

December 4, 2007

Dear Resident/Property Owner:

This week, you should have received a notice of a meeting from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and its state partners, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Minnesota Department of Health, regarding the **Highway 7 & Wooddale Avenue Soil Vapor Study** to take place in your neighborhood.

We understand that receiving notice of this soil vapor study introduced a complicated issue to you, but we're here to assure you that we will make certain that the state and federal government hears our community's concerns and adequately answers your questions and our own. At this point:

- The EPA and state agencies have informed us that there is **no evidence to suggest** that the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) they will be studying are causing **imminent danger** to our residents.
- The VOCs to be studied do not compromise our drinking water. **The city's drinking water** is drawn from deep aquifers, is tested on a regular basis and it **remains safe** from the threat of these types of VOCs.
- The **source** of the ground water contamination releasing the soil vapors **is yet unknown**, however, it has been determined that **the contamination does not result from the former Reilly Tar and Chemical site**. The EPA will be conducting further investigation of the source(s) during its study.

### **What can you do as a property owner?**

- Attend one of the scheduled meetings listed on the back of this letter and learn directly from these agencies about the soil vapor study.
- Allow the EPA to test your property to ensure that your home is safe from these vapors. It is imperative that if your building shows elevated levels of VOCs that you mitigate it. The EPA will cover the cost of this remediation for homeowners, so it's important that you allow the testing at this time.

As you know, the City of St. Louis Park is committed to the environmental health of this community, so please take the time to attend one of the meetings listed on the opposite side of this letter, so that you and our entire community is safe from these potentially harmful vapors.

We thank you in advance for engagement in the study, and please don't hesitate to contact the city, state or federal officials if you have questions or concerns, see contact information listed on the opposite side of this letter, call the Highway 7 & Wooddale Ave. Soil Vapor Study recorded **information line at 952-924-2640** or visit [www.stlouispark.org](http://www.stlouispark.org).

Sincerely,



Brian Hoffman, Inspections Director/Study Project Manager

**Informational meetings will be held:**

**Thursday, Dec. 13**

5:30 – 7 p.m. Open house  
7 – 8 p.m. Formal presentation  
8 p.m. Question and answer

**Saturday, Dec. 15**

12:30 – 2 p.m. Open house  
2 – 3 p.m. Formal presentation  
3 p.m. Question and answer

at

**The St. Louis Park Recreation Center, 3700 Monterey Drive**

The city also intends to broadcast the first meeting live on its civic TV station, ParkTV 16, and it will rebroadcast the meeting thereafter. Check [www.parktv.org](http://www.parktv.org) for schedules.

**For information on the testing and cleanup, contact the EPA:**

**Sonia Vega**

On-Scene Coordinator  
651-296-7361  
[vega.sonia@epa.gov](mailto:vega.sonia@epa.gov)

**Cheryl Allen**

Community Involvement Coordinator  
800-621-8431, Ext. 36196  
[allen.cheryl@epa.gov](mailto:allen.cheryl@epa.gov)

**For information about health effects associated with soil vapors, contact the MDH:**

**James Kelly, M.S.**

651-201-4910  
[james.kelly@health.state.mn.us](mailto:james.kelly@health.state.mn.us)

**Tannie Eshenaur**

651-201-4873  
[tannie.eshenaur@health.state.mn.us](mailto:tannie.eshenaur@health.state.mn.us)

**For information about the study areas and background information, contact the MPCA:**

**David Moore**

Project Manager  
651-296-7397  
[david.moore@pca.state.mn.us](mailto:david.moore@pca.state.mn.us)

**CoriAhna Rude-Young**

Public Information Officer  
651-296-5965  
[coriahna.rude-young@pca.state.mn.us](mailto:coriahna.rude-young@pca.state.mn.us)

**For general questions, contact the City of St. Louis Park:**

**Brian Hoffman**

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952-924-2584  
[bhoffman@stlouispark.org](mailto:bhoffman@stlouispark.org)

**Jamie Zwilling**

Communications Coordinator  
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[jzwilling@stlouispark.org](mailto:jzwilling@stlouispark.org)