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THE MINGES ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY

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Lawton S. Averill, Laboratory Director

Linda H. Sekaal, Chemist

September 7, 1978

Town of Plainville
Town Hall
Plainville, CT 06062

Att: Walter Karabin

Re: DeLeuw Cather
Conference Memorandum
of August 31, 1978

Dear Walt:

This letter is to state my comments on the memorandum sent to us by DeLeuw Cather. For brevity I will refer to the numbered sequence in the memorandum.

No. 8. The Town of Plainville does not have an oil separator. I expect the primary clarifiers will collect the free oil that will break out from the emulsions on dilution with Plainville sewage.

No. 10. Plainville can take suspended solids but should not accept settleable solids.

No. 12. The new additional biological plant is not expected to be in operation until November. The trickling filters are still in operation as stated in No. 9.

No. 13. The amount should be 1,700,000 gallons per day.

No. 14. RBC units are rotating biological contactors.

No. 18. Experimental basis was agreed on as 10,000 gallons per day.

No. 21. Peak flow decided on at the meeting would be 50,000 gallons per day.

No. 29, 30 and 31
I do not remember being involved in discussions on these three items. The major considerations have to be removal of free oil and settleable solids, i.e., sludge, before discharge to the sanitary system. The industry would have to make sure these basins do not leak and allow drainage into the soil. Emphasis should be placed on sludge as well as free oil removal. A sampling point should be available on the sewer discharge line for monitoring the sewer discharge.

On September 7, 1978, per telephone discussion with Jim Green of the Department of Environmental Protection, it was stated that these lagoons are each 80 feet by 30 feet and four feet deep. The capacity of both lagoons is 143,600 gallons. At maximum flow of 50,000 gallons per day, the retention time would be 2.87 days assuming a flow pattern utilizing the capacity of the lagoons. MRC will also provide a flowmeter and totalizers for measuring flow. I feel this retention time is favorable to the Town of Plainville and provides for maximum separation

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of free oil and solids. My understanding of the procedure is that MRC will pump subnatant from the oil lagoon to the first of the small lagoons for separation. The subnatant will flow to the second lagoon for further separation. A hay barrier will be provided before the pump suction to prevent free oil from flowing into that area.

I also recommend that Marlin Rockwell stop adding emulsifiers to the lagoon during discharge to the sewer. This will keep the amount of solublized oil at a minimum. If they keep adding emulsifiers, all they are accomplishing is mixing the free oil into the subnatant and discharging it to the Town of Plainville which is not supposedly the purpose of the lagoon treatment. I suggest that approval be given to MRC to start discharging 10,000 gallons per day to the Town of Plainville, conditional on our acceptance of the pretreatment lagoons in terms of efficiency and flow patterns. This can be accomplished by observing the lagoons after they start using them.

I would also like composite samples of influent, effluent, and slimeoff the filters to determine the oil and grease contents before MRC starts their discharge. This will give us some background information for reference background while MRC is discharging their waste.

If there are any questions or comments, please call.

Very truly yours,

THE MINGES ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY

Lawton S. Averill

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LSA:lj

cc: Howard M. Wexler, P.E.
The Minges Associates, Inc.