



TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR

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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LARRY J. WILSON, DIRECTOR

November 4, 1998

Mr. Charles Schmadeke
Wastewater Treatment Plant
330 North Madison
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

SUBJECT: Sampling Reports, Iowa City Wastewater Treatment Plant, Iowa City

Dear Mr. Schmadeke:

Staff of the IDNR Solid Waste Section have had the opportunity to review and discuss the materials submitted regarding environmental assessment work performed at the wastewater treatment plant.

The department has been inundated with varied reports of contamination, generally stemming from environmental assessments conducted for the purpose of property transfer. Because the number of such sites far exceeds the resources we have available for addressing them, we have been forced to prioritize them. We will be dealing only with sites which we deem to be the most serious threats to human health. Our first priority is sites where there is an existing or imminent threat of human exposure to levels of contamination in excess of health based guidelines. A second group of sites, which we will deal with as resources are available, will include sites characterized by: very high levels of contaminants, the probability of large amounts of waste, and/or the likelihood of an ongoing release of contaminants.

Therefore the IDNR will require no further action in this case. This judgment is based on information currently available to us and is subject to revision, if additional information suggests such a change to be warranted. It should be noted that many environmental assessments are cursory in nature and do not, therefore, provide adequate information to permit an evaluation with a high degree of confidence.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 515/281-4171.

Respectfully,


Mary Kay Rogge
Environmental Specialist

cc: FO 6

Michael Paul Valde, University of Iowa, Environmental Compliance Manager, 4
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