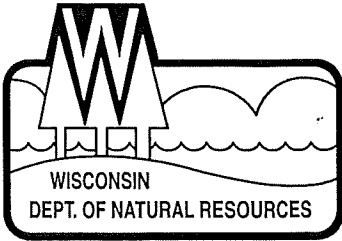


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State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Jim Doyle, Governor
Scott Hassett, Secretary
Ronald W. Kazmierczak, Regional Director

Northeast Region Headquarters
1125 N. Military Ave., P.O. Box 10448
Green Bay, Wisconsin 54307-0448
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April 1, 2004

Mr. Tom Nordgren
Floor Space Development, LLC
3896 Big Sky Drive
Pulaski, Wisconsin 54162

Subject: VPLE Case Status, Former Mirro Company Plant # 20, 44 Walnut Street, Chilton, Wisconsin BRRTS #: 02-08-520157

Dear Mr. Nordgren:

This letter is in response to your request for a status update on Voluntary Party Liability Exemption (VPLE) process and related investigation at the above facility. You are the current owner of the property, Newell Rubbermaid, Inc. (the former owner) is the party that has applied for the Department's VPLE and is conducting the investigation, and the City of Chilton is the party that has applied for and received the Department's Brownfield Site Assessment Grant (SAG).

The City of Chilton made application for the SAG in the fall of 2002 and was notified that it had received the grant in February 2003. In March of 2003, Newell Rubbermaid, Inc. made application for and was approved to proceed in the VPLE process. The Department received the Phase 1 and Phase 2 reports on the site in May of 2003 from TEMCO, the consultant for Newell Rubbermaid. In June of 2003, I toured the facility with you. Twice in July 2003 and again in January 2004, I requested additional site information from TEMCO. I needed this information to make a determination as to what additional investigative work would be needed at the site. I received this additional information in mid-January of 2004. I am now in the process of reviewing that submitted information.

I see the progression of this case as follows. By the end of April 2004 (hopefully by mid-April), I will have completed my review of the file, will have determined what additional site investigation is needed at the site and will have notified Newell Rubbermaid of such. As I understand the arrangement, Newell Rubbermaid, Inc. will be responsible for completing the investigation and any remediation that may be needed. Newell Rubbermaid will complete what is required of them and ultimately apply for case closure. I can't predict how long the investigation and any remediation (if needed) would take, but I would guess that Newell Rubbermaid is in a hurry to close this case. The Department would act on a closure request within 30 days. If closure is approved, the Department would then prepare the Certificate of Completion for the VPLE. This step could take about 30 days (sometimes faster) as the certificate goes through several reviews and ultimately receives the Department Secretary's signature. Newell Rubbermaid may need to apply and pay for environmental insurance coverage (if the case is closed via natural



Mr. Tom Nordgren
April 1, 2004
Page 2

attenuation). Once the Certificate of Completion is issued and the insurance (if needed) paid for, the process is essentially complete.

The VPLE process allows eligible parties that conduct an environmental investigation and cleanup of a property to receive a Certificate of Completion. The certificate limits future environmental liability (for existing contamination only, not contamination that occurs after the original investigation). This certificate also applies to future owners of the property as a successor or assignee of the voluntary party. In order to keep the liability exemption; the future owner must continue any required maintenance and monitoring of the property.

I hope that this answers your question as to the status of this case. If you or any other interested party have any questions regarding this case, I can be reached at 920-492-5861. Thank you for your inquiry.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alan Thomas Nass".

Alan Thomas Nass, P.G., P.H.
Hydrogeologist