NORTH RIDGE ESTATES COMMUNITY MEETING
Thursday, October 30, 2003 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Presenters and agency representatives included: EPA: Dan Heister, Julie Wroble, Judy Smith; DEQ: Cliff Walkey, Joni Hammond; ATSDR: Dr. Karen Larson; E&E - EPA Contractor: Bill Mehnert; PBS Environmental (MBK Contractor): Dulcy Berri

The meeting sign-in sheet did not reach everyone who was at the meeting so this list of attendees is incomplete: Stearns, Cornachione, Micka, Winn, Villa, Morrow, Martin, Derr, Sligar, Linman, Bailey, Mingus, Hart, Metz, Burns, Walle, Devish, Selim, Graham, Ringgold, Stewart and Darling

Dan Heister gave a summary of the removal action and showed pictures of the work. The main points were:

- More CAB will surface, best option is turning attention to permanent cleanup
- Two kinds of pits:
    - knocked down in place - 18-24 inches deep.
    - consolidated material - bigger and deeper
- Tracing out steam pipe – map available.
- Air sampling – indoor and out. Being analyzed
- Soil sampling –at hotspots, stratified random sampling (biased) 12 x 12 excavation 30 lbs
- Getting ready to run analysis.
- Using slides, Dan described the sampling process: Splitting the samples is tedious. It involves putting dirt in a bag and shaking it up and then putting it in a bucket. The sample is then divided roughly in half, visible ACM is removed and the sample is weighed. The sample is then run through the Dynasplitter seven times. Worst-case scenario for dust. Took air samples. Cut the CAB so it will run through a sieve. Run it thru the elutriator. Tells what will result when CAB is broken into small pieces.
- Also did lead sampling.
- Kudos to Coast Guard for their support during the removal.
- Map - Steam pipe delineation – Dulcy Berri. Used a series of sensitive equipment. Magnetic worked best. Ground penetrating radar was not as useful (too much noise)
- Test pits to verify what the magnetometer was telling it.
- Dan noted that Thicket Court pipe needs to be added to the diagram
- Pit exploration – Dan still need to talk to the Petersons and Villas. He has talked with everyone else.

Indoor activity simulation was done on the West residence using a Libby, Montana model. Samplers were located on both people and in the house. Nine hours of continuous air sampling included three hours of undisturbed sampling, 40 minutes vacuuming, 40 minutes sweeping and 40 minutes dusting.

Next steps:

Next week (Nov. 3-7) last sampling operation is for dust. There are 21 residences remaining. Vacuuming nooks and crannies and neglected spots. Hoping to do one house per hour. Observe as well as sample.

"Heavy lifting is starting" Dr. Bermans sampling and analysis protocol is more intensive than ours. EPA is building an elutriator, but we will continue glove box methodology. Soil samples will be split and analyzed using both techniques.

EPA predicts that sampling results will be available sometime early in 2004. It is important to have all data collected first, then have the experts give their evaluation before we come back to present the findings.

Everyone who had their residence sampled will get a copy of the results for their residence
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Julie Wroble gave a short presentation on the streamlined risk assessment.

Wainscoting inside and roofing also had CAB – it was everywhere.
Process to evaluate risk (Julie's presentation is posted on the EPA website)

Cancer risk benchmarks. EPA uses 1 in –10,000 to 1 in 1 million. Cancer risk in general population is 1 in 2 men and 1 in 3 women.

Headquarters is interested in this site and is interested in making sure EPA continues efforts at the site.

By first of year may have a rough estimate of how the site will score/rank out.

I will continue to be involved at the site in the future.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Will vacant lots be cleaned up?

The focus of removal was occupied lots. Undeveloped lots did not have surficial removal. We haven't forgotten about them, but the data will help determine how and when they will be addressed.

What does scoring/ranking mean?

Dan gave a quick overview of HRS score of 28.5 and how it is calculated. *For more detailed information see the EPA website at: http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/npl_hrs/hrsint.htm*

What did you say about not dusting?

Please leave houses undisturbed if possible until dust sampling next week.

How many acres were cleaned up?

Approximately 150-200 acres.

Are 300 samples enough to accurately characterize the site?

Although this is not Superfund caliber sampling, it will give us a good idea of what is out there. We have to remember that this is not a full blown remedial investigation and feasibility study, but was sampling done as part of a removal action to help learn about asbestos fibers released to the soil.

We know asbestos is bad for people, so can you assure us that it will get cleaned up?

EPA – We understand that there is apprehension that it won't get cleaned up.

Asbestos has been identified as a contaminant of concern. EPA, DEQ and DHS will make sure a program is found that will help get it cleaned up.

What authorities can be used to clean it up?

Once we have the sampling results we will know more what state or federal programs might be suitable for the cleanup. This is an atypical site so we don't have all the answers. Judy Smith will look for available information on various cleanup programs and pass it along.

I am concerned about making sure site cleanup moves forward.

Your concerns are valid.

Do you have enough data to estimate the volume of material in the test pits?

Not yet**.**

When you remove pits, did you feel that you got all the asbestos?

No didn't get it all.

Were technologies used?

GPR had to be abandoned too much static.

Do you know where all the pits are?

No. Will probably find more. Have found some anomalies.

What is the depth of the buried pipe?

Most within 2-3 feet.
In warehouse the steam pipe must have been overhead.
A map of the steam pipe location is on the EPA website at:
http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/cleanup.nsf/sites/nre

Simulated work practices? Is the one house all that will be done?

It is difficult to set up a simulation that will yield information that will be useful to the investigation and cleanup. While we were doing air samples there were people home doing routine activities.

How many samples were taken? (Note: At the meeting Dan did not have the numbers available so he estimated a total of 300 samples. Actual sampling numbers are provided here for your reference)

Soil	Air	Dust in Homes: 22
Base line: 10	Homes in and out: 44	Air screening ~ 20
Hot spot:12	Background: 9	Lead soil: 160 XRF
Residential: 22	EPA side by side: 12	lab confirmation: 19
	Ambient air: 74	ISO10312 splits: 18
	Soil splitting: 3	
	Activity based: 4	

Can you explain how compositing was done?

Composites help you get a larger sample area over time. Composites could also dilute out the hotspots.
Berman method said 2 inches, EPA went 3-4 inches.

Won't this get below the heaviest concentrations?

Sometimes there was so much CAB that it was difficult to get enough soil for the samples.
We followed your advice from an earlier meeting and ground up the material.

Concerns about the risk assessment. What does it say at this time??

We will have some information on cancer risk and might give us better info about releases from the soil.
Soil samples will give us the worst-case scenario.

I have concerns about Bermans numbers because he uses worker exposure numbers. It doesn't account for the fact that children are more sensitive and he assumes adult onset of exposure.

The Berman risk method assumes that exposures begin at birth (regardless of when they actually occur) to account for potential increased susceptibility to the harmful effects of asbestos during childhood.

Can you elaborate on the possible auction of the West property?

The trust company said that Mr. West didn't present compelling information that there was an asbestos issue. Last week Dan talked to them and explained that there were valid issues and concerns that needed to be disclosed to any potential buyer at auction. He also referred them to EPA legal counsel.

Is there a map that shows all the building locations?

The best source is the information that is on the board over at the Memorial Park. We will try to find a map that can be posted on the web in the near future.

Will there be an effort to cap known burial sites?

It's a good idea in some cases, but if they need to be excavated. Capping introduces extra dirt that would make excavation and removal more difficult. The decision was made to keep options open and stay flexible on this until we have a better sense of our future direction.

Notes taken by Judy Smith
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