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STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

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8 June 2007

*JIM W.
PLS. IMPLEMENT SEN BLEVINS'
REQUEST + HER REQUEST FOR
ADDITIONAL DNREC OVERSIGHT*
John Hughes

The Honorable Patricia M. Blevins
State Senator
Legislative Hall
Dover, Delaware
SLC: D580B

Re: Former Hercules Golf Course (aka Delaware National) Site

Dear Senator Blevins:

I am writing to respond to your May 22, 2007 letter regarding the Hercules Golf Course/Delaware National site. You have my assurance that DNREC has made extraordinary efforts to address your concerns about additional soil analysis and cleanup construction oversight.

One of your comments deals with the possible presence of dioxins at the Hercules site and the need for additional testing. As you know from the May 1, 2007 memo we sent you previously, our technical staff has evaluated this issue and determined there is no scientific basis for sampling for dioxins at the Hercules site. Nonetheless, in an abundance of caution and in an effort to be responsive to your concerns and those of your constituents, DNREC will proceed, pursuant to your direction, with a sampling plan based on your suggestions. DNREC staff will perform sampling for dioxin (i.e., 2,3,7,8-TCDD), with analysis done by a certified independent laboratory, at the former Hercules golf course site. The sample locations will include, per your request, "a 'hot' green, a location proposed for 'blending', and an area where sediment would settle." DNREC recommends these soil sample results be compared to the 50 parts per trillion (ppt) screening level recommended by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). This sampling and analysis will be completed prior to the Department's determination of the adequacy of the final remedial plan.

You also asked for a written commitment for the "additional presence of DNREC personnel, over and above the usual presence, to ensure that the community receives all possible protection...". I am willing to commit this additional level of oversight by DNREC personnel, over and above the usual presence. I understand your concern about ensuring that the cleanup be implemented in a rigorous manner that is fully protective of human health and the environment.

I trust that this response satisfies your concerns. Please do hesitate to contact me or James D. Werner at 302-739-9400 if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,
John A. Hughes
John A. Hughes
Secretary

Delaware's Good Nature depends on you!