



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Ben Grumbles, Secretary
Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary

January 28, 2020

Mr. Thomas Ruszin, III
Fuel and Environmental Leader
Two Farms, Inc. t/a Royal Farms
3611 Roland Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21211

RE: MONITORING REDUCTION APPROVAL
Case No. 2011-0729-CE
Royal Farms No. 96
500 Mechanics Valley Road, North East
Cecil County, Maryland
Facility I.D. No. 13326

Dear Mr. Ruszin:

The Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Oil Control Program (OCP) completed a review of the case file for the above-referenced property, including the *Semi-Annual Progress Report July – December 2019*, dated December 12, 2019. This case was opened on June 8, 2011 when the OCP received notification that liquid phase hydrocarbons (LPH) were detected in groundwater monitoring well MW-3. The site was investigated, characterized, and actively remediated. On January 25, 2013, Two Farms, Inc. and MDE entered into a *Settlement Agreement and Consent Order*. On February 6, 2018, the OCP approved the abandonment of select monitoring and recovery wells. Continued monitoring of six remaining monitoring wells and the on-site drinking water supply well was required on a semi-annual basis (May and November of each calendar year).

The monitoring well network was most recently sampled in November 2019. The groundwater samples were analyzed for full-suite volatile organic compounds (VOCs) using EPA Method 8260. Groundwater samples collected from monitoring wells MW-1R, MW-2, MW-4, MW-6, MW-8, and MW-9 were either non-detect or below MDE's groundwater standards with the following exception. Naphthalene was detected at concentrations ranging from non-detect to 3.1 ppb, which is above the 1.4 ppb standard.

LPH were last detected in the monitoring well network in December 2013. The site and vicinity are served by private drinking water supply wells that have been monitored since June 2011. Based on our review, the OCP no longer require Two Farms, Inc. to monitor off-site drinking water supply wells in accordance with this case. Petroleum constituents have never been detected in the on-site drinking water supply well at or above established action levels; however, samples collected from the on-site supply well during the last six monitoring events detected methyl-tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) at or near 5 ppb.

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The most recent sample collected from the supply well on November 20, 2019 was non-detect for all petroleum constituents except MTBE at a concentration of 4.47 ppb, which is below the State action level of 20 ppb. Based on the commercial food service nature of this business and the continued presence of MTBE in the on-site drinking water supply well, the OCP will continue to require enhanced semi-annual monitoring of the six monitoring wells (MW-1R, MW-2, MW-4, MW-6, MW-8, and MW-9) and the on-site drinking water supply well.

This site status letter should not be construed as a waiver or limitation of MDE's right to take enforcement or other action with respect to activities not addressed by this letter or unknown to MDE, including newly discovered contamination or the exacerbation of existing contamination. The MDE and the State of Maryland retain all authority and rights against any persons in any way responsible for causing the contamination present at or migrating from the site, including the right to seek all available relief, including equitable relief and damages of any nature, such as compensatory and natural resource damages, resulting from the release of any contamination at the site.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 410-537-3499 or susan.bull@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,



Susan R. Bull, Eastern Region Supervisor
Remediation and State-Lead Division
Oil Control Program

cc: Raymar LLC & TT&R Properties LLC, 463 Mechanics Valley Road, Elkton
Mr. and Mrs. Curtis and Betty Johnson, 475 Mechanics Valley Road, Elkton
Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Debra Dean, 487 Mechanics Valley Road, Elkton
Mr. Melvin Philhower, Jr., 493 Mechanics Valley Road, Elkton
Horton Properties LLC, 10 Montgomery Drive, Elkton
Mr. Jeff Stein, Advantage Environmental Consultants, LLC
Mr. Ed Arellano, Deputy Director, Environmental Health Services, Cecil County Health Dept.
Mr. Andrew B. Miller, Chief, Remediation and State-Lead Division, Oil Control Program
Mr. Christopher H. Ralston, Program Manager, Oil Control Program