

Toby

MEMO

TO: Toby and Barbara

FROM: Debbie

DATE: September 21, 1981

RE: Hooker - Telephone call to O.H. Materials

I called O.H. Materials on Friday, September 18. I spoke with Janice Wagner, who is the Marketing Services Co-ordinator. Janice referred me to Bob Ohneck, the Site Manager, who answered most of my questions. One of my first lines of inquiry was grout curtaining.

Mr. Ohneck says that they do not usually use grout curtaining because with just a little more money they can clean up the whole thing with excavation. *(This contradicts a later statement he makes about grout curtaining being expensive in some situations - I did not pick up on the contradiction at the time.)* I asked about Goose Farm and he said that was very complicated. He said that there were 2 aquifers and one area was an outcrop area near one of the aquifers. Contamination levels varied from aquifer to aquifer. There was down flow with respect to all the aquifers. The geology of the site included sandy glacial till with capillary ~~contained~~ ^{entrained} ~~entrapments~~ ^{capillaries}. He said in this site water goes through the geological formations but the contamination is not removed. Grout curtaining was ruled out for a number of reasons. Firstly, there were multiple aquifers. Also, there was nothing to base a grout curtain on, i.e. lenses or change in geologic formation.

I asked about grout curtaining with respect to lockport dolomite. He said lockport dolomite is very difficult to remove. They might consider a de-watering technique. He would not use a grout curtain because you must excavate or trench and this would cost too much money. He said that generally grout curtaining is not used in hazardous wastes very much. The reasons for this were:

1. chemical compatability problems;
2. groundwater system, and pressure curtain;
3. he said it's ^{also very} ~~all so~~ complicated.

I asked about the material used for grout curtains, and he said that betanite clay was used and also asphaltic emulsions. I asked if asphaltic emulsions could not be used for certain substances, and he said that they could not be used for trichlorethylene substances. I think, (unfortunately I didn't make a specific note of this) that he also said that the materials used in grout curtaining were not suitable for dioxin although I would have to get into this more specifically. I was careful not to ask too many specific questions with respect to dioxins. He did mention again that in the particular geology of lockport dolomite that grout curtaining generally costs too much.

I asked about methods of disposal of excavated wastes, and he just spoke generally about water control, removal, or on-site treatment.

If it is important to determine what O.H. Materials would propose to do with excavated waste, this line of inquiry would have to be further pursued.

I asked about E.P.A. involvement. He said they have no general policy re. grout curtaining vs. excavation. He said they merely do a review based on the cost effectiveness of the proposed method.

I enquired as to what initiated the Goose Farm clean up. And he said it was the New Jersey State Environmental Agency. They have an emergency spill fund, and it was this fund, along with some money from New Jersey State (maybe through the Environmental Agency) that funded the clean up. He didn't know much more.

They were quite cooperative throughout the call and I made sure that if I had any further questions it would be all right to call back.

The number is (419) 423-3526.