

Board of County Commissioners

ALACHUA COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

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Home Page: http://environment.alachua-county.org

September 29, 2004 Chris Bird

Director Mr. Wayne Reiber cbird@co.alachua.fl.us Manager, Environmental Assessment and Remediation Cabot Corporation Ramesh P. Buch Billerica Technical Center 157 Concord Road Manager Billerica, MA 08121-7001 rpbuch@co.alachua.fl.us

> RE: Former Cabot Carbon Superfund Site— Damaged Ground Water Pumping Station on N. Main St in Gainesville, Florida

Dear Mr. Reiber:

On September 28, 2004, I spoke by phone with Mr. Troy Boley of Cabot Corporation to report a serious problem with the physical condition of the groundwater pumping station operated by Cabot Corporation located in the 3000 block of North Main Street in Gainesville Florida. This station collects contaminated groundwater from the former Cabot portion of Cabot/Koppers Superfund site and discharges this water to the Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU) municipal treatment system.

Due to the recent hurricanes that have impacted the Gainesville area, the physical structure of the pumping station has been totally destroyed. The previous deteriorated condition of this station, the lack of security due to the deteriorated fencing around the site and concerns about corrosive and odorous emissions were reported to you in correspondence from our department, the Alachua County Environmental Protection Department (ACEPD), on April 27, 2004. ACEPD is concerned that no action was taken after our April 27, 2004 letter to secure the fencing around the site. The fencing around the pumping station continues to have major openings and now the roof and sides of the building are no longer standing. The structure is currently a public safety hazard and requires Cabot's immediate attention.

The groundwater sump and flue arrangement are accessible to the public and present a potentially serious hazard of someone falling into the structures or coming into contact with contaminated groundwater. Fallen electrical wiring presents another potential hazard in the structure. Since the sumps and flow system are now open to the elements, stormwater may have been entering the municipal sewer system operated by GRU in violation of the discharge permit. In addition, overflow of any contaminated wastewater if it occurs from the structure into a surface water ditch would be a violation of the Alachua County Water Quality Code. Attached are some

Environmental Protection

Land Conservation

Katherine A. Fanning Natural Resources Manager kfanning@co.alachua.fl.us

John J. Mousa Pollution Prevention Manager jmousa@co.alachua.fl.us

Debbie VanSlooten Administrative Support Manager dvanslooten@co.alachua.fl.us photos documenting the condition of the building taken by ACEPD staff. ACEPD staff have posted warning signs on the facility to warn the public from accessing the facility but the facility is still not secure.

Cabot Corporation is requested to take immediate action to secure the facility from access by the public. In addition ACEPD requests that rebuilding of the structure occur as soon as possible. Today, September 29, 2004, I spoke by phone with Mr. Eric Crisp of Weston Solutions in Norcross, GA who is under contract with Cabot Corporation to maintain the pumping systems at the Cabot Superfund Site. I expressed ACEPD's concern to Mr. Crisp and he indicated that he would give prompt attention to securing the facility. He also indicated that reconstruction of the facility is scheduled to begin next week.

I indicated to Mr. Crisp that Cabot also needs to take actions to address the corrosive and odorous emissions that are being released from the station. As indicated in our April 26, 2004 letter, ACEPD has received complaints from the Gainesville Dodge auto dealership which operates on the property immediately adjacent to the pumping station concerning the unsightly appearance of the station and emissions from the pumping station. Gainesville Dodge has again recently expressed concern about possible health impacts to their employees from these odorous emissions as well as the possible impacts of these air emissions on the finish of new vehicles parked close to the pumping station. ACEPD is again requesting that Cabot seriously look at the design of the pumping station to develop ways to eliminate the emissions of corrosive vapors from the pumping station. I have also expressed this concern to Weston Solutions. ACEPD also again requests that a sign be posted on the station structure or fence that gives the name and phone number of a contact person who may be contacted in case of a future problem with the station.

ACEPD has discussed these concerns with Ms. Amy Williams of US EPA Region 4. ACEPD also recommends that Cabot contact the Gainesville Dodge dealership about their concerns about the emissions from the station and to discuss the plans and design for the station improvements since this station is immediately in front of their business. The contact person there would be Mr. Andy Johnson, the General Manager at 352-372-4343.

Cabot's prompt attention to these issues is needed and appreciated. If you have any questions about these issues please call me at 352-264-6805 or you may contact me by e-mail at jmousa@alachua.fl.us.

Sincerely,

John J. Mousa, Ph.D

Pollution Prevention Manager

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CC: Chris Bird Robin Hallbourg Chris Gilbert Andy Johnson, Gainesville Dodge

Amy Williams, USEPA

Fred Williams, Gainesville Regional Utilities

Troy Boley, Cabot Corporation

Eric Crisp, Weston Solutions

Ralph McKeen, Weston Solutions

Attachments: Photos of Pumping Station (2 Photos)

Attachment: Photos of Damaged Cabot Superfund Site Pumping Station Sept 28, 2004



