STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
JAMES I. PALMER, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 5, 1997

Mr. Charles S. Jordan
Environmental Supervisor
Hercules, Inc.
P.O. Box 1937
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401

Re: Hercules, Inc.
Site Visit on 02/18/97
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Jordan:

Recently, the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) conducted a site inspection at this site to determine the present status of disposal operations at the facility. The inspection revealed the presence of several disposal pits used for the disposal of sludge from the Hercules waste water treatment basin. Past samples have indicated that this sludge may contained regulated constituents in amounts great enough to be considered hazardous.

In order to fully characterize this material, the MDEQ requests that samples of the sludge from the disposal area be submitted for analysis by an independent laboratory. There should be a minimum of 1 sample for every 5,000 cubic yards of material. The quantity of sludge is estimated to be around 30,000 cubic yards, therefore a minimum of 6 samples should be taken. The disposal area should be sampled at different locations and depths.

The inspection also revealed heavy staining on the sidewalls of Greens Creek adjacent to a closed on-site landfill. Soils and sediments from this area should also be sampled to determine if contaminants from the landfill are impacting Greens Creek.

A work plan for the sampling and analysis outlined in this letter should be submitted to MDEQ for review and approval within the next thirty (30) days.

Enclosed you will find copies of the pictures taken during the inspection. If you should have any questions or comments you may contact Mr. Brian Young at (601) 961-5069.

Sincerely,

Russell H Smith

Russell Smith, P.E., Chief
Uncontrolled Sites Section

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Enclosure