



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
NORTHEAST REGION  
ONE WINTER STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

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August 21, 2003

Mr. Francis Mazzeo  
Mass Ave Firestone  
2480 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02140

Re: Cambridge -Mass Ave Firestone/Basic Gas  
2472-2484 Massachusetts Avenue  
Release Tracking #s 3-22811 and 3-13232

**Immediate Response Action  
Completion Statement;**  
M.G.L. c. 21E & 310 CMR 40.0000

Dear Mr. Mazzeo:

On July 14, 2003, The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) received an Immediate Response Action Completion (IRAC) Statement, submitted on your behalf by Jeffery T. Mosholder, Licensed Site Professional (LSP) for New Path, LLC (New Path). The IRA was being conducted to determine if indoor air at the residential properties downgradient of the release is being impacted by gasoline vapors from contaminated groundwater. Impacts to these residential properties would constitute a condition of Substantial Release Migration (SRM) and a Critical Exposure Pathway (CEP) as defined in 310 CMR 40.0006.

In the IRAC, New Path presents the results of indoor air data collected on June 3, 2003 in and around two residential buildings at 9-11 and 13-15 Edmunds Street, which are downgradient of the release property. Samples were collected in Summa canisters over a 24-hour period for Air-Phase Petroleum Hydrocarbons (APH) analysis. Groundwater elevation data and water quality results from two groundwater monitoring wells located in front of the two residential buildings were also presented.

In the IRAC, New Path concluded that a condition of SRM/CEP was not occurring at the Site, as contaminants were not detected in indoor air at levels exceeding background. It should be noted that DEP's published background concentration for Xylene was recently adjusted from 3 ug/m<sup>3</sup> to 40 ug/m<sup>3</sup>. However, indoor air sampling was conducted during the month of June. According to DEP's Indoor Air Sampling and Evaluation Guide (WSC Policy # 02-430, Section 5.1.1), a single sampling event should not be used to determine exposure unless it is performed under "worst-case" conditions. As defined in the policy, the late winter/early spring period is considered "worst-case" for indoor air impacts. Because site groundwater and soil vapor data indicated potential indoor air exposure, waiting several months for "worst-case" conditions was not appropriate. It should be noted that Volatile

This information is available in alternate format. Call April McCabe, ADA Coordinator at 1-617-556-1171. TDD Service - 1-800-298-2207.

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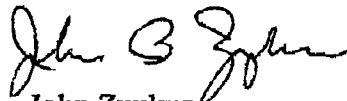
Basic Gas IRAC comments  
2472-2484 Mass. Ave. RTNs 3-22811 & 3-13232

Organic Compound levels in groundwater samples collected at the time of indoor air sampling continued to be above the IRA trigger concentration of 5 mg/l.

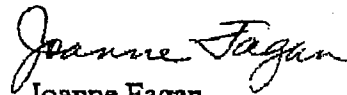
The MCP requires persons undertaking response actions at disposal sites to continue to evaluate the need for IRAs and notify the Department immediately if such a need exists. While DEP is not rejecting the IRAC, it recommends that indoor air and groundwater sampling be performed again at the 9-11 and 13-15 Edmunds Street properties during "worst-case" conditions to verify that impacts to indoor air are not occurring. Mr. Mosholder has indicated during a recent conversation that a Phase III Remedial Action Plan is being prepared and that response actions on the source property may be occurring soon. If these response actions result in a significant reduction of groundwater and/or soil vapor contaminant concentrations before the "worst-case" time frame, additional indoor sampling may not be necessary.

If you have any questions relative to this correspondence, you should contact John Zupkus at the letterhead address or (617) 654-6567. All future communications regarding this release must reference the RTNs (3-22811 and 3-13232) contained in the subject block of this letter.

Sincerely,



John Zupkus  
Environmental Analyst



Joanne Fagan  
Section Chief  
Brownfields/Permits

Cc: DEP/NERO, Data Entry/Files

Cc via email:

City of Cambridge, Mayor's Office; Attn: Michael A. Sullivan, Mayor,  
Email: [mayor@CICambridge.ma.us](mailto:mayor@CICambridge.ma.us)

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