



# STATE OF IOWA

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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
RICHARD A. LEOPOLD, DIRECTOR

February 8, 2010

Todd A. King  
Director of Environmental Affairs  
CHS Inc.  
5500 Cenex Drive  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55077

Subject: Review of the 2009 Site Monitoring Report, Buffalo Center, Iowa

Dear Mr. King:

Thank you for the submittal of the Site Monitoring Report for the Former Thermogas Facility located at 311 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, SW, Buffalo Center, Iowa, dated January 5, 2010.

As mentioned in the report, concentrations of ammonia nitrogen, nitrate-nitrite nitrogen, and metribuzin were detected in monitoring wells above the MCL and/or HAL values during the 2009 sampling events:

- Ammonia nitrogen in MW-2 and MW-4
- Nitrate-nitrite as nitrogen in MW-3, MW-5, and MW-10
- Metribuzin in MW-4.

DNR requests that the Statewide Standards established for groundwater by the DNR be included in the groundwater data tables in future reports. Statewide standards are available for several site compounds of concern for which a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) or Health Advisory Level (HAL) has not been established.

As noted in our May 27, 2008 letter, it appears that the metribuzin and nitrate-nitrite nitrogen contaminant plumes have migrated onto adjacent properties northwest of the site, while the ammonia nitrogen plume is located on the northwest corner of the site and extends onto adjacent parcels to the north and west.

The contaminant plumes for metribuzin and ammonia nitrogen are not defined north of MW-4 while the nitrate-nitrite plume is not defined beyond MW-10 and MW-11. Additional plume definition is not required at this time but may be necessary in the future if increasing trends are observed in these wells. Due to the exceedances referenced above, additional monitoring is required. Please continue to sample all monitoring wells at the site.

We look forward to receiving the next Site Monitoring Report **no later than January 31, 2011**. Please contact me at 515-281-4117 or [jim.kacer@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:jim.kacer@dnr.iowa.gov) if there are any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,



Jim Kacer, PE, CIH  
Environmental Specialist  
Contaminated Sites Section  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

cc: Cal Lundberg, Supervisor, Contaminated Sites Section, Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
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