

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



ROBERT J. GAFFNEY
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

N96095.AR.000165
NWIRP CALVERTON NY
5090.3a

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

MARY E. HIBBERD, M.D., M.P.H.
COMMISSIONER

February 28, 1995

Mr. James Colter
Department of the Navy, Northern Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
10 Industrial Highway
Main Stop #82
Lester, PA 19113-2090

Dear Mr. Colter:

RE: RCRA FACILITY ASSESSMENT REPORT, NWIRP CALVERTON (#152136)

On behalf of the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, I would like to offer the following comments on the draft RCRA Facility Assessment - Sampling Visit for NWIRP Calverton, New York (Site #152136) prepared by Halliburton NUS Corp. (January 1995):

Sampling Procedure

- Groundwater samples were not taken from the soil borings at the water table, as I was lead to believe would be collected (see comments dated 11/18/92 on work plan).

Hydrogeology

- The locations of glacial till on the site should be discussed (pg 1-8).
- The Calverton NWIRP is located on the regional groundwater divide: surface topography should not affect local directions of flow at the site (pg 1-11).

Site 8 Coal Pile Storage Area

- The assumed direction of groundwater flow should be mentioned in conjunction with the statement that the production wells are downgradient of the wetlands (pg 2-6).
- Contamination from this site has already impacted human health, i.e., contaminated drinking water supply wells, which continue to require treatment (pg ES-4); therefore, given the high OVA reading, solvent-type odor, and finding of freon 113 in SB10 (pp 2-10 to 2-12), it is recommended that VOCs be included in the proposed groundwater contamination investigation in the area (pg 2-20).

Site 9 ECM Area

- The history of solvent use at the site needs to be expanded (pp 1-13 & 3-5), including years of use, rates of consumption, storage practices, and waste disposal practices (including info sources).
- The OMNI site is experimenting with municipal solid waste (MSW) compost, not sewage sludge (pp ES-5, 1-13 & 3-1).
- References to the farthest and nearest SCDHS monitoring wells are misleading, since the wells are not lined up in the ENE direction of groundwater flow; such references, therefore, should be deleted (pp ES-5 & 1-13).
- The discussion about other potential sources of contamination should be deleted (pg 3-5); TCA was found in SCDHS test wells before the compost was applied, irrigation was started, and drums were stored.
- Soil boring ECM-SB03 does not appear to have been moved to line up between the former solvent storage location and SCDHS MW-7 (pp 3-2 & 3-8), as requested in my letter of 11/18/92; the negative results from SB03, therefore, are inconclusive (pp ES-6 & 3-18).
- The results from SB02 need further explanation (pg 3-11), particularly the cause of staining at 20-22 feet, which is unlikely to have been caused by methane; a groundwater sample should have been taken from this boring at the water table (see comment above).
- The exact location of the cesspool "adjacent" to SB02 should be shown (presumably it is not the one on the west side of the building), and a description of efforts to sample this pool, if any, should be described.
- It is suggested that a soil vapor survey be considered for this site.

Site 10 Cesspools/Leach Field Areas

- It is unfortunate that the old, abandoned leach field for the STP located near the south gate was not investigated, as requested in my letter of 11/18/95, since the SCDHS monitoring well located downgradient of this area outside the fence line (S-51591) continues to show VOC contamination (TCA at 63 ppb & 1,1-DCA at 64 ppb on 8/1/94).
- The source of the cyanide contamination at Building 06-13 needs to be identified.

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I trust these suggestions and concerns will be taken into account in revising the draft report and designing any future studies and actions. The SCDHS would like the opportunity to comment on future work prior to implementation. If you want to discuss these comments further, contact me at (516) 853-3196.

Very truly yours,



Sy F. Robbins, C.P.G.
County Hydrogeologist
Division of Environmental Quality

cc: A. Shah, NYSDEC Region 1
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G. Laccetti, NYSDOH
G. Proios, Co. Exec.