

ALAMEDA COUNTY
HEALTH CARE SERVICES

AGENCY

DAVID J. KEARS, Agency Director



04-18-01

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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 250
Alameda, CA 94502-6577
(510) 567-6700
FAX (510) 337-9335

April 17, 2001
StID # 3920

Ms. Bette Jean Cereske
Cereske Electric Cable Co., Inc.
1688 24th St.
Oakland CA 94607

Re: Request for MTBE Analysis for 1688 24th St., Oakland CA 94607

Dear Ms. Cereske:

Our office has reviewed the case file for the referenced site as it pertains to the 1995 removal of the 2,000 and 500 gallon gasoline tanks. It appears that most of the petroleum impacted soil has been removed as well as the contaminated groundwater. Our office is prepared to consider this site for closure. However, prior to closure consideration, you will be required to analyze a groundwater sample for the analyte, methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) per State Water Resources Control Board guidelines. This sample should be taken in a location within the former tank pit or down-gradient of the former gasoline tanks. Alternatively, should existing analytical data exist where the analytical laboratory can determine the presence of MTBE (ie a MTBE standard was run during the BTEX analysis even though MTBE was not reported), this can be done in lieu of additional analysis. Please provide a work plan or analytical lab interpretation for MTBE quantification as soon as possible. Should you sample groundwater, it would also be advisable to test for total petroleum hydrocarbons as gasoline and BTEX, to confirm current groundwater concentrations.

Please be advised, I am new contact for this site. You may contact me at (510) 567-6765 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Barney M. Chan
Hazardous Materials Specialist

C: B. Chan, files

Mr. Gary Lowe, H20 GEOL, P.O. Box 2165, Livermore, CA 94551

MTBERq1688 24th

ALAMEDA COUNTY
HEALTH CARE SERVICES



AGENCY
DAVID J. KEARS, Agency Director

Ro# 31

February 21, 1997
STID 3920

Bette Jean Cereske
Cereske Electric Cable Co., Inc
1688-24th St.
Oakland CA 94607

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (LOP)
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 250
Alameda, CA 94502-6577
(510) 567-6700
FAX (510) 337-9335

RE: Cereske Electric Cable Co., Inc, 1688-24th St., Oakland CA 94607

Dear Ms. Cereske,

Since my last letter to you, dated 5/10/96, the following documents have been received in this office:

- 1) "Overexcavation and Sampling report," prepared by H2O GEOL, dated 1/15/97; and
- 2) "Workplan for limited Soil and Water Investigation," prepared by H2O GEOL, dated 2/12/97.

The workplan is acceptable for implementation. Please notify me 2 business days prior to field work.

You may contact me directly at 510-567-6761 if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Eberle
Hazardous Materials Specialist

cc: Gary Lowe, H2O GEOL, PO Box 2165, Livermore CA 94551
Tom Reese, Decon, 23490 Connecticut St., Hayward CA 94545-1607
J. Eberle/file

je.3920-D

ALAMEDA COUNTY
HEALTH CARE SERVICES

AGENCY

DAVID J. KEARS, Agency Director



Ro# 31

December 19, 1996
STID 3920
page 1 of 3

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (LOP)
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 250
Alameda, CA 94502-6577
(510) 567-6700
FAX (510) 337-9335

Bette Jean Cereske
Cereske Electric Cable Co., Inc
1688-24th St.
Oakland CA 94607

RE: Cereske Electric Cable Co., Inc, 1688-24th St., Oakland CA 94607

Dear Ms. Cereske,

Since my last letter to you, dated 5/10/96, the following documents have been received in this office:

- 1) fax from H2O GEOL, dated 6/18/96 (laboratory results for soil samples collected 5/31/96);
- 2) fax from H2O GEOL, dated 7/9/96 (laboratory results for soil and water samples collected 6/24/96); and
- 3) fax from H2O GEOL, dated 8/19/96 (laboratory results for soil and water samples collected 8/2/96).

I was present onsite on those three dates during the collection of samples. The 5/31/96 work consisted of trenching to delineate the lateral extent of soil contamination. The 6/24/96 work consisted of tank pit soil and water samples. The 8/2/96 work consisted of overexcavation and sampling of soil and water.

I was recently informed by your consultants that since the last round of samples (8/2/96), water was pumped out from the excavation into an above-ground storage tank (AST). I understand that the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) gave permission to empty the AST into the storm drain once the excavation is filled in, based on sample results from the water therein. It is important to backfill the excavation asap, since the entrance of the winter rains into the excavation tends to speed up the migration of the groundwater plume. As you know, this excavation has been left open since the removal of the USTs on 7/12/95. **Therefore, you are required to backfill the open tank cavity with clean, imported fill within 30 days or by January 19, 1997.**

December 19, 1996
STID 3920
page 2 of 3
Bette Jean Cereske

Due to the elevated soil concentrations (maximum was 510 mg/kg TPHg and 1.5 mg/kg benzene) and the groundwater contamination (maximum was 46,000 ug/L TPHg and 6,300 ug/L benzene), you are also requested to perform a Soil and Water Investigation (SWI), as per Sect. 2724 of Chapter 16, Division 3, Title 23, California Code of Regulations. In this kind of environmental situation, rapid site assessment methods (i.e. geoprobe, hydropunch, etc.) are often suggested to qualitatively assess the environmental impacts, as a first step of the SWI. However, it may be possible to do this investigation with even less financial outlay by utilizing a hand auger, since the depth to groundwater is only approximately 4 feet. The purpose of the SWI is to define the extent of a) the groundwater contaminant plume, and b) the southwestern extent of the soil contaminant plume (the soil contamination appears to be defined to the north, east, and west). **Please submit a workplan for a SWI within 60 days, or by February 19, 1997.** At least two soil sample locations should be included in the SWI. Groundwater should be sampled to the north of the former UST pit, since groundwater flows north in this area of Oakland.

All work should adhere to a) the Tri-Regional Board Staff Recommendations for Preliminary Evaluation and Investigation of Underground Tank Sites, dated 8/10/90; and b) Article 11 of Title 23, California Code of Regulations. Reports and proposals must be submitted **under signature and seal** of a California-Registered Geologist, -Certified Engineering Geologist, or -Registered Civil Engineer.

I have reviewed the file for the nearby Pacific Supply site, located at 1735-24th St. Seven groundwater monitoring wells were installed at this site in 1988 and 1989, in response to a leak from a UST. In addition, vapor extraction was employed to remediate the subsurface, from 12/93 until 7/96. I have enclosed a copy of the most recent groundwater elevation map, from monitoring conducted on 7/15/96. Please copy this map for use by your consultant.

Please be advised that "no person shall close an underground tank system unless that person . . . demonstrates to the appropriate agency . . . that the site has been investigated to determine if there are any present, or were past releases, and if so, that appropriate corrective or remedial actions have been taken," as per Section 25298 (c) (4) of the California Health & Safety Code, (CH&SC) Division 20, Chapter 6.7. Further, "any operator of an underground tank system shall be liable for a civil penalty of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) or more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each underground storage tank for each day of violation for . . . failure to properly close an underground tank system," as per Section 25299 (a) (5) of CH&SC, Division 20, Chapter 6.7. Any extensions of the stated deadlines, or modifications of the required tasks, must be confirmed in writing by either this agency or the RWQCB.

December 19, 1996
STID 3920
page 3 of 3
Bette Jean Cereske

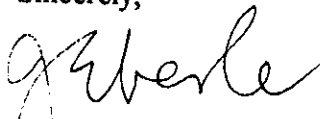
There are state funds available for remediation of UST sites. These funds reimburse responsible parties, such as yourselves, for the costs associated with remediation. I have enclosed a brochure outlining this program. Included are phone numbers for people to help you with this process.

Please note that the UST CleanUp Fund specifies bidding requirements and deductibles. Please direct questions re the Fund to Christopher Stevens (916-227-4519) or Jim Munch (916-227-4430) of the State Water Resources Control Board, UST CleanUp Fund.

In addition, you are requested to submit a report documenting the overexcavation and various rounds of sampling activities which have taken place since the tank removal. Please submit this report within 30 days, or by January 19, 1997.

You may contact me directly at 510-567-6761 if you have further questions.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Eberle
Hazardous Materials Specialist

cc: Gary Lowe, H2O GEOL, PO Box 2165, Livermore CA 94551
Tom Reese, Decon, 23490 Connecticut St., Hayward CA 94545-1607
J. Eberle/file

je.3920-C
enclosure

December 19, 1996
STID 3920
page 2 of 3
Bette Jean Cereske

Due to the elevated soil concentrations (maximum was 510 mg/kg TPHg and 1.5 mg/kg benzene) and the groundwater contamination (maximum was 46,000 ug/L TPHg and 6,300 ug/L benzene), you are also requested to perform a Soil and Water Investigation (SWI), as per Sect. 2724 of Chapter 16, Division 3, Title 23, California Code of Regulations. In this kind of environmental situation, rapid site assessment methods (i.e. geoprobe, hydropunch, etc.) are often suggested to qualitatively assess the environmental impacts, as a first step of the SWI. However, it may be possible to do this investigation with even less financial outlay by utilizing a hand auger, since the depth to groundwater is only approximately 4 feet. The purpose of the SWI is to define the extent of a) the groundwater contaminant plume, and b) the southwestern extent of the soil contaminant plume (the soil contamination appears to be defined to the north, east, and west). **Please submit a workplan for a SWI within 60 days, or by February 19, 1997.** At least two soil sample locations should be included in the SWI. Groundwater should be sampled to the north of the former UST pit, since groundwater flows north in this area of Oakland.

All work should adhere to a) the Tri-Regional Board Staff Recommendations for Preliminary Evaluation and Investigation of Underground Tank Sites, dated 8/10/90; and b) Article 11 of Title 23, California Code of Regulations. Reports and proposals must be submitted **under signature and seal** of a California-Registered Geologist, -Certified Engineering Geologist, or -Registered Civil Engineer.

I have reviewed the file for the nearby Pacific Supply site, located at 1735-24th St. Seven groundwater monitoring wells were installed at this site in 1988 and 1989, in response to a leak from a UST. In addition, vapor extraction was employed to remediate the subsurface, from 12/93 until 7/96. I have enclosed a copy of the most recent groundwater elevation map, from monitoring conducted on 7/15/96. Please copy this map for use by your consultant.

Please be advised that "no person shall close an underground tank system unless that person . . . demonstrates to the appropriate agency . . . that the site has been investigated to determine if there are any present, or were past releases, and if so, that appropriate corrective or remedial actions have been taken," as per Section 25298 (c) (4) of the California Health & Safety Code, (CH&SC) Division 20, Chapter 6.7. Further, "any operator of an underground tank system shall be liable for a civil penalty of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) or more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each underground storage tank for each day of violation for . . . failure to properly close an underground tank system," as per Section 25299 (a) (5) of CH&SC, Division 20, Chapter 6.7. Any extensions of the stated deadlines, or modifications of the required tasks, must be confirmed in writing by either this agency or the RWQCB.

ALAMEDA COUNTY
HEALTH CARE SERVICES
AGENCY

DAVID J. KEARS, Agency Director



R031

RAFAT A. SHAHID, DIRECTOR

July 26, 1995
STID 3920

Bette Jean Cereske
Cereske Electric Cable Co., Inc
✓ 1688-24th St.
Oakland CA 94607

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Clean Water Programs
UST Local Oversight Program
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway
Alameda, CA 94502-6577
(510) 567-6700

Dear Ms. Cereske,

On 7/12/95, one 2,000-gallon and one 500-gallon gasoline Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) were removed from this site. I was present onsite to witness the tank removal activities. Strong petroleum hydrocarbon odors and stained soils were witnessed during the tank excavation. Laboratory results were received in this office on 7/25/95, and indicated that subsurface soils in the tank excavation were contaminated with concentrations as high as 630 parts per million (ppm) Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPH-g), and up to 3.0 ppm benzene. The soils removed prior to removal of the USTs (aka stockpiled soils) were backfilled into the excavation to ensure site safety. This was done with the understanding (between the contractor and myself), that if the soils sampled from the pit were contaminated, the stockpiled soils would be removed.

You are therefore requested to remove contaminated soils from the excavation, and to collect verification samples from the excavation, within 30 days, or by August 26, 1995. If groundwater is present in the excavation during overexcavation activities, then soil samples will be collected from the sidewalls at a rate of one per 20 linear feet, or otherwise as specified by the County inspector. A sample of the groundwater will also be collected. All samples will be analyzed for TPHg and Benzene, Toluene, Ethylbenzene, and Xylenes (BTEX).

There are state funds available for remediation of UST sites. These funds reimburse responsible parties, such as yourselves, for the costs associated with remediation. I have enclosed a brochure outlining this program. Included are phone numbers for people to help you with this process. Please note that the UST CleanUp Fund specifies bidding requirements and deductibles. **Please direct questions re the Fund to Christopher Stevens (916-227-4519) or Jim Munch (916-227-4430) of the State Water Resources Control Board, UST CleanUp Fund.**

Please note that a refund of \$630 (from the original \$894) will be returned to your contractor, Darin Reinholdt, because the tank removal project is complete in terms of our "deposit/refund" program. The "deposit/refund" method of charging for our services is for site remediation work that is not eligible for inclusion in the Local Oversight Program (LOP). The LOP is a federal and state petroleum underground storage tank cleanup program for sites with known contamination; the billing is done by the State Water Quality Control Board. Your case has been transferred to LOP as of 7/14/95; a separate Notice is being sent to you.

July 26, 1995
STID 3920
Bette Jean Cereske
page 2 of 2

Please notify me at least 2 business days in advance (by telephone) prior to the start of field work. I must be present onsite during sampling activities. You may contact me directly at 510-567-6761 if you have further questions.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Eberle
Hazardous Materials Specialist

cc: Darin Reinholdt, PO Box 271943, Concord CA 94527
Tom Peacock/file

je.3920

ALAMEDA COUNTY
HEALTH CARE SERVICES

AGENCY

DAVID J. KEARS, Agency Director



RO#31

RAFAT A. SHAHID, DIRECTOR

May 10, 1996
STID 3920

Bette Jean Cereske (also via fax on 5/10/96)
Cereske Electric Cable Co., Inc
1688-24th St.
Oakland CA 94607

Alameda County Environmental Health Div.
Mail Code: 430-4580
Environmental Protection Services
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, Room 250
Alameda CA 94502-6577

RE: Cereske Electric Cable Co., Inc, 1688-24th St., Oakland CA 94607

Dear Ms. Cereske,

I am in receipt of your letters dated 2/8/96 and 5/1/96. A bid proposal prepared by Decon, dated 4/16/96, is attached to your 5/1/96 letter. This proposal involves the removal of contaminated soil from the former UST pit, including the previously unsampled stockpile material. Grab groundwater and soil sidewall samples will be collected from the open excavation, and analyzed for TPH-gasoline and BTEX. The soil removed from the former UST pit will be initially sampled, then aerated under BAAQMD permit/notification for approximately one month. Confirmation samples will be collected at a rate of 1 discrete sample per 20 yd³. Groundwater at a nearby site (Pacific Supply at 1735-24th St.) occurs at a depth of approximately 5 to 9' bgs.

This proposal shall be implemented within 2 weeks, or by May 24, 1996. *Note that you passed the deadlines in my letter dated 7/26/95 and the Second Request letter dated 1/5/96. The next step would normally be a Notice of Violation. It has been 10 months since the USTs were removed, without any follow up investigation on your part. If sidewall and/or groundwater samples contain elevated concentrations of contaminants, then further work may be required.*

Please notify me by phone at least 3 business days in advance of field activities. Note that our offices are closed on 5/27/96 for Memorial Day. Please do not schedule the work for that day. You may contact me directly at 510-567-6761 if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Eberle
Hazardous Materials Specialist

cc: Tom Reese, Decon, 23490 Connecticut St., Hayward CA 94545-1607
Gil Jensen, Alameda County District Attorney, Office of Consumer and Environmental
Protection
Acting Chief/file

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ALAMEDA COUNTY
HEALTH CARE SERVICES
AGENCY

DAVID J. KEARS, Agency Director



RO#31

RAFAT A. SHAHID, Director

January 5, 1996
STID 3920

Bette Jean Cereske
Cereske Electric Cable Co., Inc
1688-24th St.
Oakland CA 94607

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
Environmental Protection Division
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway, #250
Alameda, CA 94502-6577
(510) 567-6700

RE: Cereske Electric Cable Co., Inc, 1688-24th St., Oakland CA 94607

SECOND REQUEST

Dear Ms. Cereske,

On 7/12/95, one 2,000-gallon and one 500-gallon gasoline Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) were removed from this site. I was present onsite to witness the tank removal activities. Strong petroleum hydrocarbon odors and stained soils were witnessed during the tank excavation. Groundwater was seen seeping into the excavation at a depth of 5' bgs during tank removal. Laboratory results were received in this office on 7/25/95, and indicated that subsurface soils in the tank excavation were contaminated with concentrations as high as 630 parts per million (ppm) Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPH-g), and up to 3.0 ppm benzene.

The soils removed prior to removal of the USTs (aka stockpiled soils) were backfilled into the excavation to ensure site safety. The stockpile was NOT sampled before backfilling. This was done with the understanding (between the contractor and myself), that if the soils sampled from the pit were contaminated, the stockpiled soils would be removed. Standard protocol is to sample the stockpile, and to leave the excavation open until further source removal (i.e. overexcavation of soils) occurs. This would have been at an additional cost and inconvenience to you at that time. It is for these reasons that this office allowed you the flexibility it did, with respect to the temporary backfilling of the stockpiled soil.

In correspondence to you dated 7/26/95, you were requested to remove contaminated soils from the excavation, and to collect verification samples. To date, no response to this request has been received. We understand that the subject soils are still present in the UST excavation.

Following a release from an UST, such as occurred at your site, further investigation is required to determine the extent of the release to both soil and groundwater. **At this time, you are requested to perform a Soil and Water Investigation (SWI)**, as per Sect. 2724 of Chapter 16, Division 3, Title 23, California Code of Regulations. Rapid site assessment methods (i.e. cone penetrometer testing, geoprobe, hydropunch, etc.) are suggested to qualitatively assess impacts and to define the extent of the contaminant plume, as a first step of the SWI, before proposing permanent well placement, if necessary. You may want to approach the SWI by removing contaminated soils from the excavation, enlarge the excavation to remove contaminated soil previously sampled therein, and to collect verification samples from the excavation. Or you may

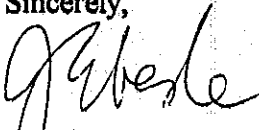
January 5, 1996
STID 3920
Bette Jean Cereske
page 2 of 2

want to install soil borings. The stockpiled soil that was returned to the excavation must be sampled as part of the SWI. Please submit a workplan for a SWI within 30 days, or by February 5, 1996.

Please be advised that "no person shall close an underground tank system unless that person . . . demonstrates to the appropriate agency . . . that the site has been investigated to determine if there are any present, or were past releases, and if so, that appropriate corrective or remedial actions have been taken," as per Section 25298 (c) (4) of the California Health & Safety Code, (CH&SC) Division 20, Chapter 6.7. Further, "any owner of an underground tank system shall be liable for a civil penalty of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) or more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each underground storage tank for each day of violation for. . . failure to properly close an underground tank system," as per Section 25299(b)(3) and (b)(6) of CH&SC, Division 20, Chapter 6.7. This office considers that you are presently in violation of HSC Chapter 6.7, Section 25298(c)(4). Compliance will be achieved once the SWI workplan is submitted, approved, and implemented.

I suggest you start getting bids from competent and qualified environmental consultants, and contact the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) at 916-227-4430 to determine your eligibility to access state UST Cleanup Fund monies to assist you in completion of the project. You may contact me directly at 510-567-6761 if you have further questions.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Eberle
Hazardous Materials Specialist

cc: ~~for~~ Darin Reinholdt, PO Box 271943, Concord CA 94527
Gil Jensen, Alameda County District Attorney, Office of Consumer and Environmental
Protection
Acting Chief/file

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