information

The Ripon FF/NN site is an old municipal landfill which also accepted large quantities of industrial waste and wastewater treatment plant sludges. The site operated between 1967 and 1983. Since its closure, the site has been used for agricultural purposes (growing hay). The site was closed with 2 feet of compacted on-site soils and 6 inches of topsoil.

The site was scored and nominated for inclusion on the NPL. We are still waiting for EPA Headquarters to list the site on the NPL. I am told it should be on the next update.

#### Site Progress

A PRP group formed and signed a contract with WDNR to complete a full RI/FS and Source Control RD/RA. The contract became effective August 14, 1992. Since that time, the PRP group has retained Simon Hydro-Search from Brookfield, Wisconsin as their consultant. The working relationship to date has been cooperative.

On September 14, 1992 the PRP group submitted a Site Evaluation Report (SER) which documents all of the technical, geologic, hydrogeologic and water quality information that is available for the site. Because this was an old landfill, there is good information as to the landfill construction, waste types, operating conditions and closure information available for the site. This information is helpful in determining the types of contaminants to expect in the groundwater. The geologic and hydrogeologic information is rather scarce. The RI will have many data gaps to fill in this area.



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The WDNR approved the SER on October 1, 1992.

WDNR received the RI/FS workplans for this investigation on December 15, 1992. The plans were reviewed by myself, our QAPP person and the Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services (under their grant with ATSDR). We provided comments to the PRP group in a response letter dated February 12, 1993. The workplans were not approved. Revision 1 of the workplans will be submitted on March 19, 1993.

#### Peripheral Issues

There is only one peripheral issue that I want to draw your attention to. In the past, the WDNR has used a consultant to provide oversight of field activities. Recent conversations between yourself and Mark Giesfeldt on this issue indicate that the decision to use oversight contractors should be left with our agency. The WDNR has allowed the PRP group to make the decision on oversight. Should the PRP group feel they need to have oversight in order to prove compliance with the workplans, then our agency will arrange for such oversight. The PRP group believes they may need this for later cost recovery actions against recalcitrant PRP's. In my next quarterly update, I will provide you with the final details on this issue.

As part of the agreement between our agencies, I agreed to provide EPA with final copies of all submittals. The SER is in final form and has been approved. Please notify me as to whether I should send the copies to you directly, or whether they should go to someone on your staff.

If you have any questions regarding this update, or general questions regarding the site, please give me a call. My phone number is 608-275-3310. My mailing address is listed in the letterhead.

Sincerely,



Stephen M. Ales  
District Hydrogeologist

cc: Jane Lemcke/Mark Giesfeldt - SW/3  
Patty Hanz - LC/5

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