

March 19, 2019

Matt Dunham  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Environmental Remediation  
Bureau of Program Management  
625 Broadway  
Albany, NY 12233

**RE: WA 31, Former Erwin Cleaners Project – Field Activities Summary from February 28, 2019**

Dear Mr. Dunham:

A test pit investigation was performed at the Former Erwin Cleaners site on December 18, 2018 to investigate the source of an obstruction in a stormwater drainage basin/line in the neighboring property and determine if it was related to recent work on the Erwin site. Results of that investigation were summarized in a memo submitted to NYSDEC on December 21, 2018 and concluded that the boring for piezometer PZ-04 (misidentified in the December 2018 memo as MW-10) may pierced or obstructed the pipe in some way, causing the current drainage issue. As a result, NYSDEV requested that Parson mobilize to the site to repair the damaged pipe and abandon/replace PZ-04. This memo documents the efforts made to further investigate the cause of the obstruction and the repair the damaged drainage pipe

Parsons and North Star arrived to the site on February 28, 2019 to begin repair work on the pipeline. PZ-04 was located under the snow and ice pack covering the site parking lot and excavations began along the east side of PZ-04 to expose the pipe running adjacent to it. Geotextile fabric covering crusher-run backfill from the adjacent tank removal was encountered during the excavation. Once the top of the pipe was exposed and the excavation continued along it, we observed that the pipe ended before it would have intersected with PZ-04. This is consistent with previous geophysical investigations where a both the ground penetrating radar and electromagnetic locating devices both showed that the pipe ended in the vicinity of PZ-04. In addition, the pipe was found approximately 3 feet below the ground surface and following its current trajectory, would have had to intersect the fuel oil tank that was previously removed from the site. The previous site investigation in December 2018 also did not identify any pipes entering either the storm water catch basins or manholes along Corona Avenue from the direction of the damaged pipeline.

Based on these observations, it was determined that the pipe was cut off during the installation of the fuel oil tank and water that ran through it dissipated into the tank and tank bedding. During removal of the tank, the end of the pipe was pinched off and the crusher run backfill material further clogged the end of the pipe causing the current drainage issues. Upon



discussion with NYSDEC, it was determined a temporary repair be made to remedy the current drainage problem. This included cutting off the end of the pipe that had been pinched off and covering the end with a ¼-inch welded wire screen to prevent backfill material from entering the pipe and clogging it again. A permanent repair of the pipe may be included in the final remedial design of the site if warranted. Some sloughing in of the tank backfill material during the excavation work, resulted in the protective covering curb box for PZ-04 to break free from the ground and will need to be replaced.

In addition, a soil sample was collected from within the catch basin on the neighboring property where the water from the pipeline is backing up. The sample will be analyzed for soils waste characterization in anticipation of employing a vacuum truck to clean out the catch basin and restoring flow to the pipeline.