



RHODE ISLAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

OFFICE OF LAND REVITALIZATION & SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT

235 Promenade Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02908

REMEDIAL APPROVAL LETTER

File No. SR-28-2086

February 12, 2024

Nicholas Ciccitelli, Director of Real Estate
Providence Redevelopment Agency
444 Westminster Street, Suite 3A
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Urban League of RI
246 Prairie Avenue
Providence, Rhode Island
Plat Map 45 / Lot 911

Dear Mr. Ciccitelli:

On April 22, 2020, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management's (the Department) Office of Land Revitalization and Sustainable Materials Management (LRSMM) enacted the codified 250-RICR-140-30-1, 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. A Remedial Approval Letter (RAL) is a document used by the Department to approve remedial actions at contaminated sites that do not involve the use of complex engineered systems or techniques (e.g. groundwater pump and treat systems, soil vapor extraction systems, etc.).

In the matter of the above-referenced property (the Site), the Department's Office of LRSMM is in receipt of the following documentation submitted pursuant to the Remediation Regulations in response to the reported release at the Site:

1. Limited Subsurface Report, received by the Department on July 2, 2021, and prepared by Environmental Strategies & Management, Inc. (ES&M);
2. Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, received by the Department on July 2, 2021, and prepared by ES&M;
3. Site-Specific Quality Assurance Project Plan Addendum, received by the Department on July 27, 2021, and prepared by Fuss & O'Neill, Inc. (F&O);
4. Hazardous Material Release Notification Form, received by the Department on May 5, 2022, and prepared by F&O;
5. Pre-Site Investigation Public Notice, received by the Department on May 31, 2022, and

prepared by F&O;

6. Site Investigation Report (SIR), received by the Department on September 30, 2022, and prepared by F&O;
7. Release Response Report, dated May 25, 2021, received by the Department on October 19, 2022, and prepared by Coneco Engineers & Scientists, Inc. (Coneco);
8. SIR Addendum, received by the Department on August 4, 2023, and prepared by F&O;
9. Public Notification Package, received by the Department on August 31, 2023, and prepared by F&O; and
10. Remedial Action Work Plan, received by the Department on February 7, 2024, and prepared by F&O.

Together these documents fulfill the requirements of Section 1.9 (Risk Management) and Section 1.10 (Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP)) of the Remediation Regulations.

The preferred remedial alternative involves:

- Limited soil excavation and off-site disposal of arsenic and/or SVOC-impacted soils. Confirmatory samples shall be taken to fully delineate the excavation areas. Confirmatory samples shall be taken in accordance with the frequency outlined in the Dig & Haul Policy;
- Should all jurisdictional soils not be excavated from the Site, encapsulation of Site soils by a Department approved engineered control consisting of a minimum of two (2) feet of clean fill or an equivalent level of protection i.e. building foundations, one (1) foot of clean fill over a geotextile fabric, and/or four (4) inches of hardscape (asphalt or concrete) over six (6) inches of clean fill. Existing hardscape shall be repaired as necessary;
- A spray-applied vapor barrier system, or equivalent, shall be applied to the ground level of any existing or future habitable structure. Additionally, a sub-slab vapor mitigation system shall be incorporated into the foundation design of any existing or future habitable structure. The system shall be vented to maintain positive pressure in the building interior and mitigate intrusion of soil gas containing VOCs to the building interior. Once design plans for the Site redevelopment have been finalized, the final design of the sub-slab vapor mitigation system shall be submitted to the Department for review and approval; and
- An Environmental Land Usage Restriction (ELUR) shall be recorded on the deed for the entire property (Plat Map 45 / Lot 911). The ELUR shall require the performance of annual inspections to document the status of the ELUR and the condition of the engineered controls. The ELUR shall also include a Department-approved post-remediation Soil Management Plan (SMP) which will address any future activities that may disturb on-Site soils. The ELUR shall be recorded for the entire property in the Land Evidence Records for the City of

Providence, and a recorded copy forwarded back to the Department within fifteen (15) days of recording.

Based upon review and consideration of the above referenced documents, the Department approves the Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) through this RAL provided that:

1. All work must be performed in accordance with all applicable regulations and the Department approved RAWP.
2. Start of the work described in the Department approved RAWP must be initiated within ninety (90) days of issuance of this RAL.
3. Prior to initiating any remedial activities, the Department shall be provided with a list of all contractors, and their respective contact information, that will be used on Site to complete the remedial work described in the Department approved RAWP. The Department shall be notified, when feasible, a minimum of five (5) working days in advance of any changes in contractors and/or consultants involved with the remedial work on this Site. The notification must be promptly supplied in writing with complete contact information for each new contractor or consultant (including but not limited to company name and address, contact name and address, contact telephone number and e-mail address).
4. All excavated regulated soil, if not approved for encapsulation onsite, shall be disposed of off-site at an appropriately licensed disposal facility in accordance with all local, State, and Federal laws. Copies of the material shipping records and manifests associated with the disposal of the material shall be included along with the Closure Report.
5. Areas of the site where contaminated soils are to be excavated must be staged and temporarily stored in a designated area, as proposed in the RAWP, of the site with proper polyethylene covers. Any stockpiled materials, including clean fill, must be underlain and covered with polyethylene sheeting and be secured at the end of each day with all appropriate erosion and sediment controls to limit the loss of the cover and protect against stormwater and wind erosion (i.e. hay bales, rocks, silt fencing). These appropriate sedimentation and erosion controls must be in place and in proper working order at all times until all disturbed areas are stabilized and capped as proposed. Within reason, the storage location will be selected to limit the unauthorized access to the materials (i.e. away from public roadways/walkways). No regulated soil will be stockpiled on-site for greater than thirty (30) days. In the event that stockpiled soils pose a risk or threat of leaching hazardous materials, a proper leak-proof container (i.e., drum or lined roll-off) or secondary containment will be required and utilized.
6. The Office of LRSMM no longer requires the submittal of analytical data prior to clean fill being brought to a Site. It is the sole responsibility of the Performing Party and their consultant to analyze the material, certify that the material meets the Department's Residential Direct Exposure Criteria (RDEC), as defined by the Remediation Regulations, for all constituents, and is suitable for use on the Site. The Office of LRSMM strongly suggests that enough representative samples of the clean fill are collected prior to moving the material to the Site to satisfy the Performing Party and their consultant that the material meets the RDEC. Please note that the Office of

LRSMM reserves its rights to sample the fill, if suspect, to confirm compliance with the RDEC.

7. All regulated soil remaining onsite shall be encapsulated by an engineered control consistent with those described in the Department approved RAWP.
8. Dust suppression techniques (i.e., watering) must be employed at all times during all soil disturbing/handling activities at the site in order to minimize the generation of fugitive dust.
9. Compliance sampling for the excavation of arsenic-only areas shall be completed in accordance with Section 1.13 of the Remediation Regulations. Section 1.13 of the Remediation Regulations shall only be applied to areas of the site in which arsenic is the sole contaminant of concern. Compliance sampling shall be completed in accordance with the frequency outlined in the Dig & Haul Policy. Please note that if soil exceeding the Department's Residential Direct Exposure Criteria (RDEC) is to remain onsite, a Department-approved engineered barrier shall be installed and a draft Environmental Land Usage Restriction (ELUR) and Soil Management Plan (SMP) must be submitted to the Office of LRSMM for review and approval prior to recording.
10. Within ninety (90) days of completion of the work described in the Department approved RAWP, a Closure Report detailing the remedial action and including any disposal documentation shall be submitted to the Office of LRSMM.
11. Within ninety (90) days of completion of the work described in the Department approved RAWP, the final Department approved ELUR shall be recorded in the City of Providence Land Evidence Records for the property and a stamped, certified copy returned to the Department within fifteen (15) days of recording. Upon receipt of a copy of the recorded (stamped) ELUR, the Office of LRSMM will issue a Letter of Compliance.
12. Following recording of the ELUR, the site shall be maintained and annually inspected to evaluate the compliance status of the site with the ELUR. Within thirty (30) days of each annual inspection, an evaluation report shall be prepared and submitted to the Office of LRSMM detailing the findings of the inspection and noting any compliance violations at the site.
13. As part of the operation and maintenance of the remedy, the sub-slab pressure shall be measured and the SSDS annually inspected to ensure that the SSDS is operating properly. As part of the annual ELUR inspection of the remedy, the efficacy of the SSDS shall be documented. Within thirty (30) days of each annual inspection, an evaluation report shall be prepared and submitted to the Office of LRSMM detailing the findings of the inspection and noting any compliance violations at the site.
14. Any changes in the activities detailed in the RAWP shall be reported to the Office of LRSMM by telephone within one (1) working day and in writing within five (5) business days.
15. The Office of LRSMM shall be notified forty-eight (48) hours prior to initiating the remedial activities at the site associated with the Department approved RAWP.
16. The Office of LRSMM shall be immediately notified of any site or operation condition that results

in non-compliance with this RAL.

At this time, the Office of LRSMM offers its concurrence with the proposed remedial action for the property. The Department approves the RAWP provided that all activities and procedures detailed in the RAWP are strictly adhered to. Furthermore, this letter continues to place primary responsibility for the construction, operation, maintenance, and monitoring of the approved RAWP and its associated implementation on Providence Redevelopment Agency. As the Voluntary Party and Performing Party, Providence Redevelopment Agency is expected to implement the RAWP in an expeditious and professional manner that prevents non-compliance with this RAL and said RAWP and is protective of human health and the environment.

Please note that at this time the Department does not approve the ELUR for recording in the Land Evidence Records with the City of Providence. Please forward an electronic version of the draft ELUR and the post-construction SMP in red line / strikeout format for Department review and approval. The draft ELUR and SMP shall be reviewed and approved by the Department, followed by recording of the approved ELUR, at the completion of all remedial work.

This RAL does not remove your obligation to obtain any other necessary permits from other local, State, or Federal agencies.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or would like the opportunity to meet with Department personnel, please contact me by telephone at (401) 537-4362, or by E-mail at Rachel.simpson@dem.ri.gov.

Sincerely,



Rachel T. Simpson
Environmental Scientist III
Office of Land Revitalization &
Sustainable Materials Management

Authorized by,



Ashley L. Blauvelt, P.E.
Environmental Engineer IV
Office of Land Revitalization &
Sustainable Materials Management

cc: Kelly J. Owens, RIDEM/LRSMM
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