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ENVIRONMENTAL LEGAL COUNSEL

Exxon ordered to pay cleanup costs for gas tank leak at Highland Park station

A Superior Court Judge has issued a decision today ordering ExxonMobil to pay the owner of a Highland Park service station removal and remediation costs relating to a release of gasoline contamination at the site. The decision was reached in a case called Margaret Bergen vs. ExxonMobil, decided by the Honorable Mathias E. Rodriguez, J.S.C.

The Court found Exxon liable for costs related to the removal and remediation of underground storage tanks that were “unknown” at the time the property was purchased by Ms. Bergen’s husband in 1984.

This site has not been used as a gasoline station since 1990. Ms. Bergen’s expert testified at trial that the gasoline release occurred before the purchase of the property in 1984. The Court’s decision in this matter was placed on the record on June 25, 2005.

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Lieberman & Blecher practices environmental law and represents government entities, citizen groups and companies in New Jersey and the Tri-State Area. It’s web address is www.liebermanblecher.com. Contact Mara Epstein at 732-355-1311.