



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

April 9, 2010

XXX XXX Place
Philadelphia, PA 19153

SUBJECT: Upcoming Sampling Event & Request for Your Assistance

Dear Resident:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is investigating the Clearview Landfill which is part of the Lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site (the Site). Many samples of soil, water, sediment and soil gas have been collected, but more information is needed. EPA is currently preparing to test the indoor air of certain homes near the landfill to determine whether landfill gases pose a potential risk to nearby residences. **PLEASE NOTE: This activity will be performed as a precautionary measure.**

A part of the Site investigation focused on the landfill gases (vapors) that are present as a result of chemicals that were placed in the landfill during its operation or because of the breakdown of the landfill contents. Some of the vapors that are present beneath the surface of the landfill include methane, carbon dioxide and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), such as benzene. These gases and vapors can move upward from contaminated soil or groundwater into cracks in basements, foundations, sewer lines, sumps, and other openings. When these contaminants enter buildings, it is referred to as vapor intrusion (VI). When VI occurs, it can pose an indoor air health concern for occupants of those buildings. Additional information on VI can be found in the enclosed Lower Darby Creek Area Update dated April 2010.

You may recall that, in the past, EPA collected samples throughout the park and recreational area, as well as from the landfill itself. Some of those samples were soil gas samples. EPA used the data from those samples to identify properties that we believe are most likely to provide the best information for our current investigation. Your property is one of over 100 properties where we would like to sample indoor air. The initial sampling will involve the use of hand-held instruments. The information provided by this sampling event will determine whether additional sampling will be conducted at a later date.

At a minimum, EPA would like to return approximately six months after our initial indoor air sampling to test your residence again with the same hand-held instruments. The data

from these two sampling events will be used to determine whether additional, more complex, VI data is needed. If more complex data is required we may need to collect air samples from inside, beneath and outside your home.

If you agree to participate in the indoor air study, there are some requirements that must be completed before the samples can be collected. You will be asked to complete a building survey about your home's construction and identify any household items or activities that may interfere with test results (for instance, cleaning or painting solvents, recently dry-cleaned draperies, and hobby glues). It will likely be necessary to temporarily remove these items from your home 24-hours prior to testing. **However, an EPA representative will be available to help you with these requirements and answer any concerns you have about participating.**

I have enclosed a Property Access Agreement and an Update about the sampling we plan to do. If you are willing to allow us to access your property to conduct the vapor intrusion sampling, there are several options for returning the agreement to me.

To participate, you may:

1. Sign the access agreement and send it back to me in the enclosed, postage-paid, return envelope as soon as possible.
2. Sign the access agreement and fax the signed agreement to me at (215) 814-3002.
3. Bring the agreement to EPA's community information session and sign it after talking with EPA representatives. The information session will be held on April 14, 2010, at the Mercy Eastwick Wellness Center located at 2821 Island Ave Ste. 215 Philadelphia, PA 19153. (See enclosed Update)

If you would like to discuss the sampling event before you return the access agreement but can not attend our information session, please feel free to contact me at 215-814-3393 or by e-mail at barber.joshua@epa.gov You may also contact Carrie Deitzel, EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator for the Site at 215-814-5525 or at deitzel.carrie@epa.gov

I anticipate scheduling the initial indoor air sampling for Spring 2010. When I receive your signed consent form, a representative from Tetra Tech, Inc., an environmental consultant to the EPA, or I, will contact you to schedule a convenient date and time for the sampling. It would be helpful if you could indicate on your consent form some week-days and times when sampling may be most convenient for you. **A copy of the results from our tests will be provided to you, and an EPA representative will be available to discuss these results with you, should you desire to do so.**

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and the enclosed materials and for considering my request for access to your home. Again, if you have any concerns or questions

regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Carrie Deitzel, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, or me.

Whether or not you consent to participate in this sampling event, I hope you will attend our information session on April 14, 2010 and that you will also encourage your neighbors to do the same.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Barber", written in a cursive style.

Joshua Barber
Remedial Project Manager

Enclosures: Access Agreement Form
LDCA Site Update April 2010