

United Defense

October 28, 1999
E9109/5.3.2

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Metro District
520 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4194

Attention: D. Kable
Remediation

Subject: Petroleum Release

This letter serves to follow-up my discussions with you and Dave Douglas on October 26 concerning the discovery of petroleum weeping from underneath a former machine foundation. By way of background, the facility is in the process of consolidating manufacturing operations into a smaller footprint inside the facility. As part of the consolidation, machine tools are being relocated or dispositioned.

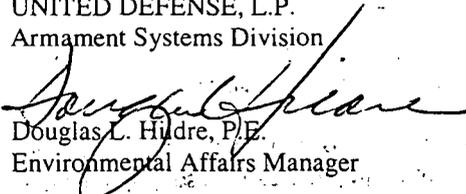
During the course of removing and cleaning the foundation of a planer mill at 8th Ave Post 14 SW in the Machine Shop, it was discovered that a small amount of oil was "weeping" into certain recessed pockets in the foundation where the base and wall of the pockets meet. The foundation is approximately six inches deep with five of the seven three inch deep recessed pockets "weeping". The oil is believed to come from the machine where it inevitably drained into these pockets and ultimately seeped through the seam between the pocket's wall and floor. Removing the machine tool caused the oil to migrate back into the pockets.

Several holes were drilled through the concrete at the seams to determine if the more oil would enter these pockets. The quantity that resulted was considered negligible but still indicated that some amount of petroleum was underneath the foundation and may constitute a release to the soils.

Based on our conversation, United Defense intends to fill in this foundation with no further investigation. Any petroleum remaining in the soils is essentially capped minimizing any potential to enter the groundwater (approximately 25 feet BGS). Furthermore, this area of the plant is currently under investigation by the Navy as part of Operable Unit No. 3 covered by a federal facility agreement with your agency and the US EPA. The work to fill in this foundation is planned to begin on November 8.

Should you have any questions on this subject, please call me at (612) 572-6938.

UNITED DEFENSE, L.P.
Armament Systems Division


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DLH:dlh

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