

January 7, 2025

JON WELLS
NEW COOPERATIVE INC
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FORT DODGE IA 50501

**Re: NEW Cooperative (203 200th Street, Red Oak, IA)
Contaminated Sites Database Site ID No. 2818
Review of Site Assessment Plan**

Dear Mr. Wells:

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has reviewed the December 2024 Site Assessment Work Plan submitted by your consultant. Thank you for your submission. The Work Plan outlines proposed investigative sampling following the March 2024 Urea Ammonium Nitrate (UAN) release at the facility. As noted in the October 30, 2024 IDNR letter, additional assessment is required to evaluate if residual contamination following the emergency response cleanup action presents a potential hazard for human health and the environment.

The Work Plan proposes for the installation of four (4) monitoring wells on and off-site which follows the UAN release path towards the Nishnabotna River. At each of the well locations, up to six (6) soil samples will be collected from 2' intervals to evaluate residual ammonia and nitrate/nitrite concentrations in the subsurface. Groundwater samples will then be collected to determine if the shallow groundwater table has been affected due to the release.

The IDNR approves the proposed Work Plan with the following comments. The placement of the proposed monitoring wells is acceptable, although MW-1 must be installed within the non-excavated area of UAN release. Furthermore, an additional well is required in the area of SS-5 to ensure adequate investigation of the source area. Additionally, it may be beneficial for an upgradient well to determine background contaminant levels at or near the site during this assessment. Please note, a full conceptual site model may take several mobilizations to ensure the plumes are adequately defined. It also may be necessary to investigate contaminant soil leaching through multiple rounds of groundwater sampling.

Please proceed with Site Assessment activities with the considerations noted above. The Site Assessment Report should be submitted within 90 days of the date of this letter. Contact me with any questions at [\(515\) 721-7024](tel:5157217024) or by email at andrew.carver@dnr.iowa.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrew Carver, CGP
Environmental Specialist
Land Quality Bureau

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