

**MEETING INFORMATION SUMMARY**  
**Groundwater Pollution Community Meeting**

Hanes Hosiery Recreation Center  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina  
April 28, 2016, 6:00 – 7:30 P.M.

**ATTENDEES:** Mr. Waunzo Sherard, Committee Chairman  
Ms. Janet Brown, Committee Member  
Ms. Mary Shuler, Committee Member  
Mr. Greg Turner, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director  
Mr. Keith Huff, Stormwater/Erosion Control Director  
Mr. Andy Allen, Stormwater Special Projects Coordinator

**ABSENT:** Council Member Vivian Burke, Northeast Ward and Mayor Pro Tempore  
Mr. Mike Robinson, Committee Member  
Mr. Anthony McCormick, Committee Member  
Ms. Regina Hooper, Committee Member

1. **INTRODUCTION:** Council Member Burke thanked committee members and citizens for attending the Groundwater Pollution Community Meeting via a prerecorded video message. Secondly, Mr. Waunzo Sherard, the Groundwater Pollution Committee's Chairman, called the public meeting to order. Next, Assistant City Manager Turner provided an overview of the meeting agenda; Mr. Turner introduced various attending state staff members from the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) as well as North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). Lastly, Assistant City Manager Turner introduced Mr. Keith Huff, the City Stormwater/Erosion Control Director, as the evening's presenter.
  
2. **PRESENTATION:** Mr. Huff provided a very brief version of the March 17, 2016 presentation. As before, Mr. Huff provided a historical overview of released pollutants as well as the vapor intrusion pathway; from contaminated groundwater to potential indoor air exposure to human health. Furthermore, Mr. Huff stated that the North Carolina Division of Waste Management's *Vapor Intrusion Guidance* (April 2014) serves as the governing document for characterizing pollutant plumes as well as defining evaluation methodology for indoor air monitoring. Lastly, Mr. Huff summarized Phase II TCE sub-slab and indoor air results in relationship to the North Carolina Indoor Air Screening Levels. A total of 17 homes were sampled during this phase; only three houses exceeded sub-slab screening levels - two homes exceeded indoor air screening levels within basements. Please note: since both basements are unfinished, no exposure to human health risk exists. No exceedences were detected above the North Carolina Indoor Air Screening Levels within living spaces. An electronic copy of the City's April 28<sup>th</sup> presentation can be accessed at the following link: <http://www.cityofws.org/departments/stormwater-erosion-control>.

**3. PHASE III TCE VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE:**

Activity	Completion Time (in working days)	Date to be Completed
Execute ROEs with property owners and/or tenants	8 days	May 11, 2016
Indoor air sampling of homes	7 days	May 25, 2016
Sub-slab air sampling of homes	1 day	May 25, 2016
Air samples analyzed with qualified results reviewed by Mid-Atlantic Associates	12 days	June 10, 2016
If indoor air results show a need for immediate action, city staff will contact effected citizens. A recommendation for immediate action will be provided by Mid-Atlantic.	1 day	June 13, 2016
A finalized report (including health risk assessments) will be completed by Mid-Atlantic	10 days	June 24, 2016
Mid-Atlantic and city staff will meet with participating citizens to disclose air results, interpret the report, and answer questions	1 day	June 27, 2016
City submits final air quality report to NC DMW and requests official response	9 days	July 8, 2016
Community meeting to disclose indoor air data, interpret results, provide health assessments, and furnish NC DMW's official response	9 days	July 21, 2016
Leadership will be in collaborated efforts to transition project work with identified stakeholder organizations	Ongoing meetings, as needed	TBD

Please note: The actual dates of completion is dependent upon external, independent entities as well as staff availability

**4. STAKEHOLDER UPDATES:** North Carolina representatives from DEQ and DOT provided insight to proposed remedial actions by their respective agencies.

- a. **Jim Bateson, Section Chief of the Superfund Section of the Division of Waste Management (DWM) with NCDEQ:** Kaba Ilco started remedial efforts in 2005 and will continue to sample in the future to the area west and south of Stokes Avenue for tetrachloroethylene (PCE). The Division of Water Management (DWM) will sample the pollutant plume for trichloroethylene (TCE) during FY 2016-2017. DWM will sample within the down-gradient neighborhood, which is located to the east and north of Stokes Avenue. DOT defined TCE plume edges in 1998 and 2005, even though DOT is not the identified responsible party. DEQ and DOT executed an Administrative Agreement (AA) in April 2016, which outlines crucial project management items, such as: funding, strategic planning, and regulatory oversight.
- b. **Chris Niver, P.G., Roadside Environmental Engineer with NCDOT:** NCDOT performed environmental assessments in 1998 and 2005. NCDOT is working in collaborated efforts with DEQ to prioritize and assess defunct asphalt-testing facilities. Plant #54 will be assigned as the top priority by NCDOT (within the state of North Carolina) for investigating and scheduling remedial activities.
- c. Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools did not have representation at the meeting.

- d. **Ms. Janet Brown, Groundwater Pollution Committee Member:** The Groundwater Pollution Committee mandates that responsible parties must be held accountable for assessing and remediating all pollution within the impacted neighborhood.
- e. **Chairman Waunzo Sherard, Groundwater Pollution Chairman** questioned why the Hanes Lowrance Middle School is closed. Why did it take so long for remedial actions to be implemented?

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION:** Attendees posed numerous questions and comments during the public comment period. This informative content was captured to staff's best ability (in the order of meeting progression):

- a. **Comment by Citizen:** What soil remedial activities has Kaba Ilco performed on their site? **Answer by Adam Ulishney, Hydrogeologist with DWM and Project Manager:** in the Year 2000, soil remedial and spill vapor extraction (SVE) activities began. During the time frame of 1988-1991, Kaba Ilco removed 30,000 tons of polluted soil from their site. Public notices were issued to adjacent property owners, the City Manager's Office, and the Forsyth County Department of Public Health regarding assessment and remedial actions.
- b. **Question by Citizen:** Why no one notified of the potential of vapor intrusion within homes? **Answer by Jim Bateson, Section Chief with DWM:** Kaba Ilco, DEQ, and Public Health focused on groundwater pollution (i.e. drinking wells) and not on vapor intrusion within homes. In 2005, vapor intrusion came to the forefront across the United States. Contaminated groundwater under Hanes Lowrance Middle School became a remediation project due to the potential of vapor intrusion. DEQ will coordinate with the Groundwater Pollution Committee in order to communicate remedial actions and efforts.
- c. **Comment by Citizen:** You are not medical doctors – you're engineers. You don't understand our health situation. Have any medical studies been conducted to assess why people are dying in the neighborhood? **Answer by Jim Bateson:** the city has gathered indoor air data and, to date, no human health risk has been established. The state will continue to assess the contamination within the neighborhood for the foreseeable future.
- d. **Question by Citizen:** Why were the children removed from Hanes Lowrance Middle School? Is the school is contaminated? Why? Is there any health risk to the children? **Answer by Qu Qi, Central Unit Regional Supervisor with DWM:** no one can be absolutely 100 percent sure, thus the WS/FC School Board decided to relocate the students from the school. In 2005, the school's indoor air quality was tested; a cross-contamination source caused a false-positive result. Once the source was removed, the indoor air results tested below applicable screening levels. In 2007, no exceedences were observed within the school. In 2014, Kaba Ilco installed and began operation of a groundwater 'pump and treat system' - no exceedences were observed within the school. In 2015, a private consultant, which was hired by the WS/FC School Board, performed extensive indoor air testing; again, no exceedences of indoor air quality were observed.
- e. **Question by Citizen:** Why are you using tax monies to assess ground water contamination? **Answer by Keith Huff, City Stormwater/Erosion Control Director:** to protect human health in the down-gradient area of the neighborhood. The Council Member of this ward is

very concerned about public health within the neighborhood, since little data existed prior to the city's involvement.

- f. **Question by Citizen:** old (and replaced) water pipes are corroded and being replaced - any PCE or TCE detected in drinking water? **Answer by Keith Huff, City Stormwater/Erosion Control Director:** no, the Utilities Division performed water analyses in March 2015 to verify TCE and PCE concentrations in drinking water – no detections were observed.
- g. **Comment by Citizen:** I don't want to alarm anyone, but my wife researched TCE and PCE on the Internet – this stuff is cancer-causing. These chemicals are harmful, even if exposure is short or long-term.
- h. **Comment by Citizen:** Your sample population is too small – only 36 homes tested were tested out of how many over the entire plume – a couple hundred? You found only three homes that exceeded screening levels – how many more exist that haven't been discovered? **Answer by Jim Bateson, Section Chief of Division of Waste Management, Superfund Section:** based upon groundwater, soil, and soil vapor data that the city collected, we concentrated sub-slab and indoor air monitoring in the areas that were over the most polluted parts of the plume. Thus, any worst-case conditions would be discovered and addressed first, in order to protect human health. As previously stated, the state will perform an additional round of indoor and sub-slab air testing in the areas around Stokes Avenue. Kaba Ilco will perform indoor air monitoring in areas where PCE poses a potential health concern this summer.
- i. **Comment by Citizen:** I live at 2842 N. Glenn Avenue and want my house tested. I have rashes and botches on my skin; my dogs have a similar rash on their undersides, including their testicles. The people who lived in the house before me stated they had the same skin rash. **Answer by Keith Huff, City Stormwater/Erosion Control Director:** Please see me after the meeting – the city will test your home, if the potential exists for vapor intrusion.
- j. **Comment by Citizen:** I have blurry vision and constant headaches. My children also have headaches.
- k. **Question by Citizen:** How about ingestion of these chemicals through consumption of vegetables, which are grown in backyard gardens? Will these vapors come up through the soil and accumulate in food sources? **Answer by Jim Bateson:** to the best of my knowledge, no vapors will accumulate within the produce. Since vapors can readily move around rooted vegetables and be released into the open atmosphere, I am inclined to say that no risk of bioaccumulation exists.
- l. **Question by Citizen:** Kaba Ilco is planning to close its factory at the end of 2016. How will they be responsible to clean-up contamination? **Answer by Jim Bateson:** the state has the upmost confidence that Kaba Ilco will continue clean-up efforts of contaminated groundwater, even after the plant closes.

## 6. ACTION ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED:

- a. City staff will meet with NCDEQ and NCDOT staff in order to successfully transition indoor and sub-slab air sampling activities to state agencies for future monitoring events. Other pertinent items for discussion and implementation include (but not limited to): project monitoring schedule, future residential air sampling locations for TCE and PCE plumes, project status update frequency, exchange of project documentation, and join site

inspections to gain historical perspective concerning environmental assessment and indoor air monitoring.

- b. Perform Phase III Indoor and Sub-slab Air Monitoring of Voluntary Participation within the TCE Plume and confirm the potential to sample the house located 2842 N. Glenn Avenue. UPDATE, as of April 29, 2016: staff has reviewed the vapor intrusion potential at the property location and presented both tenant and property owner with right-of-entry agreements for execution or declination.
- c. Answers from the North Carolina Division of Waste Management regarding the below-posted questions, which were posed by the Groundwater Pollution Committee:
  - i. The years of operational commencement of Kaba Ilco and NCDOT, Plant #54?
  - ii. Sources of spills and/or releases at Kaba Ilco? When did spills occur?
  - iii. Zone of groundwater recovery well at GWE-1 (located just north of 28<sup>th</sup> Street and on school property).
  - iv. Historical releases and/or spills from the defunked dry cleaners at corner of 30<sup>th</sup> Street and Glenn Avenue
- d. Invite the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School Board to the next public meeting in order to explain their rationale or decision-making process for removing students from the Hanes Lowrance Campus.