



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Division of Waste Management

UST Section

Dexter R. Matthews
Director

John E. Skvarla, III
Secretary

Pat McCrory
Governor

August 15, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Responsible Parties, Environmental Service Companies, Consultants, and Other Interested Parties

CC: UST Section Regional Supervisors
Vance Jackson, Trust Fund Branch Head, and Ruth Strauss, Permits and Compliance Branch Head

FROM: Robert Davies, Corrective Action Branch Head

SUBJECT: **Use of Micro-Purge or No Purge Sampling Procedures for the Collection of Groundwater Samples**

The UST Section has determined that Micro-Purge or No Purge sampling procedures for collection of groundwater samples is acceptable but only in specific and very limited circumstances. Micro-Purge or No Purge sampling may be performed only when

- 1) it is necessary to keep purge volumes to an absolute minimum; and
- 2) when site hydrogeology is well understood, with respect to hydraulic conductivity within the well screen interval and the hydraulic conductivity is sufficiently high that a state of equilibrium exists between the water standing in the screened interval and the formation water.

Documentation showing that these circumstances apply to the specific monitoring wells to be sampled at a particular site must be submitted to the appropriate regional office for approval prior to the initial monitoring event.

The UST Section requires that when collecting groundwater samples using Micro-Purge or No Purge sampling procedures for either field or laboratory analysis the responsible party observe the general considerations and use the procedures and methods described in Section 4.5 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Science and Ecosystem Support Division (SES) Operating Procedure, SESDPROC-301-R3, Groundwater Sampling (current version). This document is available online at <http://www.epa.gov/region4/sesd/fbqstp/Groundwater-Sampling.pdf>.

For the purpose of State Trust Fund reimbursement, the scope of work and the cost specified under Task Code 4.031, Cost of Sampling a Monitoring Well, strictly apply to Micro-Purge or No Purge sampling, including the requirement for performing the specified field measurements.

If you have questions, please contact Karen Harmon by mail at Green Square Complex, DENR Office Building, 1646 MSC, Raleigh, NC 27699 or by email at karen.harmon@ncdenr.gov.