



X. L. Lato

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

MEMORANDUM

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TO: Charles O. Nevins *MA*
 FROM: James Van Hoesen, Chief, Western Field Services Section, Bureau of
 SUBJECT: Construction Services
 Sealand Restoration Site, Site No. 6-45-014 Public Information Sheet
 DATE: June 4, 1990

Following your request in a memo dated May 22, 1990 we reviewed the draft Public Information Sheet (PIS) for the Sealand Site. As Lech explained to you during your telephone conversation last week, we feel that the section in PIS dealing with site background should be deleted because this information was previously disseminated.

As you and Lech agreed, we revised the Public Information Sheet to include our comments and concerns. The revised document is attached to this memo. Please review it, feel free to modify the language where appropriate, and arrange for the dissemination to the public.

- cc: D. Sweredoski - NYSDEC Region 6
- R. Lupe
- G. Laccetti - NYSDOH

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SEALAND RESTORATION, INC.
SITE
PUBLIC INFORMATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT ACTION TAKEN

The remedial construction work at the Sealand Site was substantially complete on February 27, 1990. All drums were removed from the site and properly disposed. After the removal of visibly contaminated soil, an underdrain system was installed in the bottom of the former disposal cell. This drain system will be used for the monitoring the quality of the groundwater in the cell. The excavation was then backfilled with a clean fill material and capped with a 1.5 feet of compacted clay, to minimize the recharge of the cell with rain water. The contractor demobilized his crews and equipment from the site on February 23, 1990. The Sealand Restoration Site will remain fenced until it is determined that "Applicable" and "Relevant and Appropriate" cleanup criteria for this site have been met. Also the NYSDEC decided to retain the concrete pads at the site, used previously for the storage of drums and soil. These pads are needed for the future monitoring and maintenance work. During the cleanup, 1445 drums with hazardous substances were removed and disposed at RCRA permitted disposal facilities. Out of this number, 65 drums were found to contain PCB's. Also, 7,150 tons of soil contaminated by hazardous wastes that leaked out of drums over the years were excavated, sampled and incinerated off the site. Four hundred fifty thousand (450,000) gallons of hazardous water had to be removed from the site and properly disposed to enable the completion of the cleanup. The Sealand Restoration Site was remediated at a cost of approximately \$15,000,000.

The analytical results of hazardous wastes found at this site revealed the presence of acetone, naphtalene, toluene, ethylbenzene, 1,1,1 trichloroethene, 1,1 dichloroethane, xylene, tetrachloroethane, pyrene and PCB's.

Compounds such as methylene chloride, benzene, tetrachloroethylene, toluene, 1,1,1 trichloroethene, total xylenes, dibromofurans and PCB's were also found in the confirmatory soil samples taken from the bottom and side walls of the excavated disposal cell.

PUBLIC CONCERNS - FUTURE MONITORING

During the public meeting of October 19, 1989, several individuals expressed concern about the monitoring of groundwater during and after cleanup. They were also interested in the steps the Department has taken to prevent future unlawful disposal of hazardous wastes in New York State.

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The following is a response to these concerns:

On September 7, 1989, the Department sampled three monitoring wells located between the disposal cell and the wetland. The sampling results were then compared with the 1986 readings. There was a small increase in the concentration of volatile compounds in the sampled water. There was a noticeable increase in concentration of some metals such as calcium, magnesium, manganese and sodium, but they are non-toxic contaminants. The regular monitoring of groundwater in the project area will be part of the Maintenance and Monitoring (M&M) Plan to be implemented in 1990. The implementation of M&M plan will include testing of the air and the groundwater in various site locations, and other routine site maintenance activities. At a minimum, the Department will sample water from 13 monitoring wells installed at 10 locations in 1986 and will analyze water taken from the cell underdrain, installed in the bottom of the disposal cell during the remedial construction. The monitoring results will be used to keep track of the site and to determine if any further cleanup work is warranted. The public will be advised as results are available.

There are now controls on the movement and disposal of hazardous wastes in New York State which were not in effect when Sealand Restoration Inc. site was active. The most important is the Hazardous Wastes Manifesting System introduced in 1981 which enables the Department to track hazardous waste in the State and monitor their transportation and disposal.

The DEC will be providing further updates on the results of site monitoring at the Sealand Site.

DEC STAFF CONTACTS

For more information please call:

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