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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330

BOARD ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF



DARLING'S A-1 SERVICE, INC.  
Town of Wells  
Project Number 00-3455-31270

} Septic Tank and Cesspool Waste  
} Disposal Site  
} CLOSURE ORDER

After review of the project file, and related materials submitted with regard to the above under provisions of Title 38, Section 1320 and 1321, the Board finds the following facts:

1. The Board approved the application of Darling's A-1 Service, Inc., to dispose of septic tank sludge at the site approved on January 26, 1977.
2. The Board's Conditions of Approval were:
  - a. Septic tank sludge disposal shall not exceed 18,500 gallons per acre per year.
  - b. The applicant shall develop a program of groundwater and soil water monitoring acceptable to the Department. No septage disposal shall occur prior to installation of monitoring devices.
  - c. Septage disposal shall be by the uniform spreading method. The proposed area shall be cleared of trees to facilitate the land spreading operation.
  - d. Signs shall be posted around the perimeter of the site reading "Hazard-Keep Out-Septic Tank Sludge Disposal Site."
  - e. An annual tabulation of the volume of septage delivered to the site shall be presented to the Department on or before November 1 of each year.
  - f. Evaluation by the Department of the data generated by the groundwater and soil water monitoring program shall determine whether further septage disposal shall be permitted. Such evaluations shall be made at least once each year.
3. Conditions of the Board's Order of Approval were not met, in that:
  - a. The applicant has not developed an adequate program of groundwater and soil water monitoring acceptable to the Department as ordered. Septage was disposed of at the site without all monitoring devices being first installed and sampled.
  - b. An insufficient area of land was cleared of trees, as required.
  - c. No signs have been posted around the perimeter of the site reading, "Hazard-Keep Out-Septic Tank Sludge Disposal Site," as ordered.
  - d. An annual tabulation of the volume of septage delivered to the site has not been presented to the Department as ordered.
4. Testing and evaluation by staff of water in two monitoring wells on February 3, 1978 which were installed at the site have indicated pollution of groundwater downgradient of the site. Significant values of conductivity, BOD<sub>5</sub>, Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen, total phosphorus, and

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ammonia-N in the downgradient well have been determined; the upgradient well is not contaminated. No other source of contamination is present in the area.

5. The Board, in its approval of the site, provided that periodic review and evaluation of monitoring data was necessary, and that the site approval order could be revoked should such review and evaluation indicate that the site had caused an adverse impact on groundwater quality.

BASED on the above findings of fact, the Board makes the following conclusions:

1. The disposal of septic tank wastes at this site has contaminated groundwater.
2. Disposal of septic tank wastes at this site will constitute a hazard to health or safety or create a nuisance to any person, in that contaminated groundwater poses such a threat.

THEREFORE, the Board orders the following:

1. The site shall be closed to further disposal of septic tank wastes immediately upon receipt of this order.
2. The area used for disposal of septic tank waste shall be closed according to the criteria established in Maine Guidelines for Septic Tank Sludge Disposal on the Land, by June 1, 1978.

DONE AND DATED IN AUGUSTA, MAINE THIS 8TH DAY OF MARCH, 1978.

BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY: Henry E. Warren  
Henry E. Warren, Chairman