



Department of Law

29 September 2006

Brian A. Wagner, Deputy Chief Legal Counsel
RIDEM Office of Legal Services
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

RE: Reply to Slag Pile Removal Letter Dated 21 September 2006
Former Gorham Manufacturing Facility – Park Parcel
333 Adelaide Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island
Case No. 2005-059 (Associated with Case No. 97-030)

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D.E.M./O.W.M.
2006 OCT -5 P 12:26

Dear Mr. Wagner:

The City of Providence (the City) has reviewed your letter regarding the RI Department of Environmental Management's (the Department's) concerns about activities that have been performed, or which may be performed, in vicinity of the slag pile removal action being completed by Textron, Inc. (Textron) on the Park Parcel at the Former Gorham Site. In response, we offer the following information:


- On Thursday morning, September 21, 2006, prior to receipt or knowledge of your letter, the City's environmental consultant (EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc.) met with the City's General Contractor (H.V. Collins, Inc.) to discuss the status of Textron's slag removal operation and to address proactively: 1) soil re-grading and other activities (e.g., tree clearing, placement of clean fill, etc.) along the school parcel (Parcel B) and Park Parcel boundary in the vicinity of the former slag area; and 2) the potential problem of access to the former slag area for additional testing and/or soil removal activities by Textron as the school development continues.
- The general contractor made plain that he had scheduled for removal by no later than October 4, 2006 the tree limbs and stumps (generated during recent tree removal work), temporarily placed in the area of the Parcel B/Park Parcel boundary near the former slag area. EA Engineering clearly communicated, and the general contractor understood, the importance of not re-grading soil or backfilling in the former slag vicinity so as to leave unimpeded Textron's ability to conduct additional testing and/or removal actions. No soil or backfill materials have been placed on or in close proximity to the former slag area to date, and no such placement of soil or backfill is scheduled. Representatives from EA will continue to monitor the general contractor's activities to ensure that future slag area testing and/or removal operations are able to proceed without difficulty.

- Access to the former slag area continues to be available through the rear portion of the school site. However, based upon anticipated construction schedules, and safety concerns to current and future users of the school parcel (*i.e.*, construction workers, students, faculty, visitors, *etc.*), it is impractical and potentially unsafe to continue to allow indefinite access via the current route of entry. Therefore, an alternative route to the Park Parcel and former slag area has been designed. This alternative will be from Parcel A behind the existing shopping center building and will not traverse Parcel B. Some work will be required to enable trucks and machinery to enter/exit the Park Parcel from this area. This work will likely include the installation of additional fencing or a new access gate(s) for security purposes and placement of compacted gravel or stone to stabilize the traveled way. Creation of this alternative route of entry to the Park Parcel will not adversely affect implementation of the approved remedy for Parcel B, or the future approved remedy for the Park Parcel, and will eliminate potential traffic hazards to users of the school site caused by the movement of machinery and/or trucks through the school parcel.

The City trusts that this letter satisfactorily addresses your concerns and those of the community relative to these issues. If you have any questions, please contact me at 401-421-7740, Extension 385 or EA's Peter Grivers at 401-736-3440, Extension 216.

Sincerely yours,

CITY OF PROVIDENCE LAW DEPARTMENT


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Senior Assistant City Solicitor

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