State of Wisconsin DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES 2984 Shawano Avenue Green Bay WI 54313-6727

Tony Evers, Governor Preston D. Cole, Secretary Telephone 608-266-2621 Toll Free 1-888-936-7463 TTY Access via relay - 711



March 25, 2022

MMW Properties, LLC Attn: Mr. Jeff Udovich 3123 South 9<sup>th</sup> Street Sheboygan, WI 53082 *Via Electronic Mail Only to jjudovich@vpicorp.com* 

Subject: Review of the Site Investigation Report and Remedial Action Plan Report Vinyl Plastics (Former), 3123 South 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Sheboygan, WI DNR BRRTS Activity # 02-60-001045, FID #460041560

## Dear Mr. Udovich:

On September 24, 2021, your environmental consultant, Mr. Trent Ott of Friess Environmental Consulting, Inc. submitted the report entitled *Additional Site Investigation and Remedial Action Plan* on your behalf requesting concurrence that the Site Investigation (SI) is complete and approval of the Remedial Action Plan (RAP). The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received the applicable fees for providing review and response in accordance with Wisconsin Administrative (Wis. Admin.) Code § NR 749.04 (1). The Report was reviewed for compliance with Wis. Admin. Code ch. NR 716 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. NR 724.

## Background

In 1974 a 7,300-gallon release of bis (2-ethyl-hexyl) phthalate (DEPH) occurred on the SW corner of the building to storm sewer, at that time clean-up focus was on Lake MI not site. In 1989 owner started to renovate south side of property. Contamination encountered and a discharge notification made to the DNR. Vinyl Plastics BRRTS CASE 02-60-001045 was opened and a responsible party letter issued in 1994. Site investigation activities took place from 1994-1996 in the area Southwest of the main plant and to the West of plasticizer building, a135 tons of soil was excavated from this area. The case was closed in 1997, at that time there we not DEHP soil standards, groundwater standards did exist.

In early 2020 Limited SI from 12 probes collected soil and GW and a VI evaluation of 2 sub-slab points in the buildings, detected below residential and commercial VRSLs. The data was evaluated and the Vinyl Plastics BRRTS CASE #02-60-001045 was reopened. A responsible party letter was re-issued on February 19, 2020. A SI Report was submitted on June 19, 2020, followed by a closure request on July 10, 2020. On July 5, 2020, the DNR issued a closure not recommended determination, and required additional investigation into the degree and extent of the soil and groundwater, resampling of vapor ports for DEHP and VOCs, emerging contaminate scoping, and an evaluation of a remedial action. On April 14, 2021 a SI Workplan was received and notice to proceed issued on April 19, 2021.

# **Response to Site Investigation Report**

DNR has reviewed the SIR and all available file information and has determined that limited additional work is needed to complete the site investigation and meets the requirements of Wis. Admin. Code ch. NR 716.



## Storm Sewers

Please identify if the storm sewer lateral involved in the original 1974 discharge remains in the same location, if it was upgraded, and if surrounding soils were excavated during any upgrades. Review and provide justification that the soil in the areas of storm sewer later and storm sewer main are not impacted or provide a workplan to investigation discharges from the storm sewer.

The DNR concurs with your assessment that emerging contaminant statement and is not requiring that perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are sampled on site.

### **Response to RAP**

DNR has reviewed the RAP and conditionally approves the remedial action of grading and placing an impervious asphalt cap, however due to the soil and groundwater concentrations of DEHP in the source area, extent and concentrations of DEHP of groundwater contamination over time, and potential surface water exceedances in the area of the swail the DNR is recommending source removal of DEHP impacted soils in the area of P-11/P-25/MW-11 to P-12/P/21/MW-8. Source removal along with an impervious cap will likely stabilize the groundwater plume in a more timely manner and ensure that the groundwater is not discharging to the surface water swale on the eastern portion of the property excess of the surface water standards of 33.92 ug/L for acute toxicity and 4.36 ug/L for chronic toxicity. 2021 DEHP groundwater concentration at P-16/MW-5 range from 10.0 to 12.8 ppb DEHP, which are above the surface water standards. Post excavation and capping groundwater monitoring should be performed to confirm natural attenuation is occurring and that the groundwater plume is stable.

DNR has the following recommendations for continued groundwater monitoring:

- Resample MW-1 for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) and DEHP and abandon, prior to excavating, grading, and capping in the area.
- Resample MW-8, MW-11 for DEHP and abandon, prior to excavating, grading, and capping in the area.
- Continue to sample for DEHP in the following after capping to establish trends: MW-4, MW-5, MW-6, MW-7, MW-9, MW-12 DEHP and VOCs (to address VOC in P-10), MW-14, MW-13
- Continue to monitor depth to groundwater and evaluate if fluctuations in DEHP are due to higher groundwater table.

DNR has the following recommendations for monitoring well abandonment:

- MW-1, MW-8, and MW-11 may be abandoned after sampling as outlined above.
- MW-2, MW-3, and MW-10 GW monitoring can be discontinued, and wells abandoned.

DNR appreciates your efforts to protect the environment at this Site. If you have any questions regarding this approval decision, please contact me by calling (920) 362-3981, or by email at <u>roxanne.chronert@wisconsin.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Hafanne . Chronert

Roxanne N. Chronert Team Supervisor, Northeast Region Remediation & Redevelopment Program

cc: Trent Ott, Friess Environmental Consulting, Inc., Stantec Consulting Services Inc. (tott@fecinc.us)