



January 30, 2018

Mrs. Bonnie Miller  
Miller's Liquor LLC  
6912 North Avenue  
Madison WI 53562

Subject: Progress at Miller's Liquor remediation project  
2401 University Avenue, Madison  
BRRTS # 02-13-415322

Dear Mrs. Miller:

I have been reviewing the Miller's Liquor remediation file as the new DNR project manager. I look forward to working with you and your consultant to make some progress on this project that began about 15 years ago.

It is my understanding that the project has stalled around some difficulty in getting access to nearby properties for soil vapor testing and that the Miller's Liquor building still needs to have its vapor mitigation system installed. If there is current information on these issues or any environmental data collected over the last 2-3 years not previously sent to DNR, please send it to me as soon as possible.

Getting a vapor mitigation system installed at the property and completing the environmental investigation are essential. High levels of chlorinated volatile organic compounds in soil and groundwater can cause unhealthy levels of vapors to move through the soil and possibly enter buildings. Groundwater samples from sites downgradient of the 2400-2500 blocks of University Avenue suggests that groundwater contamination from past dry-cleaning operations may have reached a half mile away.

Two past letters list the required investigation activities:

- April 25, 2012 letter to James Walden (former DNR project manager) from Seymour Environmental (DNR approved those activities in its May 2, 2012 letter to you)
- April 7, 2014 letter to Steve Miller from Jim Walden

Investigation work required on the Miller's property should be done without delay to aid in the planning for remedial options there. There were high concentrations of tetrachloroethene in soil and groundwater at the Miller's property when last sampled. To keep additional contamination from moving off-site, Miller's also needs to evaluate and carry out an interim remedial action while also working to complete the investigation and related required activities (see letters referred to above).

**Within 30 days of the date of this letter, submit a timeline and plan for completing the items listed in the 2012 and 2014 letters noted above and an interim remedial option proposal to address tetrachloroethene (and any breakdown products present) at your property.** The remedial options proposal needs to meet the requirements of chs. NR 169.11(1)(b) and NR 708.11, Wis. Adm. Code. Include updated data summary tables, maps, and cross-sections in your proposal. Goals to think about for the interim action could be to reduce

tetrachloroethene levels in soil and soil vapor, decrease groundwater contamination through reductive dichlorination or similar processes, or both.

**Please note that NR 169.11(1)(b)5, Wis. Adm. Code, requires Miller's to obtain DNR approval of the proposed interim action and associated cost estimates and schedules.**

I recently emailed your consultant, Robin Seymour, a link to some template letters to use when requesting access to nearby properties for soil vapor testing; if there is no response to these letters after two attempts, I will try to contact the property owners to share DNR fact sheets on vapor intrusion with them and answer questions. It is up to the property owners whether they chose to give permission for testing; using DNR's established procedure for requesting access and documenting any response will show that Miller's made a good faith effort to get the testing done.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 608-275-3257 or [cynthia.koepke@wisconsin.gov](mailto:cynthia.koepke@wisconsin.gov).

Sincerely,

Cynthia L. Koepke, P.G.  
Remediation & Redevelopment Hydrogeologist  
South Central Region

cc: Robin Seymour, Seymour Environmental (via email)  
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