Click here to return to main document

January 3, 1970

Charles D. Snead, Jr., Esq.,
Callahan Mining Corporation
277 Park Avenue,
New York, N Y 10017

Dear Mr. Snead:

We have just returned to Maine and I wanted to confirm our telephone conference last Tuesday.

As you know, the tests during December showed some increase in the chloride content of the Callahan well, but the last test of December 30, 1969 was 85 compared to 90 shown in the December 23, 1969 test.

Of course, there was a great deal of snow and water the latter part of December and you and Jack Malcolm had arranged to limit/by other possible way the use of the well water by Callahan. The relatively small change may be the result.

In my opinion, it is to the advantage of all concerned to try to stabilize the chloride content at once and it would seem to me wiser if Callahan could definitely limit its use of the well water if this will restrict the chloride content rather than to have to consider digging a new well to take care of the various parties involved.

My suggestion is that we carefully check during January to see what the tests show and we then may discuss what, if any, further steps must be taken.

When the temporary supply has been worked out to everyone's satisfaction, we can discuss a permanent arrangement. However, I think we cannot go into details as to this until we see the result of continued tests

I shall be glad to discuss with you, Bill Fenton and Jack Malcolm the entire situation when you are here later this month, and hope that with the help of Professor Osberg, who has been advising us as to various solutions, we can work things out satisfactorily.

Very truly yours,

WSG:HL

Wm. Sherman Greene, Jr.

bc: Mr. and Mrs. Brainard Farnham
Mr. Albert E. Sandecki

*Wm. Sherman Greene, Jr.*
*Attorney and Counsellor at Law*
*Sunset, Maine*
*207-348-2881*

January 3, 1970

Mr. Albert E. Sandecki,
50 Tanner Street,
Haddonfield, N J 08033

Dear Albert:

First thank you very much for your Christmas gift for a subscription to the Maine Times. I know we shall enjoy reading it. It was very thoughtful of you.

We have just returned to Maine and I have looked over the latest report from Callahan of December 30, 1969, showing chloride 85, and also the two Augusta reports of December 10 and December 11, 1969, showing 95.

The tests during December indicate that the chloride content remains fairly even, but we shall have to await the January results to see what they show before we can have a real comparison. Due to the great amount of snow and water last month and the limited use by Callahan, the figures in December may not be the basis for any conclusion.

I talked with Mr. Snead on the phone early this week and told him that it seemed the increasing content since June 1969 showed that they should immediately consider various steps to control it. I told him that Mr. Malcolm had said they do cut down on the use by the mine of the well water and that I felt it would be more to their advantage to continue this procedure rather than to install a new well to be used by the neighbors only. Mr. Snead confirmed that he and Mr. Malcolm were working on plans to limit the Callahan use, but I do not know if this will be done continuously.

Mr. Snead also asked what, if any, steps had been taken to consider a permanent solution along the lines that he had discussed with us last summer. I told him that until the temporary water supply was satisfactory, I did not feel we could go into a permanent arrangement, but that we would be prepared to discuss it later and that I would also want to go over it with Professor Osberg. Mr. Snead said he might be in Maine later this month, and I said I would be available to talk with him at that time.

Mr. Albert E. Sandecki January 3, 1970

I recommend that we continue the weekly tests and the monthly tests in Augusta and see what develops during January and February.

Very truly yours,

Wm. Sherman Greene, Jr.

WSG:RL

cc: Mr. and Mrs. Brainard Farnham

*Wm. Sherman Greene, Jr.*
*Attorney and Counsellor at Law*
*Sunset, Maine*
*207-348-2881*

January 15, 1970

Mr. Albert E. Sandecki,
50 Tanner Street,
Haddonfield, N J 08033

Dear Albert:

The Callahan report today indicated chloride 105. I talked with Jack Malcolm as this was an increase after the last report. He says that he will check to determine if the fresh water used by the mine may be further decreased. We agree that the mine will do everything possible to use salt water in its work.

After the next two reports are received and a State report also, I recommend that Callahan and I go over the reports. If Charles Snead is in Maine, we can ask him to attend the conference.

Jack Malcolm will let me know what he finds about limiting the Callahan use, and I shall write you again as soon as we have any further information.

Very truly yours,

Wm. Sherman Greene, Jr.

WSG:RL

cc: Mr. and Mrs. Brainard Farnham
Harborside, Maine

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330

SEH Rev. 3-63

PLEASE CAREFULLY FILL OUT THIS INFORMATION FORM, AS IT WILL BE USED AS PART OF YOUR REPORT.

Bottle Number [illegible] Date of Collection [illegible] Time of Collection [illegible]
Source of Water ☐ Well, ☐ Spring, ☐ Other ..... Located on Property of [illegible]
Well or spring, how lined? ☐ rock, ☐ concrete, ☐ tile, ☒ other [illegible] How covered? ☐ boards, ☒ concrete, ☐ other ..... Is top elevated above ground? ☒ Yes, ☐ No

NAME AND ADDRESS TO WHOM REPORT IS TO BE SENT

PLEASE PRINT

Name [illegible]
Street or RFD .....
Post Office Hackensack, Maine 04472
Zip Code

Kind of pipe used ☐ plastic ☒ galvanized ☐ copper ☐ other .....
Length [illegible] ft.
If a well, was it ☐ dug, ☐ driven, ☐ drilled?
How long ago? [illegible]
Depth? [illegible]

Distance from nearest privy 2000 ft.; stable ..... ft.; barnyard ..... ft.; sinkdrain ..... ft.; public or private sewer 110 ft.; septic tank and laterals ..... ft.; garden ..... ft.; manure pile ..... ft.; cesspool ..... ft.; other ..... ft. Nature of soil ☒ clay ☐ sand ☐ gravel ☐ other ..... Does the water have an unpleasant odor or taste? ☐ Yes ☒ No How is water drawn ☐ pail ☒ faucet ☐ other .....

Method of purification ☐ boiling ☐ chlorination ☐ other ..... Is water used by city or town? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, give name of water company ..... Any change to supply since last analysis? ☐ Yes ☒ No if Yes, what? ..... Is water used by a ☐ School ☒ Private Home ☐ VA ☐ FHA ☐ Other ..... or by a licensed establishment such as: ☐ Swimming Area ☒ Boarding Home ☒ Eating Place ☒ Lodging Place ☐ Motel ☐ Rec. Camp (Adults) ☐ Rec. Camp (Boys' and Girls') ☐ Nursing Home ☐ Other ..... Located in city or town of Brooksville, Maine

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

303103

WATER ANALYSIS REPORT

JAN 14 1970

Serial Number [illegible] Date .....

☒ SATISFACTORY ☐ QUESTIONABLE ☐ UNSATISFACTORY

(Indicates sample unsafe at time of collection. The supply is considered capable of being made safe with proper corrections.) (Indicates continuing unsafe conditions.)

An X in the respective squares furnishes an interpretation of this analysis.

1. ☐ The bacteriological examination showed the presence of a ☐ small, ☐ large, number of dangerous bacteria (Coliform Group).
2. ☐ This is apparently a naturally good water, but the supply needs proper protection and sterilization. (See diagram and paragraph No. 2 on reverse side). After the supply is protected, another sample may be submitted for analysis.
3. ☐ The supply needs proper protection (See diagrams on reverse side).
4. ☐ If the supply is protected with a tight metal or concrete cover and wall so that water, light or dust may not enter, as shown on the reverse side, we suggest that another sample be submitted for analysis, carefully following collection directions to prevent contamination of the sample.
5. ☒ The chemical examination showed a higher salt content than normal for the section of the State in which the supply is located.
6. ☐ The chemical examination indicates a ☐ small, a ☐ large amount of decomposing organic matter, which may be caused by contact with drainage from a sewer, cesspool, privy, septic tank system or similar type, stable, garden, heavily fertilized land, or similar source of pollution.
7. ☐ Location and removal of the sources of pollution, listed in 5 and/or 6, and adequate protection of the supply may correct the unfavorable condition. The amount of the above pollution although abnormal and therefore somewhat detrimental does not appear at this time to be in sufficient amounts to completely prohibit the use of this water. There is a possibility, however, as long as the sources of pollution remain, that this pollution may increase sufficiently to make the water unsafe for use. For this reason, if the water is to be used for domestic purposes, samples should be submitted at intervals of not more than six months to determine whether or not the water is deteriorating or improving in quality.
8. ☐ Locating and removing the sources of pollution, listed in 5 and/or 6, and adequate protection of the supply may correct the unfavorable condition. After the sources of pollution are eliminated a considerable period of time, estimated from [illegible] years, will elapse before the ground surrounding this water supply may be expected to return to normal and the water become safe for domestic consumption.
9. ☐ This water is not satisfactory for use in a ☐ School, a ☐ Boarding Home, or a ☐ Licensed Establishment until necessary corrections have been made and additional tests indicate that it is safe.
10. ☐ Lake, pond or stream water used for drinking or cooking purposes needs to be constantly and efficiently sterilized.
11. ☐ The examination for lead (use of lead pipe having been declared) showed the presence of a ☐ trace, ☐ small, ☐ large amount. (See lead paragraph on reverse side.)
12. ☐ .....

RECEIVED 1970 JAN 28 AM 10 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

ACTERIA COLIFORM GROUP

| Bottle = | 10cc | BGLB |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | | |
| 4 | | |
| 5 | | |

DO NOT WRITE ON THIS SIDE

LABORATORY ANALYSES

Results in parts per million.
To change into grains per U. S. gallon, multiply by 0.058.

Serial No. 383408

Start of Analysis JAN 7 1970

Bottle No.

Sequence No. 19

Truck No. 14

TURBIDITY

RESULTS 0

COLOR

RESULTS 0

NITRITES

RESULTS T

FREE AMMONIA

RESULTS 0

ALBUM. AMMONIA

RESULTS

NITRATES

RESULTS 11

pH

RESULTS 7.5

CHLORIDES

RESULTS 95.

HARDNESS

Bottle # 19

Result 132

SEDIMENT AND ODOR

RESULTS

COPPER

RESULTS

IRON

RESULTS

MANGANESE

RESULTS

RESULTS

RESULTS

RESULTS

22 January 1970

Mr. William Sherman Greene, Jr.
Attorney & Counsellor at Law
Sunset, Maine 04683

Dear Mr. Greene:

As I'm sure you expected-- I had to write to you about the 1/20/70 water test.

In looking over Professor Osberg's report this past fall and particularly his graph #1 , it seems as though things have gone from bad to worse. Would you think it practical to consult him in reference to the increasing chloride content?

If you have a get together with Jack Malcolm and Charles Snead in the near future I think it would be imperative to get their position and course of action towards a permanent and dependable supply of sweet water.

Past experiences with the poor coordination and management of getting a dependable water supply this summer leads me to think there had better be an understanding and quickly on the matter. I think we have been more than fair with Callahan Mining and their"problems at the mine" and the consequent delay in getting the winterized line in. There is no need for me to point to the instances. All I have to do is to talk with the Farnhams and their broken spirit is quite clear.

We have made commitments with contractors for a small addition to our bungalow and plumbing for the house next to our place, these plans have been put off over this water situation for the last two years. At that time and now it seems again -- there is not much sense in the expense without a dependable water supply.

I think we are deserving of specific answers to the problem and if they (Callahan) are not willing to clean it up once and for all, I for one am willing to sue.

With the developing climate of "concern for the environment" I think it would be PRIME TIME to bring suit. I might add that I have every confidence in your doing a fine job of it.

Sincerely,

January 21, 1970

Professor Philip H. Osberg,
Department of Geological Sciences,
137 Boardman Hall
University of Maine
Orono, Maine 04473

Dear Professor Osberg:

The reports on the Harborside Mine water tests since October 21, 1969, salt reading 75, show the following:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 11/19/69 | 70 | 12/23/69 | 90 |
| 11/25/69 | 75 | 12/30/69 | 85 |
| 12/2/69 | 85 | 1/6/70 | 90 |
| 12/9/69 | 85 | 1/6/70 (State of (Maine test) | 95 |
| 12/10/69 (State of (Maine test) | 95 | 1/13/70 | 105 |
| 12/16/69 | 90 | 1/20/70 | 110 |

Most of these tests are made by Callahan, as noted.

I have talked with Mr. Malcolm, the manager at the mine, and suggested again that he reduce the use of the fresh well water by the mine, and he has agreed to do so. He has already said that he has reduced the use during the last month at least.

I realize that it is difficult for you to offer any other suggestions as to a method to keep the salt content level. However, as the mine has now been dug to a depth of approximately 200 feet with some tunnels, I ask you if you think we could have another well dug, which might give fresh well water. It would have to be dug at some distance from the mine.

I shall be glad to have your report and advice.

Very truly yours,

Wm. Sherman Greene, Jr.

WSG:RL

cc: Mr. Albert E. Sandecki

January 23, 1970

Charles D. Snead, Jr., Esq.,
Callahan Mining Corporation
277 Park Avenue,
New York, N Y 10017

Dear Mr. Snead:

You have doubtless received the latest reports from Jack Malcolm, which show the salt content in the water at the mine to be 110 on January 20th, 1970. There has been a fairly steady increase from 75 content on November 25,1969.

It is most important that I talk with Jack Malcolm and you about the water supply, so that we may assure all interested parties that satisfactory fresh well water will continue to be available.

Please let me know when you will be in Maine, so that we may arrange a conference.

Very truly yours,

Wm. Sherman Greene, Jr.

WSG:RL

bc: Mr. Albert E. Sandecki

*Wm. Sherman Greene, Jr.*
*Attorney and Counsellor at Law*
*Sunset, Maine*
*207-348-2881*

January 24, 1970

Mr. Albert E. Sandecki,
50 Tanner Street,
Haddonfield, N J 08033

Dear Albert:

I acknowledge your letter of January 22, 1970, and shall be writing you next week about your suggestions.

Could you please write Tracy Howard and ask him for the latest water test report on his well? This may be helpful in locating another well for you.

Very truly yours,

Wm. Sherman Greene, Jr.

WSG:RL

50 Tanner Street
Haddonfield,
New Jersey 08033
26 January 1970

Mr. Tracy Howard
Harborside,
Maine 04642

Dear Mr. Howard:

I am writing to you in regard to the continuing water problems we are having down at Brainard and Marian Farnhams and our bungalow.

As you may know the Callahan Corporation has been making an effort to return us a supply of good drinking water. Unfortunately there has been a steady increase in the chloride (salt) content of the water.

I would like to ask if you have had a recent water test and if so would you consider letting me know the testis chloride count.

This would be sincerely appreciated and helpful to our hydrologist in his developing information on the water table action in our area.

Enclosed is a self addressed envelope for your convenience in sending the results.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Albert E. Sandecki

January 27,1970

Mr. William Sherman Greene, Jr.
Attorney & Counsellor at Law
Sunset, Maine 04683

Dear Mr. Greene:

Thank you for your letter of the 24th, seems we cross in the mails quite frequently.

I was glad to see your letter of the 21st to Professor Osberg, it will be interesting to get his opinion. Enclosed are some copies of articles concerning Callahan's effort at re-cycling their effluent discharge. I thought the mention of fresh water supplements worth noting.

I have little in the way of suggestions to make as far as the water is concerned. Callahan's present well seems to be the way to ruin. I think Professor Osberg's suggestion of a group of shallow wells located away from the mining operation has merit. Has Malcolm or Snead voiced an opinion in this direction? Marian Farnham's last letter to me says they are now getting jugs of water from Dot Crockett at the post office. They were experiencing stomach trouble and blame the mine water for it. All in all they are not much better off than before.

I wrote to Tracy Howard as you requested a copy is enclosed. I do not know this person and am not sure I will get a reply, if I do I'll send you the results.

I have written to the Dept. of Sea & Shore Fisheries in reference to Callahan's re-cycling process. Mr. Robert Dow will be able to tell me if this is now in operation. I could not get an answer from Jack Malcolm on this last fall.

Lastly,I have looked into the feasibility of treating the water to remove the chloride. According to the Permutit Company in Philadelphia this can be done but cost would be quite high and there is the problem of maintanance of the device called an " ion exchanger " special an-ion resins and so on it gets quite complicated and I think altogether to involved with maintanance.

Sincerely,

WATER TREATMENT -

PERMUTIT CO. 215 BA 21600
DIV. SYBRON CORP.
101 N. 33RD. PHILA.

MR. MERCER - 424-3424.

ION EXCHANGER.

NOT PRACTICAL IN REMOTE AREAS. (DEEP WELL) DE MINERALIZATION
AN ION EXCHANGER (MINERALS IN SOLUTION) CATIONS (MINERALS IN SUSPENSION)
" " RESINS MUST BE PERIODICALLY REGENERATED. (ALKALIE - AN ION)
NOT ECONOMICAL - FOR SMALL GPM OUTPUT. 25-30 THOUSAND DOLLARS.
MINERALS IN SOLUTION REQUIRE - AN ION EXCHANGER. (CHLORIDES ETC.).

SURFACE SUPPLY
USE OF SMALL PRECIPITATORS + FILTERS FOR PARTICULATE MATTER.
USES CHEMICAL ACTION.
ECONOMICAL FOR SMALL GPM USAGE. 16 - 18 THOUSAND DOLLARS.

AREA HYDROLOGIST

MR. JIM SCHULTES
TI 5-5656
WOODBURY. N. J.

MERCER RECOMMENDED.

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