



Town of Leicester

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

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August 5, 2021

To: Select Board

From: David Genereux, Town Administrator

RE: Oil Spill at Leicester Elementary School

Report #5

The following is a compilation of correspondence regarding the oil spill at the Leicester Elementary School. Most is through emails sent and received by the School Business Manager. The activity reports are prepared by Cedwyn Morgan Regional Manager of HETI, the firm that has been contracted by our insurer to perform the cleanup.

This email provides a summary of work performed during the week of July 12 – 30, 2021 in response to the fuel oil leak at Leicester Elementary school.

- **Monday, July 12:** Work on hold pending resolution of flashpoint issue with Ondrick. Receive additional lab results in afternoon; prepare memo to Ondrick regarding flashpoint results.
- **Tuesday, July 13:** Perform sub-slab depressurization (SSD) pilot study in Room 106. Preparations for tank removal. Ondrick approves additional disposal.
- **Wednesday, July 14:** Explore soil quality around tank to plan excavation; load out soils to Ondrick.
- **Thursday, July 15:** Load out soils to Ondrick, remove roll-off. Provide update to Conservation Commission (CC). Respond to request for additional info from CC member.
- **Friday July 16:** No work pending re-location of tank.
- **Monday July 19:** Move aboveground storage tank and demolish concrete pad.
- **Tuesday July 20:** Initiate excavation in former location of tank. Meet with Leicester Public Schools school staff.
- **Wednesday July 21:** Additional excavation in vicinity of former tank location.
- **Thursday July 22:** Additional excavation in vicinity of former tank location. Complete temporary installation of sub-slab depressurization system for evaluation purposes. Re-install elbowed piping in catch basin near tank so it will serve as an oil-water separator. Provide update to Conservation Commission. Call DEP and provide update.
- **Friday July 23:** Load out stockpiled soils to Ondrick. Provide indoor air quality results to Board of Health. Provide DEP with written update, as requested in call on July 22. Collect induced vacuum readings from SSD system.

- **Monday July 26:** Excavate in vicinity of catch basin and former aboveground tank location. Deactivate SSD trial to prepare for Room 106 air sampling.
- **Tuesday July 27:** Excavate in vicinity of former aboveground tank. Replace sections of damaged storm drain pipe.
- **Wednesday July 28:** Excavate between former tank location and east-west water main.
- **Thursday July 29:** Meet on site with LPS and Leicester Water District to discuss shutting off water to allow excavation under water mains. Continue excavation near water mains. Provide update to Conservation Commission.
- **Friday July 30.** No excavation. Meet owner of 150 Paxton to discuss status and restoration.

This email is provided to update you on the status of indoor air sampling at the Leicester Elementary School. The attached table summarizes available indoor air quality data for the school.

Sampling has been performed in various areas of the school, but has focused on Rooms 105, 106 and 107, which are located along the north wall of the school, where the release occurred. Room 106 is the room where oil odors were first noted. Elevated petroleum concentrations in indoor air are present only in samples from those rooms.

We have evaluated the results for Rooms 105, 106 and 107 using the DEP's Short form Risk Assessment spreadsheet for Offices and Schools – Indoor Air. The short form analysis is discussed in the email at the bottom of this string. The results indicate that Rooms 105 and 107 present long-term risk but do not present "Imminent Hazards", indicating that risk is acceptable for exposure periods of five years or less. The short form analysis indicates that the Room 106 results do present an Imminent Hazard. We are in the process of evaluating whether sub-slab depressurization (similar to a radon control system) would improve air quality in Room 106.

The available data indicate that indoor air quality is improving with time. We plan to perform a more comprehensive school-wide indoor air sampling event in early August.