REMEDIAL DECISION LETTER
CASE NO. 2010-019

Mr. Joseph Dias, Chief
Planning and Development
Rhode Island Department of Environment Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

RE: Trestle Trail Bike Path
    Trestle Trail Right-of-Way
    Coventry, Rhode Island

Dear Mr. Dias:

On November 9, 2011, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (the Department) amended the Rules and Regulations for the Investigation and Remediation of Hazardous Material Releases (the Remediation Regulations). The purpose of these regulations is to create an integrated program requiring reporting, investigation and remediation of contaminated sites in order to eliminate and/or control threats to human health and the environment in a timely and cost-effective manner. A Remedial Decision Letter (RDL) is a formal, written communication from the Department that approves a site investigation, identifies the preferred remedial alternative and authorizes the development of a Remedial Action Work Plan in order to achieve the objectives of the environmental clean-up.

The Department has the following documents on file in the matter of the above referenced “Site” (as defined in the Industrial Property Remediation and Reuse Act):

1. On May 3, 2010, the Department received a Limited Subsurface Soil and Groundwater Investigation, prepared and submitted by Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB), dated December 2008;

2. On May 5, 2010, the Department received a Hazardous Material Release Notification Form, prepared and submitted by VHB, dated May 5, 2010;

3. On June 22, 2011, the Department received a correspondence entitled Property Abutter Notification Regarding the Trestle Trail Recreational Path, prepared and submitted by VHB, dated June 21, 2011;

4. On August 19, 2011, the Department received a correspondence entitled Response to Public Comments, prepared and submitted by VHB, dated August 18, 2011;
5. On January 25, 2012, the Department received a Site Investigation Report Addendum, prepared and submitted by VHB, dated January 24, 2012;

6. On March 2, 2012, the Department received a correspondence entitled Response to Site Investigation Report Addendum Comments, prepared and submitted by VHB, dated March 2, 2012;

7. The Department received an e-mail correspondence entitled RE: ESS Report 1112243, prepared and submitted by VHB, electronically submitted on March 7, 2012; and

8. On April 5, 2012, the Department received copies of the post-site investigation public notice, prepared and submitted by VHB, dated March 30, 2012.

Collectively, these documents define “Existing contamination” at the Site, and fulfill the requirements of a Site Investigation Report (SIR) as described in Section 7.08 of the Remediation Regulations. In addition, according to our records, public notice was conducted to all abutting property owners and tenants, regarding the substantive findings of the completed investigation in accordance with Rules 7.07 and 7.09 of the Remediation Regulations. A public meeting was conducted in accordance with Rhode Island General Laws (R.I.G.L.), Title 23, Health and Safety, Chapter 23-19.14, Industrial Property Remediation and Reuse Act, and 23-19.14-5 Environmental equity and public participation on July 12, 2011, at 6:00 PM. The opportunity for public review and comment on the technical feasibility of the proposed remedial alternatives commenced on March 30, 2012 and, due to a request to extend the public comment period, the period closed on May 22, 2012. No comments were received.

The preferred remedial alternative, as stated in the SIR, consists of the following conceptual measures:

- Limited excavation of contaminated soils exceeding the Department’s Residential Direct Exposure Criteria (RDEC) in future delineated source areas with offsite disposal at a licensed disposal facility in accordance with all local, State, and Federal laws.

- The encapsulation of remaining soils exceeding the Department’s RDEC with a Department approved engineered cap.

- The maintenance and monitoring of the engineered controls through the recording of an institutional control in the form of a Department approved Environmental Land Usage Restriction (ELUR) and Soil Management Plan (SMP), followed by annual compliance certification of the ELUR.

The Department hereby approves the SIR, with the above identified preferred remedial alternative, and requires a Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) be submitted for review and approval, and implemented, to achieve the objectives of the environmental clean-up, in accordance with the following conditions:

1. In accordance with Sections 8.0 and 9.0 of the Remediation Regulations, a RAWP, a draft ELUR, and a draft SMP for Phase II, shall be submitted for Department review and approval within one hundred and twenty (120) days. The RAWP shall describe all technical details, engineer design elements, and schedules associated with the implementation of the proposed remedy. All of the subsections outlined in Section 9.0 of the Remediation Regulations must be included in order to facilitate the review and approval of the RAWP. If an item is not applicable to this Site, simply state that it is not applicable and provide an explanation in the RAWP.
2. Once the Department reviews the RAWP for consistency with Sections 8.0 and 9.0 of the Remediation Regulations, any written comments generated and forwarded as a result of the review(s) shall be incorporated forthwith into a revised RAWP, to be re-submitted for final approval.

3. Upon finalization of the RAWP, the Department will issue a Remedial Approval Letter, signifying Department approval. All remedial measures required by the Department shall be implemented, in accordance with the approved schedule, to ensure all applicable exposure pathways at the site are appropriately addressed.

If you have any questions or are in need of any clarification regarding this document, please contact me by telephone at (401) 222-2797 ext. 7147 or by e-mail at tim.fleury@dem.ri.gov.

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Fleury
Senior Engineer
Office of Waste Management

Authorized By,

Jeffrey P. Crawford
Principal Environmental Scientist
Office of Waste Management

Cc: Kelly J. Owens, Office of Waste Management
    Robert Bailey, Division of Planning and Development
    Anita Marshall, Rhode Island Department of Transportation
    Claude Masse, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.
    Hugh Neenan, Prime Engineering, Inc.
    Guy Lefebvre, Town of Coventry – Recreation Director