



June 3, 2022

MR KRISTOPHER HANUS
MAYOR
CITY OF RHINELANDER
135 S STEVENS ST
RHINELANDER WI 54501

MR SCOTT HOLEWINSKI
ONEIDA COUNTY BOARD CHAIR
4507 BLACKBERRY HILLS TR
RHINELANDER WI 54501

MR MATTHEW LEITNER
RHINELANDER-ONEIDA COUNTY AIRPORT
3375 AIRPORT DR
RHINELANDER WI 54501

SUBJECT: Follow-up to Conference Call on May 19, 2022
Contamination Detected Adjacent to Rhinelander-Oneida County Airport
BRRTS Activity #02-44-584094

Dear Messrs. Hanus, Holewinski and Leitner:

During a conference call on May 19, 2022, between the DNR and representatives of the Rhinelander-Oneida County Airport, the City of Rhinelander, and Oneida County (referred to as the RP Group), the RP Group committed to completing certain actions within various timeframes following the meeting. Per our discussion, the RP Group had committed to sending an email to the DNR "by early next week" (so during the week of May 23-27) on when the RP Group could meet these commitments:

- By May 25, the RP Group was going to provide appropriate notification of well results to well owners, as required under Wis. Admin. Code § NR 716.14. Copies of the notifications were to be sent to the DNR and the Department of Health Services. As of the date of this letter, the DNR has not received copies of any of these notifications.
- During the week of May 23-27, the City of Rhinelander committed to contacting each well owner that had previously declined sampling or had not provided a response, letting the well owners know of the recent potable well detections and urging the well owners to allow their wells to be sampled. The contact would have a requested reply-by date of June 1. As of the date of this letter, the DNR has not received copies of any of these contacts.
- During the week of May 23-27 or the week of May 30-June 3, the RP Group would submit the Site Investigation Work Plan, as required under Wis. Admin. Code § NR 716.09. As of the date of this letter, the DNR has not received this Work Plan.

The DNR did not receive your email regarding commitments mentioned above, nor have we received any updates on the status of other outstanding commitments. The DNR is therefore requesting that you provide us with an update on the status of these commitments, and whether any work has been completed to address the concerns that the DNR has raised regarding notification of results, and provision of an alternative water supply to affected well owners, as soon as possible. The DNR considers this situation to present serious public health and environmental concerns that warrant immediate action.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Christopher A. Saari
Northern Region Team Supervisor
Remediation and Redevelopment Program

cc: Christine Haag – DNR RR/5
Trevor Nobile – DNR Milwaukee
Carrie Stoltz – DNR Rhinelander
Phil Bower – DNR LS/8
Mark Pauli – DNR Rhinelander
Kyle Burton – DNR Green Bay
Roy Irving – DHS
Nathan Kloczko – DHS
Richard Lewandowski – Husch Blackwell
Michael Fugle – Oneida County
Steven Sorenson – von Briesen & Roper