

From: Miller.Scott@epamail.epa.gov
To: [John Mousa](#)
Cc: [Murry, Fredrick J.](#)
Subject: Re:Residents Require Full Disclosure
Date: Monday, December 20, 2010 5:30:53 PM

John,
What you've listed in this e-mail are all of the activities of which I am aware are taking place there.
Thanks,
Scott Miller
Remedial Project Manager
Superfund Division
Superfund Remedial Branch
Section C
U.S. EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone (404) 562-9120
Fax (404) 562-8896

-----John Mousa <jjm@alachuacounty.us> wrote: -----

To: Scott Miller/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
From: John Mousa <jjm@alachuacounty.us>
Date: 12/20/2010 10:00AM
Cc: "Murry, Fredrick J." <murryfj@cityofgainesville.org>
Subject: Re:Residents Require Full Disclosure

Scott,

ACEPD is getting questions and concerns about inadequate disclosure of activities on the Koppers site from certain residents like Ms. Kennedy. ACEPD is trying to respond to these concerns in the best way possible.. see the response below. We understand that USEPA has communicated with the residents , but USEPA' s help to increase the information going to the public would be helpful. Call me if you need additional information.

Thanks

John

Ms. Kennedy,

Chris passed along your concerns to me and below is some information about what is going on at the site.

ACEPD is aware of the following activities at the Former Koppers Site

- 1) Beazer has been conducting demolition of the existing buildings on the former Koppers site under an approved permit from the City of Gainesville. The demolition plan was fully reviewed by the City of Gainesville and ACEPD and USEPA and FDEP and approved. The City of Gainesville Building department issued a permit for the demolition work on November 18. Demolition work started on December 7th. The demolition work is being conducted by Contractors working for Beazer. There has been several inspections by City of Gainesville Building inspectors and County Hazmat inspectors while the demolition has been occurring and they have not observed any issues with excessive dust generation during demolition activities. Beazer has implemented real time dust monitoring stations on the West side of the Property near the neighborhood and these dust monitoring stations have not detected dust going off site. ACEPD has reviewed the dust monitoring operations this week. At that time ACEPD staff observed demolition of the brick kiln area, the area was being thoroughly watered down to prevent dust and dust monitoring in the work area was being conducted at all time. There was very little visible dust generated. The demolition activities are almost complete at the site; no additional demolition work is scheduled until the week of January 3, 2011. Beazer was required by the City of Gainesville to conduct and did conduct a Neighborhood Meeting on September 22 at the Koppers site at 6 PM to explain and get comments from the public about the demolition plans.
- 2) After plan approval from USEPA, FDEP and ACEPD and the City of Gainesville, Beazer began implementing interim measures to control stormwater runoff from the site about two months ago. These interim measures were required by FDEP as a condition of Beazer applying for their NPDES permit for the site. The measures involved building of soil berms to form temporary stormwater detention basins near the northeast boundary of the site and drainage swales along the ditch that crosses the property. These berms and swales were sodded with Bahia sod to hold the soils in place. Beazer contractors also lightly raked the surface of the soils in some locations and sprayed a grass seed mixture to get grass growing to hold down dust generation from the bare soils at the site. Beazer representatives conducted a site walk through with interested neighbors at the site to explain the interim measures. There were numerous comments received by Beazer and FDEPD from ACEPD, the City and Stephen Foster residents about this interim proposed plan prior to the finalization of the plan.
- 3) This week, ending December 17, Beazer has completed the installation of a fence to mark off the City of Gainesville's easement near the western boundary of the site. This easement was the area that had the highest concentration of soil contaminants off site. It has taken several months to resolve liability and other access issues for this fence installation that was urged by the Health Department and ACEPD, but it is finally getting done. Beazer is also completing installation of Keep Out No Trespassing signs indicating a Superfund site on the fence lines to the property.

To the extent staffing has allowed, ACEPD has attempted to stay abreast of all activities at the site and have made ourselves available by phone to answer questions to callers or nearby residents who had questions about activities at the site. ACEPD has tried to respond in an expeditious manner to investigate when residents have reported unusual activities at the site. We will continue to do so. However there are have been occasions when ACEPD has not been notified in a timely manner of activities at the site by USEPA, FDEP or Beazer.

Limited local resources prevent us from communicating every detail about activities at this federal Superfund site to all residents. The USEPA Region 4 has primary responsibility to inform residents of activities that may impact them on the Superfund site. The City of Gainesville and FDEP NE District in Jacksonville have knowledge of the demolition and stormwater activities and can also answer citizen comments. The Alachua County Health Department can respond to concerns about health impacts from air pollution or other activities at the site. On behalf of the community, ACEPD has commented extensively on the interim stormwater measures and has communicated the need for additional air monitoring and screening for buried drums at the site. However, ultimately, USEPA is responsible for deciding how and under what safety precautions the work is conducted at the site.

Mr. Scott Miller, USEPA, has the direct authority to monitor activities at the site. He should be contacted if the residents feel there should be continuous monitoring at the site. ACEPD, when it has documented problems at the site, has notified USEPA of them to take action.

If citizens require any additional information or documents that are available to ACEPD they can get them from our online library or call directly or e-mail.

I will be available on Monday and Tuesday of next week to speak to Ms. Kennedy about this issue.

If you need further information let me know.

John Mousa

Mr. Bird,

Since these activities are being conducted under the federal jurisdiction of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, please provide the name and contact information of the locally present US EPA employee who is physically overseeing the activity on a daily/nightly basis. If there is no US EPA employee regularly onsite, then who is in charge in lieu of an actual federal representative? Who is responsible, and has the information we need?

Your response seems to imply that either ACEPD does not know what is happening in your home county, or is not willing to share this information with county residents. Either possibility would be a serious disservice to residents you serve.

Dr. Mousa,

Please email me to arrange to speak with me and some of my neighbors in person.

Thank you,

Sandra Watts Kennedy

From: Chris Bird
Sent: Friday, December 17, 2010 4:01 PM
To: Kevin Kennedy
Cc: Stephen Murakami; Sarah; Craig; Lee Pinkoson; John Mousa
Subject: RE: Residents Require Full Disclosure of Ongoing Koppers Onsite Activities

Ms. Kennedy:

John Mousa from my staff is available at 352-264-6805 this afternoon to discuss your concerns in more detail. The activities that you have expressed concerns about are being conducted under the federal jurisdiction of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

From: Kevin Kennedy [mailto:skmkennedy@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, December 17, 2010 3:20 PM
To: Chris Bird
Cc: Stephen Murakami; Sarah; Craig; Lee Pinkoson
Subject: Residents Require Full Disclosure of Ongoing Koppers Onsite Activities

Chris Byrd

Director, ACEPD

Dear Mr. Byrd,

Nearly two months ago I phoned you about the mysterious and apparently unprotected activity on the Cabot-Koppers Superfund Site that was sending visible clouds of foul-smelling contaminated dust into the surrounding neighborhoods.

Nothing has changed since our conversations that day. A growing number of anxious and increasingly angry Stephen Foster Neighborhood residents report ongoing activity on the Site: digging, earth pushing, demolition, etc. These goings-on are witnessed at night as well as

during the day. There are no discernible measures being undertaken to protect workers on the Site, let alone local residents. And to date, none of us have received written notification from any government agency explaining what is taking place and why, who exactly ordered, approved, and is physically performing the work, what protective measures are in place, what makes this activity legal, or how long to expect this activity to continue.

This state of affairs is unacceptable. Kindly pick up the ball: it is the responsibility of our county environmental protection department to know what is taking place on our local Superfund Site- and to protect and serve our community by providing full, written disclosure in a timely fashion to the public most impacted by these activities! I am asking you to provide this disclosure today. Receipt of this information would help to ease the distress of a community whose members increasingly see our concerns and suffering trivialized, in the same way that we have seen our participation in the remediation process marginalized.

If it is your division's contention that ACEPD bears no responsibility to inform our families of environmental hazards where they live, work and attend school, please direct me to the correct local government agency and to the individual within that agency to effectively address this matter.

I look forward to your prompt reply. People are dying here.

Sincerely,

Sandra Watts Kennedy

President, Stephen Foster Neighborhood Association, Incorporated