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To: [Randall H. Reid](#)
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Subject: Dioxin detection at Koppers western property line
Date: Thursday, October 25, 2007 6:12:23 PM
Attachments: [MayortoUSEPA.pdf](#)
[MousatoUSEPA.pdf](#)
[MousatoTSaunders.pdf](#)

Randy:

This afternoon I was informed of test results that indicate the verified presence of elevated levels of dioxin, significantly above Florida residential cleanup standards, at various locations in shallow soil on the western property line of the Koppers wood treatment complex located at 200 NW 23rd Avenue in Gainesville.

For several years, Alachua County has been urging USEPA and Beazer, Inc. (the responsible party for the historic contamination associated with this federal Superfund site) to conduct further testing for dioxins in shallow soils, including offsite sampling if necessary. Today John Mousa spoke to USEPA Region 4 Atlanta staff to reiterate our concerns in light of the newly reported test data. My professional opinion is that offsite dioxin sampling is warranted in the adjacent residential neighborhood to ensure that dioxins are not posing long term hazards to nearby residents.

Dioxin concerns involve a highly complex environmental issue that is beyond the financial and regulatory capacity of local governments to manage. Because this is a designated federal Superfund site, USEPA is the lead agency with regulatory authority to conduct appropriate testing. A key issue is that the Florida cleanup standards for dioxin, administered by Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection, are significantly more stringent than the federal dioxin cleanup "guidelines" administered by USEPA.

Attached are three letters that provide background information on this issue. We have strived to work closely with the City of Gainesville, state agencies, and USEPA on this long term community environmental concern. If anyone needs more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 352-213-4987 (cell).