

February 2009 CTS Update

REMOVAL PROGRAM:

- Construction on the ozonation system at the contaminated springs on the Rice property commenced today, February 17th. Twenty ozonation injection points comprise the system, which is design to oxidize TCE and other volatile organic compounds, as they emerge from the subsurface in the springs. The system will be tested for a six month period to determine if it is effective in substantially reducing TCE concentrations in surface water. CTS is following an agreed timeline to reach expedited system start up of the system.

REMEDIAL PROGRAM:

- In September 2008, EPA conducted well water sampling to determine whether contamination was present in resident's drinking water. The well water samples collected were analyzed for semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs); volatile organic compounds (VOCs), that included analysis for chlorinated solvents such as trichloroethene (TCE); total metals; and, cyanide. VOCs were not found in any additional wells. Attached with this email are the September 2008 well water testing results, along with an example of the letter mailed to residents on November 14. Unfortunately, there was some confusion among residents with regard to the results that the reporting of the Method Detection Limit (MDL) of 0.5U meant there was a detection of 0.5 of that contaminant. Resident's missed the qualifier definition that stated "U" meant that the contaminant was not detected over the MDL.
- A Work Plan for quarterly groundwater monitoring of residential wells and the above well testing efforts was prepared and reviewed by the State, Buncombe County and by Stuart Ryman, a community representative. The first round of quarterly monitoring was conducted the week of January 19th. Because full contaminant scans were run the analysis and data validation will take up to six weeks to complete. Quarterly monitoring is scheduled for the months of January, April, July and October and is being paid for by EPA. A copy of the Work Plan is in the attached email.
- The first phase of well testing in the Oaks subdivision was conducted the week of January 12th. The downhole well logging results are being reviewed and should be ready next month. An acoustic televiewer was placed in the well and uses a series of hydrogeologic testing parameters (resistivity, conductivity, temperature) to locate where bedrock fractures occur in the well and where water is entering the well. This information will be used to design the next step of testing, packer testing of the well. During packer testing, the zone of fracture is isolated and a sample of that water is collected and analyzed for contaminants. Both efforts are designed to determine whether the contamination detected in the wells in the Oaks subdivision is attributable to the CTS site.