

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 2 290 BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

July 14, 2010

## Dear Resident:

I am writing to make sure that you are fully aware that ground water beneath your home is contaminated due to past operations at the DuPont Pompton Lakes Works facility located on Cannonball Road. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) are overseeing the investigation of contamination and cleanup activities and are urging every household in the affected area to install a vapor mitigation system in their home. EPA and NJDEP have found the chemicals trichloroethylene (TCE) and/or perchloroethylene (PCE) in the soil gas below homes in your area at levels that exceed health standards. Contaminated gas from the sub-slab soil could be migrating into your home and putting you and other household residents at risk. Because of this, and the fact that cleanup of contaminated ground water may take many years to complete, we strongly encourage you to protect your health by having a vapor mitigation system installed.

You have been notified previously by NJDEP that you may choose either a DuPont contractor or an NJDEP contractor to conduct sampling of the soil gas under your home and take samples of the air, both in your home and outside. The purpose of this letter is to let you know that you now have a third option of choosing your own contractor to conduct soil gas and air sampling, at no cost to you. We are providing this option because some residents who have expressed an interest in having vapor intrusion sampling conducted would prefer to choose their own contractor. While the information from the sampling is not needed to determine whether you need a vapor mitigation system in your home, EPA and NJDEP are hopeful that providing this choice will result in all potentially affected residents installing vapor mitigation systems.

The option of choosing a sampling contractor is available to residents in the Vapor Mitigation Area that do not yet have vapor mitigation systems installed (and are not yet in the planning stage) or have not had a sub-slab sample taken by DuPont or NJDEP. If you exercise this option, you must use a New Jersey Licensed Site Remediation Professional with adequate experience and expertise to conduct vapor intrusion sampling. Furthermore, if you choose to select your own contractor, you will be required to enter into a contract with the New Jersey Licensed Site Remediation Professional performing the vapor intrusion sampling.

## EPA and NJDEP would like to emphasize the following:

- EPA and NJDEP recommend that a vapor mitigation system be installed in all homes overlying the Vapor Mitigation Area with or without vapor intrusion sampling. Details concerning installation of a vapor mitigation system can be found on the NJDEP Web site at <a href="http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/community/sites/dupont\_pompton\_lakes/">http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/community/sites/dupont\_pompton\_lakes/</a>
- While vapor intrusion sampling is not required in order to make a decision on whether to install a vapor mitigation system, homeowners continue to have the option to either have vapor intrusion sampling conducted by an NJDEP contractor or a DuPont contractor.
- 3. Vapor intrusion sampling conducted by DuPont's contractor or NJDEP's contractor would be conducted at no cost to you. DuPont or NJDEP make all arrangements for the sampling when they perform the work. However, if you hire your own contractor, you will be responsible for entering into a contract with the sampling contractor. If the contract and costs are within the guidelines established for this program approved by NJDEP and EPA, DuPont will pay those costs associated with the collection and analysis of the samples.
- 4. Any indoor air sampling that is conducted outside of the heating season (March to November) may yield results which are lower than samples collected during the heating season. Nevertheless, even if indoor air concentrations do not exceed applicable standards, NJDEP and EPA recommend that vapor mitigation systems be installed due to the possibility that contaminants could potentially migrate from the sub-slab into your home.
  - To request NJDEP to conduct the sampling visit: <a href="http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/community/sites/dupont-pompton-lakes/vi-testing-let-ter-20100409.pdf">http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/community/sites/dupont-pompton-lakes/vi-testing-let-ter-20100409.pdf</a>
    - or call Mindy Mumford, NJDEP, at (609) 777-1976.
  - To request DuPont to conduct the sampling, contact them at (973) 492-7703.
  - To choose your own sampling contractor, contact David Kluesner, EPA, at (212) 637-3653 or by email at kluesner.dave@epa.gov.

EPA and NJDEP have established a process and guidelines for those choosing to hire a New Jersey Licensed Site Remediation Professional to conduct vapor intrusion sampling. The necessary forms are available at

http://www.epa.gov/region02/waste/dupont\_pompton/selection\_of\_samplingcontractor.html or by calling David Kluesner at (212) 637-3653.

## Here is the process that will be followed:

- Contact Dave Kluesner, EPA, at (212) 637-3653.
- Sampling contractor responds to the questions in the Pre-Qualification Section of the "Private Contractor Sampling Requirements."
- Homeowner and sampling contractor submits the "Homeowner and Selected Contractor Information" and a Quality Assurance Project Plan based on the items highlighted in yellow in the "Contractor Quality Assurance Project Plan".
- If the sampling contractor is acceptable to EPA and NJDEP, the contractor must follow the procedures included in "Indoor Air/Sub-slab Vapor Sample Collection Procedures Scope of Work."
- Homeowner and contractor fill out the "Indoor Air Building Survey and Sampling Form."

A list of New Jersey Licensed Site Remediation Professionals is available at <a href="http://datamine2.state.nj.us/DEP\_OPRA/OpraMain/categories?category=SRRA">http://datamine2.state.nj.us/DEP\_OPRA/OpraMain/categories?category=SRRA</a>. If you have any questions you may contact Dave Kluesner at (212) 637-3653 or Mindy Mumford, NJDEP, at (609) 777-1976.

Sincerely yours,

David W. Kluesner Community Liaison

cc: David Epps, DuPont Steve Maybury, NJDEP Mindy Mumford, NJDEP Frank Faranca, NJDEP Leah Graziano, ATSDR Joe Eldridge, NJDHSS