

May 11, 2026

JON WELLS
NEW COOPERATIVE INC
2626 1ST AVE S
FORT DODGE IA 50501
JWELLS@NEWCOOP.COM

**Re: United Farmers Mercantile Coop-UAN (E 8th St and S 3rd Ave, Villisca, IA 50864)
Contaminated Sites Database Site ID No. [2351](#)
Pre-CERCLA Screening (PCS) and Abbreviated Preliminary Assessment (APA)**

Dear Mr. Wells:

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Solid Waste and Contaminated Sites Section (Iowa DNR) had previously required Extended Site Screening (ESS) for the United Farmers Mercantile Coop-UAN in Villisca, Iowa. There has been some activity with this site since then. This letter is to summarize those actions and to provide more clear direction for the site going forward.

Iowa DNR has reviewed the site files and has been in communications with NEW Cooperative Inc. In 2025 Iowa DNR inquired about the status of the site, and after discussion with NEW Cooperative Inc. and its consultant Terracon, Inc (consultant) agreed to do a site investigation, groundwater sampling, and receptor survey. A monitoring report was delivered February 6, 2026, ([Doc# 43272](#)). The report showed that while ammonia as nitrate and nitrate-nitrite as nitrogen were above Iowa Statewide Standards for protected groundwater the levels show significant decline compared to 2018 levels. With the lack of receptors, declining contaminant levels, and current and projected future site use the site poses minimal threat to human or environmental health.

As a result of this review, Iowa DNR decided that an Abbreviated Preliminary Assessment (APA), with an accompanying Pre-CERCLA Screening (PCS) Checklist will be completed and submitted to U.S. EPA Region 7 (EPA). The PCS Checklist and APA have been completed and Iowa DNR has recommended to EPA that the United Farmers Mercantile Coop-UAN site be added to the Superfund Active Site Inventory and that the site then be referred to the Iowa DNR State-Lead Program (Chapter 133). Upon EPA concurrence with this recommendation, Iowa DNR will reach out to New Cooperative Inc about next steps for the site.

If NEW Cooperative Inc. would like a meeting with Iowa DNR to further discuss this recommendation, potential next steps for the site, and proposed schedule for future activities, please provide your availability for a meeting (virtual or in-person) by June 15, 2026, with the goal of convening by July 15, 2026.

Iowa DNR anticipates and appreciates your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me at [\(515\) 415-1331](tel:5154151331) or by email at brad.davison@dnr.iowa.gov.

Sincerely,

Brad Davison
Environmental Specialist
Land Quality Bureau

cc: Michaela T. Brewster, CPG
Terracon, Inc.
15080 A Circle
Omaha, NE 68144
michaela.brewster@terracon.com

Maria Morey
Site Assessment Manager
US EPA Region 7
11201 Renner Blvd
Lenexa, KS 66219
morey.maria@epa.gov

Michael Sullivan
Iowa DNR
6200 Park Ave, Suite 200
Des Moines, IA 50321
michael.sullivan@dnr.iowa.gov

Iowa DNR Field Office #4, Atlantic
jessica.montana@dnr.iowa.gov