



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 1  
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

October 29, 2009

OFFICE OF THE  
REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Joseph I. Lieberman  
United States Senator  
One Constitution Plaza – 7<sup>th</sup> floor  
Hartford, CT 06103

Dear Senator Lieberman:

Subject: Scofieldtown Road Park, Stamford, Connecticut

Thank you for writing on behalf of your constituents, Mr. Tom Moore and Mr. Ross Keith, in regard to the Scofieldtown Road Park site in Stamford, Connecticut. In coordination with the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEP), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has performed work at this site under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act, commonly referred to as Superfund. EPA's Superfund Site Assessment and Emergency Removal programs have both been involved and performed work at the Scofieldtown Road Park site. Based on the outcome of EPA's work, we are aware that an effort to further delineate and address contamination that may be present in the area of this site has been initiated by the City of Stamford, under oversight by CT DEP.

The Site Assessment program has completed a number of evaluations at the Scofieldtown Road Park site to date, with the most recent report being completed in January 2009. The primary purpose of the Site Assessment program is to evaluate properties that may contain abandoned and uncontrolled hazardous wastes. Such evaluations are aimed at establishing if a release, or a potential release, of a hazardous substance has occurred at a property. These evaluations are performed through a series of assessments that range from the most simple (i.e., a desk top search of readily available information) to more comprehensive (i.e., investigations that may include sampling and analysis of one or more exposure pathways). The results of each evaluation are used to help EPA determine whether further assessment and/or potential action are warranted under Superfund. Such further assessment and/or potential action under Superfund could include listing the site on the National Priorities (NPL) where appropriate, and/or in some circumstances performance of removal actions. The outcome of these assessments, also often result in sites being referred to the appropriate state environmental agency, in this case CT DEP, to oversee and implement future actions.

The findings from the most recent evaluation at the Scofieldtown Road Park site, the January 2009 Site Reassessment Report, showed there is evidence of a release of pesticides and metals which are at least partially attributable to the site. This is based on detections of contaminants in some private drinking water wells in the vicinity of the site. At the time sampling was

performed, only one pesticide (Dieldrin) exceeded the applicable CT standards. In addition, based on sediment samples there is evidence of a release to the surface water pathway, which can be partially attributable to the property. The results of all of EPA's work in the area have been shared with CT DEP and have been the basis for further work currently being performed by the City of Stamford with oversight by the state.

Our Superfund Emergency Removal program has also been involved with the site. This work included an investigation that found two drums of hazardous substances on the slope of the landfill. The City of Stamford removed these drums under the terms of Administrative Order on Consent. The Removal program became involved again, based on the work performed by the Site Assessment program; it reviewed the results from surface soil sampling performed in and around the playground at the site. In accordance with the governing regulations, the extent and concentration of contamination detected in the area (polychlorinated biphenyls, PCBs) did not warrant a response under Superfund removal authority. In addition, the city closed the park to preclude access to this or any other contaminants. Moreover, in cases where an action is warranted from an environmental or public health standpoint, the program is precluded from initiating a federally-funded action if the concern is being adequately addressed by others. This is the case at this site given the appropriate measures undertaken by the state and city at this time.

Members of our staff have recently conferred with the CT DEP, and attended a meeting with the CT DEP and the City of Stamford in October 2009 in an effort to come up to speed on the current status of work. Based on these interactions, we understand that the City of Stamford has embarked on an effort to better define the situation by performing more extensive sampling of private drinking wells in the area. Based on this sampling, bottled water has been provided and whole house water filters have been or will be installed at homes, where deemed appropriate. EPA has also been informed that the city is working on plans to extend municipal water lines to impacted homes. In addition, EPA understands that the city is planning on completing a more comprehensive investigation and remediation, where necessary. Detailed and up-to-date information about work being performed in this area can be found on the City of Stamford's webpage at <http://www.cityofstamford.org>. At this time, the work being performed by the city is being done under the oversight of the CT DEP as the lead agency. EPA will continue to communicate with CT DEP in regards to this site. Should additional data/information suggest that the site warrants further active EPA involvement, EPA will consider the appropriate next steps in coordination with the state, city and community.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may call Rudy Brown in the Office of Government Relations at (617) 918-1031.

Sincerely,



Ira W. Leighton  
Acting Regional Administrator

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