



DUTCHESS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
BEHAVIORAL & COMMUNITY HEALTH
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
85 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, SUITE 106
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601
TELEPHONE # (845) 486-3404
FAX #: (845) 486-3545

January 22, 2016

John C. Calderon
58 Washington Avenue
Beacon, NY 12508

Re: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW (FOIL)
Camp Rising Sun-Red Hook

Dear Sir or Madam:

I wish to acknowledge the receipt of your application for access to records received on January 21, 2016.

Attached please find the information you requested.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Fouts
Associate Public Health Sanitarian
Environmental Health Services

JF:ams

Fouts, James

From: Schinella, Kathleen
Sent: Wednesday, January 06, 2016 2:26 PM
To: 'O'Malley, Patrick'
Subject: RE: CRS Red Hook Campus
Attachments: 20160106115420401.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Mr. O'Malley,

Thank you. My intention was not to add to the already existing issues between the decision to reopen or not to reopen CRS-I did not know the magnitude of the decision.

I was asked to clarify what I was asking for when I said an evaluation of the sandfilter system. Below is an email that I hope somewhat helps that was sent to Mr. Calderon also:

I apologize if there was a misunderstanding. This information is to the best of my knowledge based upon review of the sewage disposal files. Please note our main complete files are in another location that currently I am not at.

To clarify, the request to evaluate the sandfilter sewage disposal system included the following:

- 1) We have no known recent sandfilter effluent failing samples. A review of some results indicated sporadic sample failures (see FOIL request samples as well as below) in the past. Being that the system was dormant last year, I asked for an engineer evaluation of the SANDFILTER system components only. This includes the septic tank, sandfilter bed, chlorine pump and storage chamber, chlorine contact chamber, and effluent pipe. A visual inspection of these components will be satisfactory. I do not expect effluent samples during the winter because there is no flow. If indeed, a repair/replacement needs to be made which may compromise the operation of the sandfilter system in the 2016 season then it needs to be done. If the repair/replacement is not of immediate concern and can wait another season or two then that is acceptable. This decision is up to the Licensed Professional Engineer and his professional opinion. Total replacement of the system is the operators choice but not required by this department unless it can be proven that the system is continually failing and there is no other choice (repairs prove unsuccessful). I asked for this evaluation prior to camp opening because it is more difficult and stressful to have repairs done in an acceptable amount of time when camp is operating. This department as well as DEC have a concern discharging inadequately treated sewage to surface waters. Unless there is some unforeseen circumstances, I believe I cannot deny the operator a permit if this report is not submitted because I have no proof that it (or wastewater samples) was failing in the past few years.
- 2) After reviewing the folder it appears as if the sandfilter was approved in the 1960's then altered in the 1980's by plugging the pipe from the infirmary and kitchen and diverting it to the existing large subsurface sewage disposal system. Therefore, it appears by the plans, the only building the sandfilter is currently serving is the Assembly Building.
All the other buildings are served by regular septic systems which we have no documentation of failure which I did not request an evaluation. Of course it is the operators choice to do an evaluation and take the necessary steps to ensure the system is operating correctly.
- 3) Your DEC permit (called a SPDES permit for State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) to operate the sandfilter (ONLY NEEDED FOR THE SANDFILTER) has expired. Please contact the DEC and apply for an

extension. Based on my experience, though I cannot guarantee it, DEC usually extends the expired permit and the same parameters for wastewater sampling. The latest contact for DEC is:

NYSDEC – Region 3
21 South Putt Corners Road
New Paltz, NY 12561
(845) 256-3054

I recommend calling to get instructions on how to proceed.

- 4) Monthly Wastewater Operation Reports during your operating months (indicated on SPDES permit) must be submitted by the 28th of the following month to this department. I am in the process of checking with our main office to verify if they have any 2014 reports submitted by CRS. I have none in my office.

ANY IMPROVEMENTS, REPLACEMENTS, OR CHANGES TO THE SANDFILTER, SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS, OR DRINKING WATER SUPPLY MUST HAVE HEALTH DEPARTMENT APPROVAL PRIOR TO THESE CHANGES. CONTACT THIS DEPARTMENT FOR GUIDANCE.

My understanding is that several water samples from 2007-around 2011 were e.coli positive. Therefore an upgrade (4 log treatment) to the disinfection system was done and approved in 2012. The water samples since then have passed and I am not asking for an evaluation on the water system. This department will do an inspection on the water system and take potable water samples prior to the operation of the camp. You must apply for a permit and pay a \$120 (may of increased in 2016) from this department-that covers the cost of the water sampling prior and when camp is in operation.

Mr. O'Malley-since I sent the email I received a memo from our water inspector for recommendations for the potable water system that she observed during the walk through in December. A thorough inspection with recommendations from a Licensed Professional Engineer of the polypropylene liner is going to be asked for if the camp plans to open in 2016. If replacement for 2016 is recommended or required please submit plans from your engineer ASAP to allow time for replacement. Otherwise, please address the other recommendations accordingly.

If you wish to receive a copy of this report, please fill and return the above FOIL request.

Kathleen Schinella-Lizewski
Senior Public Health Sanitarian
Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health
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Millbrook, NY 12545
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Email: Kschinella@dutchessny.gov

From: O'Malley, Patrick [mailto:patrick.omalley@usuhs.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 10:20 AM
To: Tom Spurge
Cc: Schinella, Kathleen; dfbrennan@gmail.com
Subject: Re: CRS Red Hook Campus

Thanks for the clarification Tom, and my apologies also to Ms. Schinella for getting dragged into this as well.

Ms. Schinella, I would appreciate that if there are any questions directed to you about Camp Rising Sun, that they be directed to our Foundation staff or Tom Spurge, who represents the Foundation on this matter. Please also feel free to reach out to me.

Very respectfully,

Pat O'Malley
LAJF Board President
301-437-9357