

From: [Snavely, Keith](#)
To: [Ed Woloszyn](#)
Subject: 1104 Biddle Street site, New Bern, NC
Date: Thursday, April 07, 2011 4:54:00 PM
Attachments: [1104 Biddle St. site info.pdf](#)
[P1010022.JPG](#)
[P1010023.JPG](#)
[P1010029.JPG](#)
[P1010033.JPG](#)

Ed,

Attached is a summary and pictures of a site recon of the 1101 Biddle Street liquid nitrogen fertilizer spill site that John Walch and I visited in New Bern with emergency management/fire and rescue last June. I want to take you by this site next Monday after we meet at Phoenix. I am thinking about collecting one geoprobe and maybe some soil samples for a full scan. The site is on municipal water and there is no well within 1000 feet of this site. See the attached photos (forget the black and white photos I attempted to scan).

Keith

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 17, 2010

TO: File

FROM: Keith Snavelly, Hydrogeologist *KS*
Inactive Hazardous Sites Branch
Superfund Section

RE: Nitrogen Fertilizer Spill 1104 Biddle Street
New Bern, Craven County

On June 16, 2010, John Walch and I from the Inactive Hazardous Sites Branch (Branch) met with Mr. Robert (Bobby) Boyd, (Deputy Chief of Operations- New Bern Fire & Rescue), Mr. Henry Watson (New Bern Fire Marshal), and Mr. Ira Chapman (Craven County Emergency Services) at 1104 Biddle Street in New Bern to observe stained areas of soil from a suspected nitrogen fertilizer spill. The property where the spill occurred is a flat sandy, partially grassed lot approximately 0.2 to 0.3 acre in size abandoned lot with no site structures. There are two stained areas which appear to be part of a dirt driveway across the lot. The stained soil areas are black, gray to a dark purplish color totaling approximately 30ft X 40ft surface area including adjacent dead grass areas.

There is a tractor trailer parked on the Biddle street side of the lot and used by a neighbor that lives across the street, Mr. Michael Ewing. He walked out to the site and I recognized his voice from an earlier telephone conversation that I had with him about the site last week. The New Bern Police responded to the June 9, 2010 spill along with New Bern Fire & Rescue and provided me this man's telephone number after they spoke to nearby residents. He says he did not dump and spill anything at this property but told us that he transports crops for farmers and also picks up MAP and DAP to later be mixed for fertilizer to distribute to farmers. Nearby neighbors say that they have seen this truck being washed and sprayed clean before on the abandon lot. Mr. Ewing says he did not spill or dump any fertilizer but claims people stop on the lot to dump used engine or change the oil from their cars and leave it on this lot. Although we saw dark stained soil- there were no petroleum odors present. There is instead an evident ammonia type smell.

I told Mr. Boyd, Mr. Watson and Mr. Chapman that I would be back with our contractor to sample the site and checkout soil and groundwater at this lot as soon as we had some funding to task our contractor this work. There are no wells in the area, with the exception of one water supply well located within 1000 feet east of the site. The rest of the nearby and adjacent residents are on municipal water from New Bern. There is a storm water drain at the corner of I Street and Biddle, but located approximately 50 to 75 feet north- northwest of the spill areas.

We will sample the stained areas for VOCs, SVOCs, the 14 Metals, Nitrate, Nitrite, ammonia, pesticides and PCBs and place a temporary well in the stained areas to check out groundwater. The owner of this lot has not been paying taxes on the property for years, however it is not being foreclosed on by the City. However, the city has been mowing the site and keeping it up. The maintenance crew for the City of New Bern originally reported the spill when they went to cut the grass at the lot on June 9 2010. The city contacted the New Bern Fire & Rescue and Police. The Fire and Rescue contacted Craven County Emergency Services (CCES) and CCES contacted the Division of Waste Management.



June
Current Site - July/August 2010
2 spill AREAS

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(current life - July August 1952)
TMS



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