SECTION 6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of the Remedial Investigation conducted at the North Belmont Site was to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the Site. Based upon the data collected, the following represents the conclusions drawn, and provides recommendations of additional work needed to be conducted prior to the remedial design phase.

6.1 CONCLUSIONS

Groundwater

- Private wells in the vicinity of the Site have not been sampled since 1991. EPA's recent sampling indicated that private wells that were previously uncontaminated have now been found to contain the contaminants PCE, TCE, 1,2 DCE and 1,1 DCE.
- Contamination detected in the shallow aquifer appears to be localized in Source Area A (Ropers Shopping Center).
- Contaminants have migrated from the shallow aquifer into the top of bedrock zone and into the bedrock aquifer.
- The source of the contaminants in the southern edge of the plume may be either from Source Area A or Source Area B.

Soil

- Soil samples obtained from Source Areas A and B did not reveal any elevated levels of volatile organic contaminants. It is believed that the contaminants migrated through the soil directly into the shallow groundwater. Any contaminants in the surface soils would have volatilized.

Surface Water/ Sediment

- Surface water and sediment in the area is not affected by the volatile organic site contaminants.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The remedial investigation identified elevated levels of contaminants in the surficial aquifer, the top of bedrock aquifer, and the bedrock aquifer. However, the following additional work is recommended to fully characterize the extent of the groundwater contamination at the Site:

- Additional monitoring wells are needed in the following areas:

    1) west and southwest of Source Area A (across Woodlawn Dr), surficial zone,
    2) south of Source Area B and MW-10, top of bedrock zone, and
    3) east of Source Area B and TW-11/MW-10, top of bedrock zone.

- Periodic private well sampling to determine if any of the residents' wells exceed the Emergency Response action level of 70 ug/l for PCE.