



City of Cambridge

Comm. 31 (A)

IN CITY COUNCIL

August 3, 1987

COUNCILLOR WOLF
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL

ORDERED: That it is the sense of the Committee on Environment that the DEQE should require testing at the Russell Field site.

In City Council August 3, 1987.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members.
Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- *Joseph E. Connarton*
Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.



City of Cambridge

Comm. 31(B)

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MEMORANDUM

TO: John Fitzgerald, P.E., Principal Sanitary Engineer
FROM: Nancy Bettinger, Environmental Analyst I
DATE: March 17, 1987

Subject: CAMBRIDGE - W.R.Grace and Co.; Plan for implementing requisite site actions.

On March 17, 1987, the writer met with Wes Stimpson and Stan Fielding of Haley and Aldrich, Inc., Laura Green of Meta Systems Inc., and Mark Stoler of W.R.Grace and Co.. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss plans for fulfilling the requirements outlined in the "Notice of Responsibility" letter sent to W.R.Grace on February 9, 1987.

At the beginning of the meeting, the sequence of investigation activities and written submittals was discussed briefly. The writer suggested that interim letter reports on the progress of the investigation would probably expedite the assessment and approval processes, even though a summary site investigation report would be required in the end. The writer also noted that the site investigation should be designed to provide the data necessary for the risk assessment and feasibility study, and therefore these three segments of the project should be conducted concurrently. The consultants agreed and stated they were already taking this approach.

Wes Stimpson noted that additional data requirements fall into two categories: (1) data necessary for the risk assessment and (2) data necessary to determine the presence or absence of continuing sources of contamination. It was estimated that data collection would not be complete for at least three months, and that the site investigation report and risk assessment would be submitted about one month after that. After a specific plan for collecting and analyzing additional samples has been completed, the consultants will meet with the writer to assure that the Department's concerns are addressed before the sampling program begins.

Wes Stimpson then proceeded to outline plans for meeting each task required by the "Notice of Responsibility" letter in the "Requisite Site Action" section, points 1 through 7 and 9:

- 1) To determine the location and identity of all former storage tanks, Haley and Aldrich will again review all available W.R.Grace and Dewey and Almy plans, as well as City of Cambridge permits. The inventory will include both underground and above ground storage tanks. Additional interviews with long-time W.R. Grace employees will be conducted to identify past and

present uses of all site buildings. State files will be checked for records of NPDES and RCRA permits. Haley and Aldrich will examine any aerial or ground-level photos available from the EPA, DPW, Cambridge Historical Society and W.R.Grace. All available engineering reports concerning the sludge investigation and removal program conducted in conjunction with MBTA construction activities on site will be studied to confirm the location of the disposal areas and to ascertain that all of the sludge has been removed. DEQE records will be reviewed to better characterize how the waste was handled in the process of storing, treating and removing sludge from the site. Haley and Aldrich will obtain City of Cambridge and W.R. Grace records to determine the location and structure of utility lines in the vicinity of the site. The W.R.Grace plans will also be checked for any pits or sumps not previously identified. The MBTA tunnel underdrainage system will be evaluated, and possibly sampled. Locations of potential continuing contamination sources will be identified and compared with nearby sampling locations. Groundwater samples will be used to ascertain whether a location is a continuing source, since soil samples would only reflect very localized conditions, and data from soil analysis would not provide information on contaminant migration. After evaluating the information gathered through these activities, Haley and Aldrich will recommend additional sampling if necessary.

- 2) Worst case estimates may not provide the best information for evaluating public health and environmental impacts. (The writer noted that the "worst case" estimates were often useful when it is not feasible to obtain accurate and precise data, or in determining the need for further investigation to obtain more accurate data).
- 3) Plans for investigating areas of the site not slated for development will be based on information collected as outlined in paragraph (1) above. The two areas of concern are the northeast side of the site and the portion south of the MBTA line. Sediments from Jerry's Pond will be sampled for the risk assessment. Additionally, the use of the Grace property north of Whittemore Avenue for parking only will be documented. (Mark Stoler noted that while W.R.Grace had accepted responsibility for evaluating the entire Grace property without respect to development plans, the environmental condition of off-site areas included in the development parcel but not impacted by W.R.Grace would be addressd separately.)
- 4) Haley and Aldrich is in the process of validating all data that they produced for the April 1985 report as well as for more recent phases of the investigation. Quality assurance/quality control information will not,

be to focus initially on the risks expected to be highest and then proceed to those expected to be smaller. The potential exposure of greatest concern at the Grace site is inhalation of naphthalene vapors or naphthalene contaminated soil particles by particularly sensitive individuals. The sensitive population in this case is comprised of people with glucose 6 PB deficiency. This condition, combined with an acute exposure to high levels of naphthalene, can lead to naphthalene-induced hemolytic anaemia. This reaction can result from an acute (short time period) exposure to high levels of naphthalene, but not from a chronic (long time period) exposure to low levels of naphthalene. The deficiency is more prevalent in blacks than caucasians, and the risk would be most significant for construction workers on site. Preliminary evaluations, however, suggest that the levels of naphthalene detected on and near the Grace site would not result in an exposure high enough to produce the reaction. Since no naphthalene standard that considers the sensitive population is available, Laura Green will have to develop a standard based on data reported in research literature.

Exposures and risks associated with other contaminants detected on site will be estimated using standard calculations and assumptions. The numbers are expected to be very small, but a quantitative assessment is believed to be the most efficient way to characterize the risks and meet the requirements. Exposures will be evaluated for construction workers, neighbors, and, if possible, MBTA workers in the subway.

Efforts to obtain exposure information for the risk assessment will include the following:

- a) Haley and Aldrich will check with the MBTA for additional information on the sumps and under-drainage system.
- b) The potential for seepage of water into residential basements will be determined.
- c) Concentrations of groundwater contaminants in the upper levels of the aquifer will be determined, possibly by converting some of the deep wells on the site to shallow wells.
- d) To estimate levels of contaminants in surface soil, the highest concentrations found at depth in a particular area will be used, since surface concentrations of organics are likely to be lower if they differ at all from those at depth.
- e) Sediment samples will be collected from Jerry's Pond for chemical analysis. Based on those results, potential human exposures will be calculated using conservative

methods and assumptions.

The on-going air monitoring data will be used in the risk assessment, but Laura Green cautioned that the utility of the data may be limited by the sensitivity of the measurements. Mark Stoler said he would provide the writer with the monitoring protocols as well as a rationale for the sampling plan in the near future. (The writer urged the consultants to reevaluate the monitoring program in light of their data needs, and to propose modifications accordingly.)

Wes Stimpson then presented plans for the feasibility study and remedial action plan as outlined under points 10 and 11 in the Notice of Responsibility letter. These two parts of the study will be combined into one report. In the feasibility study, a coarse ranking system will be used to narrow the list of all possible options down to two or three, which would then be discussed in greater detail. On site treatment options will be included. Clean-up criteria and indicator parameters will be proposed after the clean-up procedure is chosen.

In the process of excavating for development, a large quantity of oil-contaminated soil will have to be treated, if feasible, otherwise disposed. It is expected that this will also have the effect of removing significant quantities of soil containing residual amounts of other contaminants. The permits necessary to treat groundwater from de-watering operations during construction operations will be sought.

The feasibility study will include the option of "no action" in the event that site development plans would be abandoned. Wes Stimpson predicted that the risk assessment and feasibility study will indicate that no remedial action, including groundwater treatment, would be warranted if there is no development. He emphasized that the consultants would probably recommend groundwater treatment and soil removal only because groundwater would have to be pumped and residually contaminated soil would be excavated during construction activities, thus creating the potential for additional releases and exposures.

After Wes Stimpson concluded the presentation of plans for conducting the investigation and preparing the reports, Mark Stoler raised some of his concerns about the process. He urged the writer to visit the site to observe the procedures when samples were collected on-site, and to split some of the samples for analysis. The writer responded that every effort would be made to be present, but advised him that collecting samples for the purpose of verifying analysis conducted by a private party is not considered to be an effective use of the Department's limited resources, and is prohibited by current operating policy.

Mark Stoler also advised the writer that Dr. Spengler had submitted written comments on the Haley and Aldrich report to the Cambridge City council, and that at the present time, there were no specific plans for further involvement in the W.R. Grace project by Dr. Spengler's group. Mark Stoler also requested that, as much as possible, the City of Cambridge comments be reviewed, evaluated, and incorporated into the site assessment process by the DEQE. The writer agreed, and reiterated that the state would consider any recommendations from Dr. Spengler, and if it were shown that the suggested measures would help to evaluate or mitigate adverse public health or environmental effects, the DEQE would require W.R. Grace to carry out the recommendations.

Mark Stoler also noted that W.R. Grace will submit plans for Building 1 within the next two or three weeks.

After the presentation by the consultants, the writer addressed several unresolved issues. First, Wes Stimpson was asked to describe the pilings for the proposed buildings. He stated that, if pilings are driven, they would penetrate to the bedrock. Since the holes will not be pre-augured, however, the concrete sides of the pilings will be in contact with the clay and it will not be possible for contaminants to migrate down along the piling through the 70 foot clay layer to the underlying till or bedrock. If piles are driven, piezometers will be installed in the till layer. This will allow measurement of the vertical component of the hydraulic gradient, and will show whether artesian conditions exist below the clay layer.

Next, the need for multi-level wells was discussed. The writer stated that wells screened at two levels, in the silt and in the sand, would be beneficial for long-term monitoring and for designing the groundwater recovery wells, as well as for the risk assessment. Wes Stimpson said that for designing the treatment system, the concentration of contaminants in the silt was not important, because de-watering would be done for construction rather than treatment purposes, and would primarily draw groundwater from the more permeable sand layer. The writer suggested that the acceptability of converting existing wells to shallow wells should be determined before a decision on the number of additional wells necessary is made.

The issue of using visible oil as an indicator for soil removal was discussed briefly. The writer noted that the data in Tables I and III of Haley and Aldrich's draft "Supplemental Soil and Groundwater Data, Draft Environmental Impact Report", dated January 7, 1987, does not suggest a correlation between "visible oil in soil" and "other PAH's". The consultants agreed but Laura Green noted that the lack of correlation from sample to sample does not preclude the possibility that PAH's and other contaminants are most prev-

alent in oil contaminated areas and would be significantly reduced when the oil contaminated soil is removed. Further evaluation of the data will be necessary to determine whether such is the case. The writer stated that if the consultants proposed clean-up criteria based on the argument that the levels of contaminants detected at this site are not high relative to those normally found in urban areas, they must present data to document the basis for the conclusions.

The writer emphasized that the surface water discharge permit for the proposed groundwater treatment system would be based on all contaminants contained in the effluent, including metals.

It was agreed that any available site information not included in the April 1985 report should be included in the site investigation summary report. Specifically, much of the information contained in Haley and Aldrich's "Report on Groundwater Investigation, W.R.Grace and Co." dated March 5, 1980 concerning site geology and vertical contaminant distribution should be incorporated into the final site investigation report.

The writer pointed out that the low levels of chlorinated solvents detected at B501-MW and surface water sampling point S-7 indicate a possible continuing source of these compounds in the area of the Grace site. While the levels and distribution of these compounds do not warrant their inclusion in the risk assessment or feasibility study at this time, W.R.Grace should determine whether a potential source of these compounds exists on the site.

At the end of the meeting, it was agreed that Haley and Aldrich would meet with the writer after the investigation plans were complete and before the field work was initiated to discuss the proposal.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

TO: John Fitzgerald, P.E., Principal Sanitary Engineer
FROM: Nancy Bettinger, Environmental Analyst I
DATE: April 13, 1987

SUBJECT: CAMBRIDGE - W.R.Grace, Sampling plan meeting

On April 13, 1987, the writer met with Stan Fielding of Haley and Aldrich and Laura Green and Susan Baer of Meta Systems. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Haley and Aldrich plan for further sampling and to review the comments submitted by Dr. Spengler to the city of Cambridge.

Stan Fielding began the meeting by summarizing the plans for the next sampling round. Surface water and sediment sampling plans are as follows:

- 1) Jerry's Pond - One surface water sample and three sediment samples are planned. The sediment sampling locations near the northern, western and southern edges of the pond were chosen because the sides are the most accessible areas. Figure 1 shows the proposed sampling locations.
- 2) Parkway Pond - Two surface samples will be collected, one at the inlet from the MBTA underdrain system and one at the outlet. One sediment sample will be collected.
- 3) Yates Pond - One surface water sample will be collected.
- 4) Alewife Brook - Three locations are proposed for both surface water and sediment samples, one upstream of the area of influence of the site, one near B604 OW, and at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Alewife Brook.
- 5) MBTA Tunnel - Four samples will be collected from the underdrain system, one at the upstream end and one at the downstream end of both of the underdrain sections on the site.

The tentative test pit and surficial soil sampling plan is summarized below, but may be revised after the review of historical information and the analysis of analytical data is complete. In general, surface samples will be collected from the upper layers of test pit excavations. The writer asked for clarification of the item in the previous meeting's notes concerning the use of concentrations measured at depth during previous test pit excavations to estimate sur-

face soil concentrations. In response, Stan stated that soil samples were being selected for analysis based on organic vapor screening and oily appearance, so that chemical analysis would be done on those samples that appeared to be most contaminated. If surface samples produce relatively low readings on the organic vapor analyzer, it is reasonable to assume that volatile organic compound contamination at the surface is the same or less than in samples showing relatively high organic vapor readings. Such assumptions will not be necessary for locations where surface samples are collected in addition to the selected test pit samples. Current plans for test pit and surficial soil sampling locations are as follows:

- 1) Eastern side of the site - Two test pits and two surficial soil sampling locations are planned for the area immediately north of Jerry's Pond.
- 2) "The corridor" - Three to four test pits and surficial soil samples will be collected along the strip of land that lies between the proposed buildings. Locations will be evenly spaced.
- 3) The south end - Approximately eighteen test pits are planned for the area north of Jerry's Pond and South of the MBTA Tunnel, sixteen within the footprints of proposed buildings number 6 and 7, and two between those buildings. Additionally, two test pits are planned for the east side of Jerry's Pond.
- 4) The northwest side - A couple of additional test pits are planned outside of the perimeter of buildings 2 and 4.

For the groundwater sampling program, Haley and Aldrich proposes to obtain samples from existing wells at shallow depths by using a packer system that would be temporarily installed in each well at the time of sample collection. The purpose of the Packer is to hydraulically isolate an interval in the well so that a groundwater sample can be collected from a limited vertical zone. The writer asked Stan to submit a brief proposal in writing so that the technical merits of the procedure can be reviewed by the DEQE. The proposed sampling locations are shown on the attached figure.

Regarding the comments on the investigation submitted to the City of Cambridge by Dr. Spengler and his colleagues, it was agreed that most of the concerns raised would be addressed by ongoing or planned assessment activities. Certain points were discussed, however, in order to clarify the DEQE's position or to confirm Haley and Aldrich's intentions. A summary of the discussion of selected issues follows:

- 1) Page 8, item 2 - It was agreed that construction staging areas would most likely be set up at various locations on the site, and predicting those locations and conducting detailed analysis for each of them would not be practical. The proposed soil analysis program should provide the information necessary to develop a management plan that will insure that contaminated soil is not spread during construction. Additionally, measures to contain contaminated soil excavated during construction will be required to prevent contaminant dispersion, and must be specified before construction begins.
- 2) Page 8, item 5 - The writer stated that clean fill should be used for pond alterations. If the consultants propose to use soil from the site for this purpose, it will have to be subjected to detailed chemical analysis.
- 3) Page 9, item 8 - The writer stated that if contaminated soil from property that belonged to W.R.Grace were stored on Russel Field during the MBTA Tunnel construction, then W.R.Grace would be held responsible for any contamination caused by such storage/staging procedures, even if the company had not been involved with transporting the soil from the site. The writer noted, however, that available information indicates that the soil that was stored on Russel Field was clean fill brought to the site from a different location, and there is no reason to suspect any contamination at all. Unless information to the contrary comes to light, the DEQE will not require W.R.Grace to assess environmental conditions at Russel Field.
- 4) Page 10, item 11 - The writer noted that while acetate overlays and colored maps would be helpful, such productions were not normally required by the DEQE Site Assessment Program, and requirements for this project must be consistent with generally applied standards. It was agreed, however, that additional summary tables would facilitate data review. The writer suggested that sample summary tables be added to the appendices of the April 1985 "Three Volume Report" that contain laboratory analytical data.
- 5) Page 10, item 13 - It was agreed that air sampling for volatiles would be conducted before and during construction. In addition to air samples that have to be sent to a laboratory for analysis, a monitoring program will be developed to include "real time" measurements that will indicate whether off-site ambient air concentrations of naphthalene exceed safe levels, and, if so, enable immediate corrective action. Since the concentration of contaminants will be measured directly at the perimeter and at nearby receptors, the DEQE will not require the information of empirical ambient emission rates. Such information might provide an indication of wheth-

er it is possible or likely to exceed safe levels, but it is not clear that it is technically feasible to derive a reasonable estimate of emission rates from the concentration of vapors in the air above recently disturbed soil. Additionally, since ambient concentrations can be measured directly, the benefit of the information does not justify the level of effort that would be required to estimate emission rates.

- 6) Page 11, item 3 - The utility of any transport rate estimates that might be obtained from modeling contaminant transport in soil, surface water and ground water does not appear to warrant the great effort that would be required to model pollutant transport for several reasons: (a) Contaminant concentrations in the soil, surface water and groundwater on and near the site are being measured directly, (b) The soil contamination on the site, and to some extent the groundwater contamination, is not concentrated in a discrete source area, but rather is distributed randomly and erratically over various areas of the site. Such conditions are not conducive to transport modeling, and (c) The groundwater model proposed for the purpose of evaluating the effect of construction on the direction of groundwater flow is not sophisticated enough to use as a basis for pollutant transport modeling, and finally, (d) most of the uncertainty about groundwater contaminant transport at the site arises from the hydraulic effects of the MBTA Tunnel. A pollutant transport model would not help to predict the impacts of repairing the tunnel might have on groundwater flow.
- 7) Page 12, item 7 - Stan Fielding stated that developing the property will result in changes in the drainage system in the vicinity of the site such that flooding of the site will be prevented. He agreed to address this point in more detail in a future report.
- 8) Page 14, item 4 - In addition to the concerns about contaminant transport routes raised in this section, the writer reiterated the importance of evaluating the possibility of underground utility lines acting as conduits for transporting contaminants away from the site. It was also noted that available information showed that the nearest water supply, Fresh Pond, will not be impacted by this site.
- 9) The section entitled "Components of a recommended exposure and risk assessment" was discussed extensively. It was agreed that, in principle, all concerns raised would be addressed, and the risk assessment would meet the intent of the recommendations. It was also agreed, however, that this particular site, with low to moderate levels of contamination, does not warrant the level of

analysis that would be appropriate for a federal "Superfund" site. (This is not because a lower level of safety is acceptable at a less serious site, but at lower contaminant concentrations the procedures necessary to assess impacts and rule out potential health effects are simpler. Conservative calculations and "worst case" estimates that are used for a "first cut" analysis are more likely to eliminate the need for further, more accurate analysis when contaminant concentrations are low.) Specific recommendations are addressed below:

- a) Page 15, item 3 - Available applicable toxicological data will be used to evaluate the risks associated with the contaminants of greatest concern. Compounds will be selected initially for extensive evaluation based on their prevalence at the site, concentrations detected at the site and relative toxicity. It is not necessary to "select and apply risk/potency coefficients or limits" for all compounds that might be present if a conservative analysis of the compounds of greatest concern indicates that exposures are well below a harmful level.
- b) Page 17, item 3 - The writer stated that the list of compounds to be addressed in the risk assessment should be narrowed down from these, but cautioned that toxicities and routes of exposure should be considered in combination with concentration data to select indicator compounds".

During the last part of the meeting, the construction of the monitoring wells installed by Haley and Aldrich in 1984 were discussed briefly. The writer expressed reservations about the effectiveness of using Packer systems in these wells. Stan Fielding said he would review the construction reports for those wells and address the question at a later time.

however, be available for much of the data collected in the past by other consultants. Much of the analysis was done before EPA sampling and analysis protocols were in use. Such data must therefore be evaluated on a more subjective basis. In determining the relevance of previous analytical data to present site conditions, Haley and Aldrich will determine whether the material sampled can be identified, whether that material is still present on the site, how the samples were collected, and how the samples were tested. The possibility that some of the compounds identified were actually laboratory contaminants will be considered. Compounds that were detected in the past but not in more recent samples will be compared with priority pollutant compounds to determine whether the discrepancies may be due to differences in analytical procedures, and whether those compounds would show up in a priority pollutant analysis if they were present. (The writer agreed that this approach was satisfactory, and that retrospective validation of other consultant's data would not be possible. The intent of the requirement simply was to establish a consensus on the utility of various data sets.)

- 5) A long-term on-site groundwater monitoring plan will be developed, and will ultimately be integrated with the off-site monitoring program.
- 6) Haley and Aldrich is in the process of compiling the documentation for the groundwater model. The model and the documentation will be ready for review soon.
- 7) The location of underground utility lines will be determined as outlined in the first paragraph of this section. This information will be used with data on groundwater levels and contaminant concentrations to evaluate the importance of utility lines for contaminant transport at the site. This requirement may be fulfilled as part of the risk assessment rather than the site investigation.
- 9) To evaluate the possibility of contaminated groundwater from the site entering basements of off-site residential buildings, Haley and Aldrich will conduct a systematic survey of the homes in the area between Seagrave Road and Whittemore Avenue. Haley and Aldrich will request assistance from a community group in conducting a survey to find out which basements take in water. Additionally a piezometer will probably be installed in the neighborhood to measure groundwater levels relative to basement elevations.

Next Laura Green presented the plan for conducting the risk assessment. Preliminary decisions have been based on the 1985 and 1987 Haley and Aldrich data. The approach will

Mr. Fielding responded that the historical data dates to the mid 1800's and is found in various atlas in state libraries.

Mr. Fielding proceeded to discuss a series of slides showing the aforementioned source identifiers and where additional data is needed for conclusions to be drawn.

Upon completion of his presentation a series of questions were raised regarding major water lines running through the W. R. Grace property and the likelihood of contaminates being present in the lines.

City Engineer Joan Lastovica responded that no major water lines run through the site and that contamination is possible but highly unlikely.

Other issues concerned testing off-site mainly at Russell Field due to this area serving as a staging area during the MBTA Red Line expansion in the late 1970's.

At this time Councillor Wolf asked Ms. Bettinger what the next steps would be in dealing with this site. Mr. Bettinger stated that copies of sampling plan would be made accessible to the public at the North Cambridge Branch Library, the Main Library, the City Council Office and the City Clerk's Office. She invited public comment or response to be made regarding this plan during the month of August, 1987 and stated that DEQE would make a determination after reviewing the document and responses. Future action would include Haley and Aldrich to conduct a sampling plan; A Full Assessment Study to deal with points 1 - 9 of the "Notice of Responsibility"; A Feasibility Study to deal with hazardous materials treatment, and A Plan for dealing with the site.

At this time Councillors Wolf and Russell offered the following orders:

ORDERED: It is the sense of this Committee that the DEQE should require testing at the Russell Field site

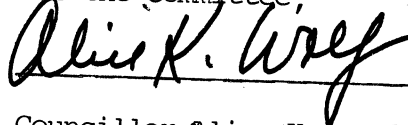
This passed on a voice vote.

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Commissioner of Health and Hospitals to set in place a program to assist the residents of Clifton Street and Whittemore Avenue with solving the rodent problem.

This passed on a voice vote.

The hearing was adjourned at eight o'clock and forty-five minutes p. m.

For the Committee,



Councillor Alice K. Wolf,
Chair.

(COPY OF THE SAMPLING PLAN NOR RESPONSE ALEWIFE CENTER, CAMBRIDGE, MA WILL BE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK).

Upon completion of Ms. Bettinger's opening statement a series of questions by residents of Clifton Street were raised concerning the construction of building number one. The issues raised relate to truck traffic, soil dispersion and rodent control. Ms. Bettinger stated that the DEQE did not have jurisdiction over the concerns raised but only could comment on the handling of hazardous waste materials if found on the site.

Councillor Wolf responded to the concerns stating that the City would assist the neighborhood with the rodent issue and that monitoring would be done regarding the transporting of fill on and off site.

The Committee then heard from Wes Stimpson, Vice-President of Haley and Aldrich, who defined the approach taken to determine the sampling plan. The approach included three variables:

- (a) determination of locations to sample,
- (b) methods to be employed to conduct sample, and
- (c) types of samples to be taken.

Mr. Stimpson stated that the sampling plan would concern itself with surface water, sediment, soil and groundwater.

At this time the committee heard from Stan Fielding, also of Haley and Aldrich, who proceeded to explain what studies and samplings have been done to date. Mr. Fielding stated that in 1985 studies were conducted to determine locations of major contaminates. He stated that the conclusions from these studies showed that none exist on the site. In 1986, soil condition samplings were taken on four (4) of the (6) buildings in accordance with the "Notice of Responsibility". Mr. Fielding stated that a sampling plan is used as a vehicle to fill in information where there is a lack of data. The sampling plan is based on source identifications from the following sources:

- (a) below ground
- (b) above ground
- (c) buildings
- (d) storage areas and
- (e) utility lines.

Councillor Wolf questioned the source(s) for inquiring.

Mr. Fielding responded that it is based on historical information and previous sampling.

Councillor Sheila Russell questioned how far back this historical information dates and by what reference sources were employed to determine the accuracy of this historical data.

City of Cambridge

In City Council August 3, 1987

The Environment Committee conducted a public hearing on Wednesday, July 29, 1987 beginning at seven o'clock and fifteen minutes p. m. in the cafeteria of the W. R. Grace Company located at 62 Whittemore Avenue.

The purpose of this public hearing was to update the Committee on testing being required at the W. R. Grace site by the State Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (DEQE) and to provide W. R. Grace the opportunity to respond to concerns presented by DEQE or the public.

Councillor Alice K. Wolf, Chair of the above committee, convened the meeting and introduced all members present and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to attempt to clear up any concerns regarding the sampling plan as proposed by Haley and Aldrich.

As a sidebar to this meeting, Mark Stoler of W. R. Grace discussed the events and solution put in place surrounding a series of complaints regarding an odor emanating from the 62 Whittemore Avenue location. The odor, described as sulphur-like, was attributed to an additive that was used in the firm's cooling system. Mr. Stoler further explained that the additive is no longer used and the procedure has been changed on how the new additive will be dispensed to the cooling system.

At this time the committee heard from Nancy Bettinger, Environmental Analyst I of the DEQE, who provided a brief background of the involvement by this department regarding the W. R. Grace site. Ms. Bettinger stated that in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 21E (Massachusetts Oil and Hazardous Material Release Prevention and Response Act) a "Notice of Responsibility" letter was sent to W. R. Grace in early 1987. This letter basically deals with three points:

- (a) contaminates;
- (b) liability and
- (c) requirements.

Ms. Bettinger also stated that a series of meetings (3) have been held between the principals to discuss the sampling plan, plan for implementing requisite site actions and building number one construction process. (Attached are copies of the meeting minutes dealing with the first two issues). Due to the fact that minimum excavation will be needed for the construction of building number one there is no need for water testing but W. R. Grace will conduct vapor screening testing.

(S-481)

REPORT

Committee on Environment

Re: update from the DEQE & Haley & Aldrich
on the testing at the W. R. Grace site.

In City Council,

August 3, 1987

*Report accepted
See Orders Adopted*