

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Fri 1/15/2010 8:20 PM

To: [REDACTED]

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Subject: Bingham Facility Update

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

At our meeting on December 14, we pledged to keep you up to date on what is going on at the Bingham Facility, answer questions you raised during the meeting and develop better communications with the community, particularly in regards to new development at Bingham.

Current construction, maintenance and grant application. Currently there is an 11,000 square foot building under construction at Bingham which will house dogs used in Dr. Joe Kornegay's work on muscular dystrophy. We expect that building to be completed in late February. Regarding future construction, when we met on December 14, we told you about a federal research grant application that would fund new development at Bingham. As of today, we have no news on the status of the application.

We also mentioned that we identified a lead in the liner of the tertiary wastewater storage pond. This has been reported to the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). DENR has issued a Notice of Violation which requires corrective action. In order to locate and repair the liner, the water in the pond (which has already been treated) will be taken to OWASA's Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant and the liner repaired before the pond is put back into use.

Yesterday, we notified DENR that several valves on the water pumps for the tertiary wastewater treatment plant had cracked. This allowed 100 gallons or so of the treated water to spray onto the ground. The water that sprayed was completely treated and there was no run-off from around the area. We have implemented a short-term repair that retains the water in the basin and expect the valves to be repaired in the next several days.

New director of laboratory and animal medicine. Attendees at the December 14 meeting met John Bradfield, the director of laboratory and animal medicine. Dr. Bradfield has left UNC for the Association for the Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC), the worldwide accrediting body for laboratory animal care. Serving as interim director is Nelson Garnett, D.V.M. who will lead our efforts until a permanent director is on campus. Dr. Garnett is the former director of the National Institutes of Health Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare.

Incinerator and air quality. At the meeting, we talked about the incinerator and we were asked about possible hydrogen fluoride and mercury emissions from the incinerator. The incinerator has been in use at Bingham for many years and is now used to dispose of animal carcasses.

The incinerator is permitted by the N.C. Division of Air Quality (DAQ). Quarterly reports describing the incinerator's activity are submitted and, as part of the DAQ permit, an annual emissions report is required. The permit sets limits for hydrogen fluoride and mercury emissions although we no longer burn the type of waste that generates these emissions

Ash found during construction. During construction of one of the existing buildings, construction was stopped when the contractor was concerned that the soil wasn't compacting as expected. The soil was found to contain ash and possibly bone and hair fragments. It was removed and replaced with appropriate soil for the building's foundation. We know the soil was removed but are not aware of any analysis that was done that would establish the source of the material.

I hope this email answers some of the questions raised at the meeting. We'll be back in touch when we know more about the federal grant. In the meantime, if you have questions, feel free to contact me at 919-962-0711 or by email at dpinkney@unc.edu.

Best regards,

Dwayne