



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY TANK-AUTOMOTIVE AND ARMAMENTS COMMAND
WARREN, MICHIGAN 48397-5000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

January 10, 2002

Mr. Rick Norris
Stratford Town Hall
2725 Main Street Room 1
Stratford, CT 06615

**SUBJECT: TOWN OF STRATFORD CAUSEWAY SURFACE DESIGN
CAUSEWAY NON-TIME CRITICAL REMOVAL ACTION
STRATFORD ARMY ENGINE PLANT**

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Dear Mr. Norris:

The United States Army (Army), Tank-automotive & Armaments Command (TACOM) is performing a Non-Time Critical Removal Action (NTCRA) at the Stratford Army Engine Plant (SAEP) Causeway, located in Stratford Connecticut. The primary objective of this NTCRA is to prevent exposure to contaminated soils and prevent erosion of soils in accordance with the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP) Remediation Standard Regulations (RSRs). This objective is being accomplished, in part, through the installation of permeable cover systems across the entire causeway surface.

TACOM has contracted, through the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers New England District (NAE), the design services of Harding ESE and construction services of R.F. Weston to implement the NTCRA.

The Town of Stratford has retained the services of Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) and Heller & Johnson to develop the Causeway Surface Design, which details the surface and subsurface features to be installed to make the Causeway usable for a public park in the future. The latest version of the Town's Causeway Surface Design, was issued by VHB on December 19, 2001 and is presumed by TACOM to be the 100% Issue for Construction. The Town's Causeway Surface Design includes the following primary elements: utility chases, utility chambers, light pole foundations, foundation for the planned gazebo, fence post bases, and a concrete bike path.

TACOM has been involved in a review capacity during the Town's design process, and has had its consultant Harding ESE, perform a cursory review of the Town's Causeway Surface Design. This review was limited in scope to only include the effects of the Town's Causeway Surface Design on the ability of the permeable cover systems to meet the objective of preventing exposure to site contaminants.

It is the opinion of TACOM that the performance and adequacy of the Town's Causeway Surface Design is the sole responsibility of the Town of Stratford, and their consultants. TACOM accepts no responsibility for any component of the Causeway Cover Design, other than acknowledgement that the design elements are not expected to adversely affect the ability of the permeable cover

systems to prevent exposure to site sediments. TACOM assumes that the Town of Stratford has assured that the Town's Causeway Surface Design meets the following minimum criterion:

- The materials and details of the design comply with all applicable codes and standards.
- The design is provided with sufficient flexibility to not require future excavation below the permeable cover system.
- The use of the Causeway as a park does not adversely affect the structural stability of the Causeway, resulting in either property damage or loss of life.
- The materials and systems when exposed to the environmental conditions of the Causeway (ex., flooding, settlement, chemical contaminants, and salt water) are suitable to perform as intended over the long-term as designed.

The Town of Stratford or their designated agents must provide review comments (i.e., accept, accept with comments, or reject with justification) for all the Town's design required submittals to assure that the construction materials and methods are in accordance with the requirements of the design. These review comments must be performed in a maximum of three days from receipt to avoid delays in construction, with comments sent directly to NAE for concurrence and final approval. The lack of review shall not relieve the Town of Stratford from their responsibilities for their design. TACOM shall retain the right to accept or reject any submittals approved by The Town of Stratford.

TACOM accepts no responsibility for the maintenance of the elements of the Town's Causeway Surface Design. Should any design element fail in the future and interfere with the objective of prevention of exposure to site contaminants, TACOM may, at its discretion, implement remedial measures that may render the Town's Causeway Surface Design incapable of performing in accordance with its' design intent.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation in this matter. Should you have any questions, please call me at 203-385-4316.

Sincerely,



John R. Burleson
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Stratford Army Engine Plant

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