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M E M O R A N D U M

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



237146

DATE: November 3, 1987
TO: Steve Ostrodka, U.S. EPA
FROM: Gerald Goode, E & E - FIT *J.G.*
SUBJECT: Michigan/F05-8611-165/FMIO372SA
Ypsilanti/Holtzman-Silverman/MID980825558
Fencing of Site Property

On October 27, 1987, Gerard Breen, Gary Cobb, and the author (E & E - FIT personnel) met with Gene Hall of the Hazardous Waste Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). This meeting occurred at the Holtzman-Silverman site located in Ypsilanti, Michigan. The purpose of this meeting was to review the site property for monitoring well installation.

On June 29, 1983, MDNR conducted a soil/sediment investigation as a result of the discovery of approximately 50 drums on the property. Analytical results of the soil/sediment samples collected from the site indicated that the property is heavily contaminated with PCBs. Surface soils, subsurface soils, and sediments were found to contain PCBs ranging in concentrations from 1.3 ppm to 360 ppm. Currently, ownership of the property is in question. (See PCB Inspection #81012 for a review of site history and analytical results, and the October 1, 1987, memo from Maria E. Gonzales to Dr. D.W. Josif for information on property ownership).

During the E & E - FIT inspection, thirteen 55-gallon drums were observed on the property. Oil (possibly petroleum) and a solidified tar-like substance were observed oozing from some of the drums. Mr.

Hall was surprised that drums were still present on the property. According to Mr. Hall, "alleged property owners" Holtzman-Silverman had all the drums removed from the property. The drums observed by E & E - FIT were in poor condition. Many were corroded and rusting, suggesting that they may have been stored on-site for some time. Crushed drums were also present. These drums appeared to contain solidified paint sludge and were seen throughout the "fill area" of the property, indicating that more drums may be present beneath the surface.

Mr. Hall identified the approximate sample locations of the MDNR soil/sediment survey. E & E - FIT dug a 1-foot hole in the vicinity of where the MDNR collected their soil samples (oil stained area). Within less than 1 minute, oil flowed into the hole. This flow indicated that the soils are heavily saturated with oil.

Because site ownership has not been determined, the State of Michigan has not been able to erect a fence around the site property. On the day of the inspection, local residents visited the property; one resident was even driving his car on the property. The site is known as a local "party spot" and is used as a local fishing hole. Because PCBs were identified in surficial soils, subsurface soils, and sediments, E & E - FIT believes the property is an imminent health hazard by exposure through direct contact. E & E - FIT therefore requests that a fence be constructed around the entire property.