

March 21, 1995

Mr. Mark Johnson
B.A. Liesch Associates, Inc.
13400 15th Avenue North
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55441

SUBJECT: Report of environmental contamination at Norwest Bank Building, Davenport, Iowa

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I apologize for the length of time it has taken to get back to you regarding the Norwest Bank Building in Davenport, Iowa. I think that our position will come as no surprise to you, based on our phone conversation some time ago.

The department has been inundated with this type of report 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 site in question does not appear to be characterized by any of the above descriptions. Therefore, the IDNR will not require any further investigation or remediation in this situation. This judgment is based on information available to us at this time and is subject to revision, if additional information indicates such a change to be warranted. This is not to be construed as a statement that the department regards the site as clean, evidence suggests the presence of soil and groundwater contamination, some of which is in excess of department standards. In addition, 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.

For our earlier conversation, I am aware that you are cognizant of the fact that PCB problems, located inside a building, would not fall within our purview, but rather under the Federal TSCA program. You had indicated that further review of the relevant data indicated no violation of TSCA standards.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 515/281-7040.

Respectfully,

Cal Lundberg
Environmental Specialist

cc: FO 2