



NORTH CAROLINA  
Environmental Quality

ROY COOPER  
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN  
Secretary

MICHAEL SCOTT  
Director

May 16, 2019

Mr. Travis Wade Smith  
298 Havencrest Ct.  
Gastonia, NC 28052

Re: Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites Priority List  
NEW HAVEN DRIVE TCE  
NCD986171379  
GASTONIA, GASTON COUNTY

Dear Mr. Smith:

The site listed above has been included on the FY2017-18 Inactive Hazardous Waste Sites Priority List (Priority List) as required by North Carolina General Statutes 130A-310.2. The Priority List has recently been issued as part of annual reporting to the North Carolina Legislature. The Priority List is a list of sites where uncontrolled disposal, spills, or releases of hazardous substances have been identified.

**Why you are receiving this letter:** As required by law, because you either own and/or are responsible for the above-identified contaminated site, this letter is being sent to notify you of the site's inclusion on the Priority List. A copy of the Priority List with each site's rank appearing in the right-hand column is available at: <https://files.nc.gov/ncdeq/Waste%20Management/DWM/SF/IHS/SPLForLetterFY201718.pdf>. This list is in alphabetical order by site name to make it easier to locate your score and rank. The scoring is on a 0 to 100-point scale. Higher scores indicate higher risk to human health and the environment. This list reflects the site's status at the end of the state fiscal year on June 30, 2018. If your site has since received a "No Further Action" determination or has entered our voluntary cleanup program, you will not receive further letters and may disregard this letter.

**Actions required by certain parties:** Any person or entity responsible for the contamination that has not already done so, must conduct the initial abatement actions required under North Carolina groundwater quality regulations (15A NCAC 2L). Under these regulations, any person conducting or controlling an activity which causes an unpermitted discharge of a waste or hazardous substance must take immediate action to stop and control the discharge and address any hazards posed by the contaminants. If groundwater has become contaminated, as a result of the discharge, the responsible party must take immediate action to eliminate the sources of contamination. Failure of a responsible party to take the initial discharge abatement steps required in 15A NCAC 2L may result in the assessment of a civil penalty or other enforcement action against that responsible party.

**How to remove the site from the Priority List:** Any responsible party or property owner that would like to complete an approved cleanup of the site would need to participate in the Inactive Hazardous Sites Branch's voluntary cleanup program and enter into an administrative agreement with the Branch.



The first step is to complete a Site Conditions Questionnaire found at:

<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/superfund-section/inactive-hazardous-sites-program> and send it to our office.

State staff will oversee and approve cleanup actions at sites deemed the highest risk. The remainder are managed through a privatized oversight program. The remediating party hires one of the Branch-approved environmental consulting firms first to conduct and certify the contaminant assessment and cleanup in place of state oversight. Most of the Branch's voluntary party cleanup actions are being successfully conducted through this privatized cleanup program known as the Registered Environmental Consultant (REC) Program.

Regardless of whether State staff or a REC oversees the cleanup action, if certain criteria are met a party can conduct an approved groundwater remediation to less stringent standards (lower cost) based on site-specific risks. Legislation has been enacted that allows "risk-based" remediation of contamination to expedite cleanup.

**Benefits of conducting an approved voluntary cleanup action under an Administration Agreement:**

- Party is eligible for statutory cap on cleanup costs
- State/REC approval gives the owner a path toward closure
- Party has option of lower cost risk-based cleanup standards
- Site is removed from the Inactive Hazardous Sites Priority List
- Facilitates property transfers as lender, often require state or federal approval of cleanup
- Proactive work, regardless of responsibility, provides community trust

Note that if any party is seeking a State Brownfields Agreement for this site, this action does not excuse responsible parties from contaminant cleanup on your property and in contaminated off-property areas. Brownfields Agreements allow for safe reuse of the property being purchased but do not address contamination off the property where exposure has or may occur or the removal or treatment on contaminant sources areas on the Brownfield property. Additional remediation will be required by responsible parties.

**For more information on how to proceed:**

- If you have any questions regarding this letter or how to conduct cleanup of your property, please contact Collin Day, Western Unit Regional Supervisor at (336) 776-9675, John Walch, Eastern Unit Regional Supervisor at (919) 707-8356 or me at (919) 707-8327. To determine which region your site is located, you can view a Branch regional map by clicking on the link called Regional Map at <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/superfund-section/inactive-hazardous-sites-program>.
- More information on the privatized approval portion of our voluntary cleanup program can be found at <https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/waste-management/superfund-section/registered-environment-consultant-program> or you can contact our Registered Environmental Consultant Program manager, Kim Caulk at (919) 707-8350.
- Those who are interested in reviewing our files on any site (available online) can access them by clicking on Superfund Section File Access at the above website and following the instructions. You may also contact Scott Ross at (919) 707-8272, if you do not have access to the internet and would like to schedule an appointment to access the files or to request a copy of the Priority List be mailed to you.

Sincerely,



Charlotte V. Jesneck, Head  
Inactive Hazardous Site Branch  
Superfund Section