



State of New Jersey
SITE REMEDIATION PROFESSIONAL LICENSING BOARD

401 East State Street
P.O. Box 420 – Mail Code 401-06
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420
Tel: 609-984-3424 – Fax: 609-777-1914
www.nj.gov/lrspboard

May 4, 2023

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

Board Members

Paul Stofa, *Chairperson*
Joann Held, *Vice-Chairperson*
Philip Brilliant
Michele Christina
Lawra Dodge
Jeffrey Hoffman
Michael Renzulli
Charles Stebbins
Kathi Stetser
Peter Strom
Ira Whitman

Letter of Admonition

By Email

Girish Mehta
Prestige Environmental, Inc.
220 Davidson Avenue, Suite 307
Somerset, NJ 08873

RE: In the matter of LSRP Girish Mehta, LSRP #591664
SRPL Board Complaint 009-2021

Dear Mr. Mehta:

This letter is to advise you that the New Jersey Site Remediation Professional Licensing Board (“Board”) has reviewed information concerning your professional conduct in connection with Complaint 009-2021, initiated by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Site Remediation Program based on the remediation work you conducted at PI 832011.

Board Determination

The Board has determined that you violated the following provision of the Site Remediation Professional Licensing Board Rules:

N.J.A.C. 7:26I-6.3(a) for not applying the appropriate regulations and technical guidance concerning the remediation of contaminated sites; specifically, the Technical Requirements for Site Remediation (N.J.A.C. 7:26E-1.15(e)1i) and the Vapor Intrusion Technical Guidance Document Section 6.1.2.1.

The Board's finding of violation is based on the fact that you submitted a "Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation Report" dated June 15, 2020 on June 19, 2020 and a "Remedial Investigation/Remedial Action Report – Soil" dated February 1, 2021 on February 5, 2021 (withdrawn May 19, 2022). The submittals included data showing that a vapor concern condition exists. You did not, on behalf of the Person Responsible for Conducting Remediation, make the notification required by the Technical Requirements for Site Remediation (N.J.A.C. 7:26E-1.15(e)1i)¹ and the Vapor Intrusion Technical Guidance Document Section 6.1.2.1.²

In Section 10 of the Receptor Evaluation submitted with the Report you stated that the laboratory package was received August 14, 2020, but the Vapor Concern Response Action Form notifying the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection of the exceedances was not submitted because "Buildings (Commercial-Use) on-site are to be demolished and currently have no occupants." The condition of the building does not relieve the Person Responsible for Conducting Remediation or you as the retained LSRP from the obligation to submit the Vapor Concern Response Action Form to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Consequently, the failure to submit the Form is a violation of N.J.A.C. 7:26I-6.3(a) for not following the Technical Requirements for Site Remediation (N.J.A.C. 7:26E-1.15(e)1i) and the Vapor Intrusion Technical Guidance Document Section 6.1.2.1.

Penalties

For violation of N.J.A.C. 7:26I-6.3(a), the Board has decided to assess no monetary penalty in consideration of the fact that you ascertained that the building was not occupied, you secured the building, and you expected the building to be demolished soon, although the timeline for demolition was delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions. The Board has taken into consideration the disruptions of normal business practices due to Covid-19 disruption along with the fact that the failure to notify was an administrative error that did not result in impact to public health and safety and the environment.

Therefore, the Board issues this letter as an acknowledgement that there was a violation of SRPL Board Rules.

¹ (e) When any indoor air results are greater than the Department's vapor intrusion indoor air screening levels, but less than or equal to the Department's vapor intrusion rapid action level (i.e., a vapor concern), and are determined to be related to a discharge, the person responsible for conducting the remediation shall:

1. Within 14 days after receipt of the analytical results:
 - i. Submit notification of the exceedance of the vapor intrusion indoor air screening levels on a form found on the Department's website at www.nj.gov/dep/srp/srra/forms ...

² For VC [Vapor Concern] cases, the investigator must notify the Department within 14 days upon knowledge (receipt of complete lab data package) of the VC condition by submitting a completed Vapor Concern Response Action Form (<http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/srra/forms>) to the case manager or the Bureau of Case Assignment and Initial Notice [N.J.A.C. 7:26E-1.15(e)1i].

Should you have any questions regarding this Letter of Admonition, you may contact the Board at 609-984-3424 or SRPLBoardContact@dep.nj.gov or seek the advice of your legal counsel. Please note that this Letter of Admonition is a public document.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Stofa", is positioned above the typed name.

Paul Stofa, Chairperson
Site Remediation Professional Licensing Board