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State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT

HAZARDOUS SITE MITIGATION ADMINISTRATION

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M E M O R A N D U M

Sept 13, 1985

TO: DISTRIBUTION

FROM: EDGAR G. KAUP, SITE MANAGER, BSM

SUBJECT: Combe Fill South Landfill

Attached please find Progress Report - Aug 1985, for your review, comment, information and distribution.

Your written response by 9/27/85 will be appreciated in order to receive proper consideration.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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5 September 1985
File No. 455-102

Mr. Edgar Kaup
NJ Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Waste Management
Hazardous Site Mitigation Administration
428 East State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 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 from 1 August 1985 to 31 August 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 August 1985 field work, including sampling, resumed. Table 1 summarizes these field activities.

Because of significantly lowered groundwater levels on site, most leachate seeps could not be sampled because of low or no flow. This contingency had been discussed in our correspondence to you of 8 August 1985. Out of eight seep locations, only one site (LS-1) had sufficient leachate flow to fill bottles for a full priority pollutant analysis; three additional sites (LS-8, LS-7, LS-3) had sufficient flow to fill the volatile sampling vials only; the remaining four

leachate sites had insufficient leachate flow for any sampling. Sediment samples were taken at each of the eight seep locations; sediments were damp, showing some seep activity. The NJDEP will need to decide whether to sample the unsampled leachate seeps (and the unsampled fractions of those seeps which were sampled). We suggest that such sampling, if desired, be postponed until groundwater levels rise, i.e., in mid-October. Of course, such resampling would incur additional personnel, analytical, and health and safety costs.

All surface water sites, except the East Branch of Trout Brook, were sampled for both water and sediment. The East Branch of Trout Brook was not sampled (neither for water nor for sediments) because it was dry. As with the unsampled seeps, this surface water site, if resampled, should be sampled after groundwater levels have risen in the fall.

Telephone calls to residents were made from 5 to 16 August in order to set up the potable well sampling schedule and fill out the telephone questionnaires. Twenty-five potable wells were sampled from 20 to 22 August. Not all wells selected by the NJDEP as first and second choices were able to be sampled; several substitutions including one last minute cancellation had to be made from the original list prepared by LMS. Table 2 lists those potable wells actually sampled. A minor change to the potable well sampling protocol was requested 21 August 1985 (see LMS correspondence from R. Maikish to E. Kaup).

The hand-augered field soil sampling program was done from 20 to 23 August 1985. Difficulty in hand-augering required that the sampling be extended an extra day. This, in turn, required that an extra field and trip blank be taken and analyzed. As previously agreed, extra field and trip blank analytical costs will be passed along to the NJDEP. Six of the 12 samples taken are composites of the "A" and "B" soil horizons in each of the selected fields (i.e., the "soybean" field, the southeast field near the Filiberto property, and a background field to the north of the "soybean" field on the Jayne Valley Farm property). In the "soybean" field, an odorous soil sample showing elevated HNU readings, and which was white in appearance, was sampled for subsequent individual analysis. No other discrete samples were selected on the basis of field observations or HNU readings; however, as directed by R. Myers (NJDEP) five additional randomly selected samples taken from the hand-

augered sites (two in the soybean field and three in the southeast field) were selected for individual analysis to reach the originally proposed total of 12 analyzed soil samples.

Based on interpretation of the geophysical investigations, three sites were selected for test pit excavation (see correspondence dated 22 August 1985 from C. Boyer, R. E. Wright Associates, Inc., to E. Kaup, NJDEP). Text pit sampling was conducted on 27 August 1985. Only in one test pit was an actual discrete sample taken for analysis, based on field observations and HNU readings. There additional "composite" samples, one from each test pit, were taken and submitted for analysis. Because the test pit survey took one day less than anticipated, the second day of field and trip blank samples budgeted for this week were not necessary.

The monitoring well investigation was conducted from 27 to 29 August. The first day only well purging was done so that there were only two actual sampling days (for the purposes of taking field and trip blanks). Well purging, recovery and sampling took significantly longer than anticipated so that only eight of 17 wells were actually sampled during this time. The remaining samples will be taken 3-5 September. As agreed with the NJDEP, one sample of the potable water, used for decontamination of gear was taken for full priority pollutant analysis. The required extra sampling days will incur additional expenses in terms of analytical costs for field and trip blanks, messenger services to laboratories, and health and safety monitoring. LMS conducted its field audit of the sampling program on 29 August 1985.

The air quality sampling is scheduled to be conducted during the week of 16 September 1985. Modifications to the sampling equipment were discussed and agreed to with the NJDEP (see corresponce of 21 August 1985 and 31 July 1985). Furthermore, after discussion with C. Elmendorf and R. Myers (both of NJDEP) it was agreed to take and analyze three field blanks for particulate sampling and eliminate "spiked" gaseous samples. The cost for the particulate samples had been included in the amended budget although they were not in the FSP and "spiked" gaseous samples were not practical.

A memorandum on possible temporary erosion control measures for the site was prepared at the request of the NJDEP and transmitted in correspondence dated 21 August 1985. This

memorandum does not constitute a recommendation for a fast-track remedial action.

3. Tasks 3, 4, 5 and 6

No additional work has been conducted on these tasks.

4. Task 7 - Coordination and Community Relations

LMS has maintained daily communciation with various members of the NJDEP throughout the month. Coordination of the potable well investigation required contact with town officials, particularly the health officers.

B. PROJECT SCHEDULE, PROJECTED ACTIVITIES AND ANTICIPATED PROBLEMS

As described above, several field investigations are taking longer than expected, thus incurring additional costs for analytical services for field/trip blanks, messenger services and health and safety monitoring. These costs will be somewhat offset by savings in the test pit program and in the reduction in the total number of monitoring wells to be sampled (i.e., from 22 originally to 17). A better estimate of these costs can be made at the completion of the field program in mid-September.

The proposed remaining sampling schedule has been described above. Based on this schedule, we plan to remove the on-site trailer and the portable sanitary facilities by 20 September 1985. Sampling on-site after this date, such as the leachate seep resampling, while possible, will have to make special allowances for the absence of these facilities.

C. PERCENT COMPLETE

The percent completion of this project tasks based on their revised budget allocations are as follows:

Task 1	-	100%
Task 2	-	65%
Task 3	-	15%
Task 4	-	5%
Task 5	-	0%
Task 6	-	0%
Task 7B	-	65%
Project Total	-	59%

If you have any questions, please call.

Very truly yours,

Ruth M. Maikish

Ruth M. Maikish
Senior Project Manager

RMM:gmk

Attachments (2)

cc: C. Boyer, REWAI
E. Kaup, NJDEP (4 copies)
C. Schultz, EPA Region II
H. Lehman, U.S. Testing

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File No. 455-102

TABLE 1

FIELD AND SAMPLING ACTIVITIES

in

August 1985

COMBE FILL SOUTH LANDFILL

AUGUST DATE(S)	ACTIVITY	NO. FIELD DAYS	NO. SAMPLING DAYS	NO. BLANKS FIELD	NO. BLANKS TRIP	NO. SITE SAMPLES	ANALYSES TO BE DONE
5,6	Pulled pumps out of existing wells DW-4 and DW-2	2	0	0	0	0	-
13	Leachate seep and sediment sampling	1	1	1 Sediment	1 Sediment	8 Sediment	8 site sediment: Full PP +15, +10, +15 Field and trip sediment blank: VOA
				1 Water	1 Water	4 Leachate seep	1 leachate: Full PP +15, +10, +15 3 leachate: VOA only Field and trip blank water: Org. PP
13	Surface water	1	1	(Same blanks as for leachate collection)		7 Water	7 water: Full PP +15, +10 +15 (1 water: Gross $\alpha+\beta$)
						7 Sediment	7 sediment: Full PP +15, +10, +15

TABLE 1
(cont'd)

AUGUST DATE(S)	ACTIVITY	NO. FIELD DAYS	NO. SAMPLING DAYS	NO. BLANKS FIELD	NO. BLANKS TRIP	NO. SITE SAMPLES	ANALYSES TO BE DONE
20,21,22	Potable well investigation	3	3	3 Water	3 Water	25 Water	25 water: Full PP + 15, +10, +15 (6 water: Gross $\alpha+\beta$) [6 water: Sanitary suite including total and fecal coliform (see FSP)] 3 trip and field blanks: Org. PP
20,21,22	Soil/sampling (hand-augering)	3	3	3 Soil	3 Soil	12 Soil	12 Soil: Full PP +15, +10, +15 3 Field and 3 Trip blanks: VOA
27	Test pit investigation	1	1	1	1	4 Soil	4 Soil: Full PP +15, +10, +15 Trip and Field Blank: VOA
27-29	Monitoring well investigation	3	2	2	2	9 Water (including potable water for decontamination)	9 water: Full PP +15, +10, +15 (3 water: Gross $\alpha+\beta$ and Sanitary suite, including total and fecal colitorm) 3 Trip and Field Blank: Org. PP