



Minnesota Department of Health

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St. Paul, MN 55164-0975

N91192.AR.000396
NIROP FRIDLEY
5090.3a

March 26, 1998

Thomas R. Bloom
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region V
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Dear Mr. Bloom:

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) recommends that you consider the following for inclusion in the Five Year Review for NIROP:

A data gap appears to exist at NIROP in terms Prairie du Chien (PDC) monitoring wells down gradient of the Trichloroethylene (TCE) plume on site. The five PDC wells on site are all side gradient or up gradient of the TCE plume. Note: Figure 4-9 of the 1996 Annual Monitoring Report that PDC wells 1PC, 2PC, 3PC, 4PC, and 5PC are not down gradient of highest TCE concentrations. An equal number of down gradient wells would better characterize any vertical migration of site related contamination.

Reasons for the above recommendation are as follows:

- 1) The PDC aquifer is the most heavily used groundwater resource in the Twin Cities area.
- 2) A complete confining layer is not known to exist everywhere on site.
- 3) There are no PDC monitoring wells down gradient of the highest TCE concentrations on site.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (612) 215-0774.

Sincerely,

Daniel F. Peña
Site Assessment and Consultation

DFP:ac

cc: David Douglas, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Gary Campbell, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Scott Glass, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Bill Griem, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Dick Clark, MDH/Drinking Water Protection