

From: Maureen O'Leary

Date: Friday, January 13, 2017 at 8:00 AM

To: Maureen O'Leary

Subject: Rennie Farm Project Update

Dear neighbors,

As we enter the new year, we wanted to update you on the work at Rennie Farm, and the activity and milestones anticipated during early 2017. We continue to make progress in addressing conditions at the Rennie Farm site. Likewise, our continued monitoring efforts have produced more data supporting the conclusion that off-site migration of contamination is limited to undeveloped areas with the exception of the previously reported water supply well impact at 9 Rennie Road.

Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Network

The investigation of the potential source of 1,4-dioxane detected in samples collected from the water supply well approximately one mile from the Rennie Farm site has been completed. Based on a thorough investigation of the well, the data strongly supports the conclusion that the source of the 1,4-dioxane is not Rennie Farm but rather the septic system on the property. Given that many consumer goods are known to contain 1,4-dioxane (such as Tide laundry detergent, shampoos, and many other cleaning and cosmetic products)* this result is not unexpected.

The site-monitoring well network has been completed with a total of 75 wells installed. Forty wells have been installed on site and 35 wells have been installed off site. The installation of these wells expanded our understanding of the geology and movement of 1,4-dioxane in the area and reinforced our conclusions about the migration of 1,4-dioxane. This extensive network of wells will be used to allow us to monitor the effectiveness of the treatment system.

Groundwater Remediation System

The remedial system at the site, the design of which was overseen and approved by the State, is nearing completion. It will operate year-round. The system includes 12 groundwater-pumping wells designed to collect contaminated water and impede its off-site migration. A figure illustrating the layout of the system (Figure 2-GW System Layout) and photographs of the system under construction are attached.

Reflecting the collective desire of Dartmouth and our neighbors to start remediation as soon as possible, we set an aggressive goal of the first of the year for startup of the pump and treat system. This goal was set prior to the submittal and approval of the Remedial Action Plan and completion of the design of what is a technically complex remedial system in a remote location. We have worked hard with the regulators and our consultants to meet the startup goal, and have achieved many milestones in the challenging process of constructing and permitting the system.

Site conditions and winter weather slowed our progress somewhat, but we have recently been issued a permit by DES to discharge treated water to subsurface, and plan to begin pumping water into the system this week. A further permit to be issued by the Environmental Protection Agency will allow us to pump higher volumes of water and complete the startup phase. We are now at the beginning of the startup process that will include the testing of the equipment, treated water, and the ability of the system to capture the groundwater within and around the source. As we monitor and evaluate the performance of the system, we will, as needed, adjust the system to meet the remedial objectives.

Status of Monitoring Program

The College is preparing its application for a Groundwater Management Permit, which is required by the State. The application will include a proposed water-quality monitoring program. The monitoring program will cover groundwater-monitoring wells, surface water, and water supply well sampling locations. Each of the site-monitoring wells will be included in the monitoring program. Surface water sampling locations along the tributary to Hewes Brook and the stream to the northwest of the site will also be included. The owners of selected water supply wells will be asked to participate in the monitoring program. The State will review and approve the program before Dartmouth moves forward with implementation.

Upcoming Events

We will hold a Rennie Farm open house at the site to view the new pump and treat system and answer questions on February 18 from 10 am to noon.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Maureen

* Proctor & Gamble 1,4-dioxane webpage, <http://us.pg.com/our-brands/product-safety/ingredient-safety/dioxane> (2016).

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