



STS Consultants, Ltd.
Solutions through Science & Engineering

July 20, 2000

Walt Ebersohl
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 12436
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Re: Chlorinated Solvent Use - Former Plymouth Foundry Site, Grafton, WI. BRRTS #02-46-189401 and 02-46-189396. FID #246148100

Dear Walt:

The purpose of this letter is to share with you information regarding chlorinated solvent use at the former Plymouth Foundry site in Grafton, Wisconsin. As you know, the consultant for the former Plymouth Foundry site, Alpha Terra, recently submitted a case closure request in a report dated May 18, 2000 for two areas of the site with petroleum fuel contamination. During the investigation, Alpha Terra did encounter chlorinated solvents in the groundwater that they attributed to general area-wide chlorinated impacts and specifically to the upgradient Construction Forms and Tescumseh properties.

STS Consultants, Ltd is retained by the owner of the Construction Forms site to conduct the environmental site investigation. As part of our on-going investigation, STS obtained information regarding chlorinated solvent use at the former Plymouth Foundry site. Alpha Terra was informed of our findings in a letter dated January 20, 2000. An excerpt from that letter discussing our findings is included below.

As part of our investigation of the Construction Forms site, STS visited Mr. Edwin Dietrich Jr. of the Village of Grafton Water and Wastewater Utility on January 21, 1998 to inquire about known residential supply wells in the vicinity. Mr. Dietrich indicated that he was familiar with the site and the surrounding properties, including the former Plymouth Foundry (also known as the former Junger's Foundry) located adjacent to the Construction Forms site on the east side of the railroad tracks. Mr. Dietrich indicated that he knew a former employee of the foundry site named Leslie Echmann who worked at the foundry sometime in the 1930's and 1940's. Mr. Echmann's job was to maintain the solvent tanks that were used to clean cast iron stoves before the finishing process. As part of the maintenance activities, he periodically cleaned the tanks, including removing the sludge accumulations. According to Mr. Dietrich, the Mr. Echmann told Mr. Dietrich that he dumped the used solvent and tank sludge along the railroad tracks from North Avenue to Spring Street in an effort to "kill the weeds". Mr. Dietrich further recalled that Mr.

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Echmann said the cleaning solvent was a liquid degreaser and gave off a strong solvent odor.

Based on the above, we strongly suspect that chlorinated solvents were used on the Plymouth Foundry site. Chlorinated solvents are often associated with current and historical foundry operations, where they were used as equipment degreasers, product cleaners and paint carriers. We have found releases of chlorinated solvents on most of the foundry sites we have investigated. The information provided to us by Mr. Dietrich is both plausible and consistent with our experience.

It is our concern that, based on the Alpha Terra report, the former Plymouth Foundry site will be exonerated by the WDNR from any responsibility for the chlorinated solvent impacts without investigating the use and/or disposal issues further.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please call me at 414-359-3030 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

STS CONSULTANTS, LTD.



Thomas W. Kroeger, P.H.
Principal Hydrogeologist



Bryan J. Bergmann
Assistant Project Hydrogeologist

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