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Matusky
& Skelly
Engineers

Environmental Science & Engineering Consultants

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JUN 13 1985

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File No. 455-102
6 June 1985

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Mr. Edgar Kaup
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Waste Management
Hazardous Site Mitigation Administration
428 East State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608

RE: COMBE FILL SOUTH LANDFILL
RI/FS PROGRESS REPORT

Dear Mr. Kaup:

This letter summarizes work conducted by Lawler, Matusky & Skelly Engineers (LMS) and its subcontractors on the above referenced project from 1 May 1985 to 31 May 1985.

A. Task Work and Deliverables

1. Task 1 - Preinvestigation Activities

LMS submitted all Task 1 deliverables at the end of August 1984.

2. Task 2 - Site Investigations

During May, VEP Associates, Inc. surveying subcontractors, prepared draft final maps of the site at 1 in. = 50 ft scale. Final maps will be issued in early June.

Review of field data taken by R.E. Wright Associates, Inc. (REWAI), the hydrogeological subcontractors, revealed that above background levels of radioactivity existed in new monitoring well D-3 located southeast of the site near the Filiberto residence. Readings of about 580 gamma counts (about .6 mR/hr) were recorded in the borehole at a depth between 124-153 feet. Readings at the surface of the well were at background concentrations. Background readings, near but off-site, are 0.04 to 0.06 mR/hr, which is higher than national averages. The second highest reading of about 110 gamma counts, which is barely above local background was recorded in well D-6 located at the western edge

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of the waste pile. Therefore there seems to be no direct correlation between the landfill and the higher radioactivity levels in well D-3. A naturally occurring source of radioactivity is possible.

The level of radioactivity recorded in D-3 is not high enough to require immediate remedial response. It is suggested however that, if possible, radioactivity analyses (Gross α & β) of water samples from potable wells, surface water and leachate be concentrated in the vicinity of D-3. A water route, particularly potable water, would have the most direct impact on the local population.

3. Tasks 3, 4, 5, and 6

No additional work has been conducted on these Tasks.

4. Task 7 - Coordination and Community Relations

On 1 May 1985, P.J. Lawler and R.M. Maikish (of LMS) meet with E. Kaup (NJDEP) at the LMS offices in Pearl River to sign the Contract Modification Proposal and Acceptance Form. As noted in correspondence of 9 May 1985 from P.J. Lawler to E. Kaup, money allocated in the above referenced form for over budget analytical services was less than what LMS calculated (see correspondence from LMS to NJDEP dated 28 March 1985).

Nevertheless, LMS signed the form after discussing this discrepancy with E. Kaup who assured us that budgeted but unspent money (such as that for the expanded pump tests) would cover such discrepancies and any additional out-of-scope expenditures (such as vandalism repairs and continued rental of the on-site trailer).

B. Project Schedule, Protected Activities and Anticipated Problems

LMS is still awaiting final authorization from the NJDEP to proceed with sampling and analytical work with the proposed substitute laboratories.

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Mr. Ed. Kaup
NJDEP

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C. Percent Complete

The percent completion of the projects tasks based on their approximated new budget are as follows:

Task 1	-	100%
Task 2	-	43%
Task 3	-	15%
Task 4	-	5%
Task 5	-	0%
Task 6	-	0%
Task 7B	-	55%

Project Total 40%

If you have any questions, please call.

Very truly yours,



Ruth M. Maikish

cc: C. Bayer, REWAI
E. Kaup, NJDEP (4 copies)
V. Manov, VEP
R. Schwartz, EPA Region II

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Lawler, Matusky & Skelly Engineers