

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LARRY J. WILSON, DIRECTOR

8 May, 1997

Mr. Ellsworth Eye 3500 N.E. 26th Ave. Lighthouse Point, Florida 33064

SUBJECT: Environmental assessment for proposed Post Office site, Palo, Iowa

Dear Mr. Eye:

Staff of the IDNR Solid Waste Section have had the opportunity to review and discuss the materials submitted regarding the environmental assessment for the site of the proposed Post Office in Palo, Iowa.

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.

The information submitted does not indicate the existence of any contamination in excess of IDNR action levels. Therefore the IDNR will require no 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 515/281-7040.

Respectfully,

Cal Lundberg, Ph. D. Environmental Specialist

cc: FO 1

Ms. Sabrina Attaluri, United States Postal Service, Kansas City Facilities Service Office, 6800 W 64th Street, Suite 100, Overland Park, Kansas 66202-4171