

March 29, 2011

Ms. Wanda Ayala
TASC Representative
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007-1866

Re: Identification of Contaminants of Concern
Volatile Organic Compounds in Groundwater
Former DuPont facility
Pompton Lakes, New Jersey

Dear Ms. Ayala,

On behalf of Pompton Lakes Environmental Community Advisory Group (CAG), we are requesting technical assistance through the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) program. In order to better understand the nature and extent of contamination, specifically volatile organic compounds (VOCs) originating from the Pompton Lakes DuPont Works Site, the CAG would like to have the submitted remediation documents reviewed by an independent specialist so the information can be clearly presented in layman's terms to the community members of Pompton Lakes.

Specifically, we are requesting an independent technical advisor to help our CAG identify and understand the extent and severity of contaminants of concern migrating from the DuPont Pompton Lakes Works Site. We would like our technical advisor to provide an independent technical review of recent and historic on and off-site groundwater monitoring analytical results and on-site soil analytical results. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection accepts the conclusion that currently there are 10 chemicals of concern (COC) in the groundwater migrating off the property. We would like our technical advisor to review this claim, and determine if this is a comprehensive list of contaminants in groundwater originating from the DuPont Pompton Lakes Works Site and migrating off-site in Pompton Lakes.

The technical advisor is expected to have sufficient experience in hydrogeology, groundwater flow and contaminant transport to be able to render an expert opinion regarding the origin of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from the DuPont Works Site and the possibilities of migration in groundwater. The technical advisor will have an understanding of the chemistry of these compounds present in soil and groundwater, including degradation pathways.

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Specifically, we are requesting our technical advisor to investigate the following:

1. How was the list of VOCs narrowed to the following list of 10 COC? The COC include: carbon tetrachloride; 1,1-dichloroethane; 1,2-dichloroethane; 1,1-dichloroethene; 1,2-dichloroethene (cis); 1,2-dichloroethene (trans); tetrachloroethylene (PCE); 1,1,1-trichloroethane; trichloroethylene (TCE); vinyl chloride.
2. Has historical groundwater testing resulted in a full assessment of groundwater contamination migrating off the DuPont Works Site?
3. Are there additional VOCs beyond the list of 10 noted above that are identified during vapor sampling in off-site down-gradient locations?
4. When was the most recent groundwater sampling conducted that included a more comprehensive list of VOCs in groundwater?
5. Sixty one compounds (10 compounds attributed to the site plus 51 other VOCs) are being analyzed for during sampling of indoor air from plume homes. If volatile compounds beyond the 10 compounds identified above are present in indoor air, are the chemicals also in the sub-slab and groundwater below?
6. Was sufficient sampling (soil and groundwater) conducted early on in the investigation to limit the COC to the 10 compounds in groundwater noted above?
7. Would you recommend an additional round of groundwater sampling that includes the complete Target Compound List of VOCs?

In order to protect the human health and environment, the CAG feels that these questions must be answered by an independent technical advisor through USEPA's TASC program. We appreciate your timely assistance with this request, and thank you in advance for all of your help.

If you have any questions, the CAG's technical review subcommittee chair, Bill Pendexter, will serve as the point of contact and can be reached via email at wpendexter@aol.com.

Respectfully,

The Pompton Lakes Environmental Community Advisory Group
Pompton Lakes, New Jersey