# State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



Jim Doyle, Governor Scott Hassett, Secretary Ronald W. Kazmierczak, Regional Director Northeast Region Headquarters 1125 N. Military Ave., P.O. Box 10448 Green Bay, Wisconsin 54307-0448 Telephone 920-492-5800 FAX 920-492-5913 TTY Access via relay - 711

February 6, 2004

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Amundson 6426 Nero Lane Sobieski, WI 54171

> Subject: Reported Contamination at Econo-Care Cleaners (Former), 717 – 719 South Fisk Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin WDNR BRRTS # 02-05-521419

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Amundson:

On February 3, 2004, you notified the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) that perchloroethylene had been detected at the site described above.

Based on the information that has been submitted to the WDNR regarding this site, we believe you are responsible for investigating and restoring the environment at the above-described site under Section 292.11, Wisconsin Statutes, known as the hazardous substances spills law.

This letter describes the legal responsibilities of a person who is responsible under section 292.11, explains what you need to do to investigate and clean up the contamination, and provides you with information about cleanups, environmental consultants, possible financial assistance, and working cooperatively with the WDNR.

## Legal Responsibilities:

Your legal responsibilities are defined both in statute and in administrative codes. The hazardous substances spill law, Section 292.11 (3) Wisconsin Statutes, states:

• RESPONSIBILITY. A person who possesses or controls a hazardous substance which is discharged or who causes the discharge of a hazardous substance shall take the actions necessary to restore the environment to the extent practicable and minimize the harmful effects from the discharge to the air, lands, or waters of the state.

Wisconsin Administrative Code chapters NR 700 through NR 749 establish requirements for emergency and interim actions, public information, site investigations, design and operation of remedial action systems, and case closure. Chapter NR 708 includes provisions for immediate actions in response to limited contamination. Wisconsin Administrative Code chapter NR 140 establishes groundwater standards for contaminants that reach groundwater.



#### Steps to Take:

The longer contamination is left in the environment, the farther it can spread and the more it may cost to clean up. Quick action may lessen damage to your property and neighboring properties and reduce your costs in investigating and cleaning up the contamination. To ensure that your cleanup complies with Wisconsin's laws and administrative codes, you should hire a professional environmental consultant who understands what needs to be done. These are the <u>first</u> three steps to take:

- 1. Within the next **30 days**, by March 8, 2004, you should submit <u>written</u> verification (such as a letter from the consultant) that you have hired an environmental consultant. If you do not take action within this time frame, the WDNR may initiate enforcement action against you.
- 2. Within the next **60 days**, by April 12, 2004, your consultant should submit a work plan and schedule for the investigation. The consultant must comply with the requirements in the NR 700 rule series and should refer to WDNR technical guidance documents. To facilitate prompt agency review of your reports, your consultant should use the site investigation and closure formats which are available on-line at <u>www.dnr.state.wi.us</u>.
- 3. Within 30 days of completion of the site investigation, you or your consultant must provide a brief report at least every 90 days as required by s. NR 724.13 (3), Wis. Adm. Code. Quarterly reports need only include one or two pages of text, plus any relevant maps and tables. Should conditions at your site warrant we may require more frequent contacts.
- 4. Sites where discharges to the environment have been reported are entered into the Bureau for Remediation and Redevelopment Tracking System ("BRRTS"), a version of which appears on the WDNR's internet site. You may view the information related to your site at any time (<u>http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/brrts</u>) and use the feedback system to alert us to any errors in the data.

If you want a formal response from the agency on a specific submittal, please be aware that a review fee is required in accordance with ch. NR 749, Wis. Adm. Code. If a fee is not submitted with your reports, you should proceed under the advice of your consultant to complete the site investigation to maintain your compliance with the spills law and chapters NR 700 through NR 749. **Do not delay the investigation of your site by waiting for an agency response.** We have provided detailed technical guidance to environmental consultants. Your consultant is expected to know our technical procedures and administrative rules and should be able to answer your questions on meeting cleanup requirements.

All correspondence regarding this site should be sent to:

Kristin DuFresne Remediation and Redevelopment Program Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources P. O. Box 10448 Green Bay, WI 54307-0448

Unless otherwise requested, please send only one copy of plans and reports. To speed processing, correspondence should reference the BRRTS and FID numbers (if assigned) shown at the top of this letter.

### Additional Information for Site Owners:

Information to help you select a consultant, and materials on controlling costs, understanding the cleanup process, and choosing a site cleanup method are enclosed. In addition, *Fact Sheet 2, Voluntary Party Remediation and Exemption from Liability* provides information on obtaining the protection of limited liability under s. 292.15, Wis. Stats.

#### Financial Assistance:

Feel free to call me to discuss your eligibility for financial assistance under the Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Program (DERP) or visit the RR web site <u>http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr</u>. You may also contact me for all other questions regarding

http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr. You may also contact me for all other questions regarding this letter.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Kusto Dufresni

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Kristin DuFresne Hydrogeologist Bureau for Remediation & Redevelopment

Enclosures:

- Selecting a Consultant
- 2. Fact Sheet 2, VPLE
  - Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Program Potential Claim Notification