

**Adelaide Avenue Environmental Justice Coalition
60 Crescent Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02907**

November 13, 2007

Mr. David E. Heislein
Project Manager
MACTEC Engineering and Consulting Inc.
107 Audubon Road, Suite 301
Wakefield, MA 01880

**Re: Additional Investigation Activities
Abandoned Stop & Shop
Indoor Air Contamination**

Dear Mr. Heislein:

The community is just now in receipt of your notification letter announcing additional investigation and other activities at the Textron/Gorham Contaminated Waste Site. Specifically the continuing investigation of the Trichloroethylene (TCE) and Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) indoor air vapor contamination in the abandoned Stop & Shop, which was identified during your last investigation performed on September 12, 2007.

The purpose of these additional investigation activities is to further assess the soils beneath the abandoned Stop & Shop, and collect pre-design information to support a sub-slab mitigation system. You state that the investigation will include up to fifteen (15) soil borings within the retail building to capture soil gas vapors from three different depths below the building.

Listed below are additional sampling concepts the community feels would be appropriate during this phase of your investigation, without creating much additional work or expense:

- Dave McCabe, principal investigator and project manager for Mactec on this site during the initial remediation investigations (1994-2000), directed attention away from the possibility that contamination issues may have been prevalent below the footprint of the original facility. The abandoned Stop & Shop now sits almost entirely within a portion of that footprint, and issues abound. After reviewing Mr. McCabe's site models for this aspect of the original investigation we feel it is incumbent of Mactec and Textron to examine more than just vapor concentrations found below the building.

We are requesting that you collect soil-boring samples for laboratory testing from the fifteen (15) soil borings you intend to drill within the footprint of the retail space. Since Mr. McCabe, working at the time for Mactec, dismissed the groundwater as a potential volatile organic compound (VOC) vapor source, then obviously the next consideration would be the soil itself. This would be an ideal opportunity to better characterize conditions below the building; to perform sampling, which was never implemented during the first investigation.

- Would it not be practical to add an additional (fourth) vapor sample from the depth just above the water table, twenty four (24) feet below the surface, to delineate if in fact the groundwater is influencing the significant VOC vapor buildup below the slab of the abandoned Stop & Shop.
- The community is hoping that all the analytical data and results retrieved from the investigation will be included in the report Mactec will submit to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management upon completion.

Recent Monitoring Well installations have not included actual soil bore laboratory sampling. Both monitoring wells installed in front of the abandoned Stop & Shop, MW-220, and MW-221 could have offered additional insight to conditions in that area had you retrieved soil samples for analytical sampling during their construction. One of the primary issues concerning your site has been the inadequacy of past site characterizations. The actual end use of this property has changed significantly, and the community believes any opportunity to better understand the contamination sources, and concentrations is vital. We are thanking you in advance for your ongoing cooperation and guidance in this extremely sensitive matter.

Sincerely,

Adelaide Avenue Environmental Justice Coalition

cc:

Joseph T. Martella II, RIDEM/OWM
Barbara Morin, RIDEM/OAR
Robert Vanderslice, Phd, RIDOH
Tammie A. McRae, ATSDR
Greg Simpson, Textron