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FOR RELEASE AFTER 9PM:

Soil sample results show perimeter of reported landfill site are clean

The results of soil samples collected from the perimeter of the reported landfill site on Horseheads Central School District property, which includes the athletic fields, indicate no environmental contaminants. These results show that any chemicals which may be present in the reported fill area have not spread to any other portion of district property, including the athletic fields.

Barton & Loguidice, the environmental engineering firm hired by the Horseheads Central School District to investigate the claims of prior filling on district property, collected soil samples from the perimeter of the area identified in 1986 EPA reports to determine if the district should be concerned about the reports, which identified environmental contaminants near the district's current fueling station.

The sampling results show the following:

- No volatile organic compounds are present. This is consistent with the former EPA reports.
- No semi-volatile organic compounds are present. Several compounds were identified in the 1986 EPA study at the reported fill site. The current results show no movement of these compounds towards the athletic fields.
- No pesticides or PCBs are present. This is consistent with the 1986 EPA report which identified one location with PCB, and two locations with pesticides, although below NYSDEC clean-up standards.
- No metals are present at concentrations of concern. This is consistent with the 1986 EPA reports which indicated most metals below threshold levels. Two metals were reported in the 1986 EPA report in one location, but neither was found at elevated levels in the current sampling.

The sampling results are consistent with the history of the district's athletic fields, which were never disturbed for industrial use or waste disposal.

The district will now focus on the characterization of the reported fill area site to determine if the contaminants identified in 1986 remain, and whether any source for these contaminants exists on the site, beyond the runoff from the parking lot which was EPA's conclusion in 1994.

The district is committed to identifying the facts related to the prior EPA investigations and studies resulting in the DEC listing.

Questions should be addressed to the Superintendent's Office, Horseheads Central School District, 739-5601. Technical questions may be addressed to Scott Nostrand, Barton & Loguidice, 315-457-5200.