



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



Linda S. Adams
Cal/EPA Secretary

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

October 19, 2010

To: Carousel Tract Residents

INDOOR AIR SAMPLING

Dear Carousel Tract Residents:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board), I wish to thank you for allowing your property to be sampled for the environmental investigation of the Carousel neighborhood. The Regional Board is the lead agency overseeing environmental investigation of the Carousel neighborhood to test soil, soil vapor, and groundwater that may have been contaminated by past industrial uses of the former Kast Property. The Regional Board is working with other State, county and local agencies to assess health risks and develop appropriate corrective actions to address the contaminants that have been detected in the Carousel Tract.

As part of the ongoing environmental investigation of the Former Kast Property Tank Farm, Shell Oil Products US (SOPUS) is conducting methane screening of homes and sampling the indoor air of the homes within the Carousel Tract. At the July 19, 2010 community meeting, the Regional Board announced to the community that they could sign-up for residential indoor air sampling. As a result, 23 residents signed up for indoor air sampling. We are concerned that the indoor air sampling test was misunderstood to be the same as the methane check test. This letter is to clarify that the methane check is a separate test that takes approximately one hour, while the indoor air sampling test is for a variety of chemicals and typically takes 48 hours to complete. A summary of residential sampling techniques in use at the Carousel Tract is attached to this letter for your information. We encourage the remaining Carousel Tract residents to sign-up for indoor air sampling during the investigation.

In order to sign-up for the indoor-air sampling, please provide the following information: name, address, phone number, e-mail address, and information about legal representation to Dr. Teklewold Ayalew at (213) 576-6739 or tayalew@waterboards.ca.gov, or Ms. Thizar Tintut-Williams at (213) 576-6723 or twilliams@waterboards.ca.gov.

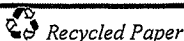
Sincerely,

Samuel Unger, PE
Executive Officer

Enclosed: Enclosure 1 - Carousel Tract Residential List of Environmental Sampling
Enclosure 2 - Instructions To Occupants-Indoor Air Sampling (English and Spanish versions)

Cc: List

California Environmental Protection Agency



Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

List

Laura Richardson, Honorable Congresswoman, US House of Representatives,
California's 37th District
Mr. Mark Ridley-Thomas, Supervisor, Second District County of Los Angeles
Jenny Oropeza, Senator, 28th Senate District
Warren T. Furtani, Assembly member, 55th Assembly District
Jim Dear, Mayor of Carson
Sheri Repp-Loadsman, City of Carson
Ky Truong, City of Carson
Jennifer Fordyce, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board
Thomas L. Watson, LAUSD
Patrick Schanen, LAUSD
Jerome G. Groomes, Carson's City Manager
James Carlisle, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
Robert Romero, Department of Toxic Substances Control
Wendy W. Arano, Department of Toxic Substances Control
Bill Jones, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Barry Nugent, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Shahin Nourishad, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Miguel Garcia, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Alfonso Medina, Los Angeles County Department of Health
Cole Landowski, Los Angeles County Department of Health
Angelo Bellomo, Los Angeles County Department of Health
Karen A. Lyons, Shell Oil Products US
Alison Abbott Chassin, Shell Oil Products US
Hal Dash, Cerrell Associates
Allen E. Blodgett, URS Corporation
Chris Osterberg, URS Corporation
Michelle Vega, Edelman
Robert Ettinger, Geosyntec
Thomas V. Girardi, Girardi and Keese Lawyers
Robert W. Bowcock, Integrated Resources Management, LLC



Enclosure 1

State of California
California Environmental Protection Agency
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Information on Carousel Tract Residential List of Environmental Sampling
Former Kast Property Tank Farm, Carson, California

Step One: Test Indoor Air for Methane

Handheld meters are used to monitor for methane gas inside a home. The meter measures concentrations of methane, carbon dioxide and oxygen.

Step Two: Exterior Soil Sampling

Before soil sampling begins, the environmental teams contact Underground Service Alert of Southern California to ensure any potential underground obstacles on residential properties are identified beforehand. Potential underground obstacles include gas, water or other utility lines or pipelines.

Soil Sample Collection Steps:

- Samples are taken in landscaped areas using a hand auger to make borings in the soil.
- Samples are taken at various depths up to 10 feet.
- One boring per approximately 200 square feet of unpaved area (exposed soil or vegetation) at each residential property located in the front and back yards.
- Sample locations will be selected with approval from the homeowner.
- Borings will be resurfaced once sample is taken.

Step Three: Outdoor and Indoor Sub-Slab Probe Installation and Vapor Sampling

Sub-slab samples are collected to evaluate the chemicals in the soil vapor under the slab.

Two outdoor and one indoor sub-slab vapor probes are installed at each property to collect samples below the concrete to test the vapor from the soil for volatile organic compounds and methane impacts.

Probes are installed indoors and outdoors at locations agreed to by the homeowner.

Step Four: Indoor Air Sampling

In coordination with the home owner/tenant, two indoor air sample locations will be selected. The samples will be located on the ground floor of the home with one sample in a frequently-occupied area of the residence (e.g., living room and bedroom) and the second sample in an area with utility connections (e.g., kitchen or bathroom). The indoor air samples will be collected 3 to 5 feet above finished floor. Outdoor air samples will be collected from two sides of the residence (e.g., front and back yard) to obtain background air concentrations. (Continued on Page 2)

Indoor air samples are collected three to five feet above the floor of the home over a 24 hour period. A meeting with the homeowner is needed at least 24 hours before sampling begins to describe sampling activities and conduct a pre-sampling survey.

Step Five: Analyzing Samples and Reporting Results

- Methane screening results are provided to the homeowner or tenant immediately following the test.
- Soil and soil vapor samples collected are delivered to independent labs: Calscience Environmental Laboratories, Microbac, Air Toxics Ltd., and Columbia Analytical Services. These labs are certified by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program.
- Using agency-approved methods, soil samples are analyzed for volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, petroleum hydrocarbons and metals, and soil vapor samples are analyzed for volatile organic compounds.
- When results are available from the laboratory, URS will prepare and submit a report with the results to the Water Board. This report will describe the sampling methods, analytical results, and screening evaluation based on property specific testing data. This report will also be provided to the homeowner.
- After reviewing the report, Regional Board will issue directives to Shell regarding additional testing and/or mitigation measures.

Instructions for Occupants – Indoor Air Sampling

Employees of an environmental consulting firm with expertise in air sampling will be collecting one or more indoor air samples from your home. A pre-sampling meeting will be held at least a day before sampling. The purpose of this meeting will be to describe the sampling activities and to help identify sources of chemicals from everyday products and activities, such as grease removers and dry cleaning, that may affect the sampling results. During this meeting, a survey containing a series of questions about your home's construction, consumer products you store in your home, and typical household activities will be completed.

In addition to the survey, a preliminary sample will be taken using a hand-held detector. This sample will be used to help identify typical sources of indoor air chemicals. Household products, which may affect the extended indoor air sampling, will be identified and should be removed from the residence 24 hours before as well as during sampling.

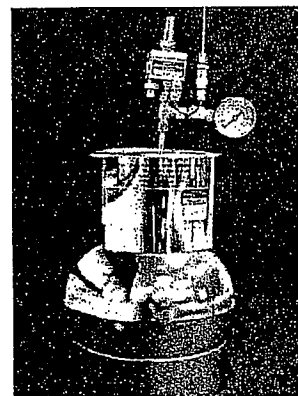
Proposed air sample locations will be discussed with you to confirm that the proposed locations are satisfactory. It is anticipated that sampling will take about 24 hours. We will ask you to follow the following list of procedures 24 hours before the scheduled sampling as well as during sampling:

- o Do not use wood stoves, fireplaces or equipment kerosene heater
- o Do not open windows or keep doors open
- o Do not smoke inside
- o Do not use air fresheners or odor eliminators
- o Do not use cleaning products (e.g., bathroom cleaners, furniture polish, appliance cleaners, all purpose cleaners, floor cleaners)
- o Do not use cosmetics including hair spray, nail polish remover, perfume, etc.
- o Avoid bringing freshly dry cleaned clothes inside
- o Do not partake in hobbies indoors that use solvents (e.g., glue, degreasers, paint thinner)
- o Do not use bug sprays or repellants
- o Do not store containers of gasoline, oil or petroleum based solvents within the building or attached garages
- o Do not operate or store automobiles in an attached garage
- o Do not operate gasoline powered equipment inside attached garages or around the immediate perimeter of the home
- o Do not use paints or varnishes— preferably up to a week in advance of the sampling

If possible, avoid using window air conditioners, fans or vents. You may operate your central air and heating as needed. This should not affect the sampling results.

The picture shows an example of the canister that will be left in your home during the 24-hour sampling period. It is approximately 24 inches high by 12 inches round and will be placed as unobtrusively as possible in the agreed upon sampling locations.

Any questions and concerns you have may be raised at the pre-sampling meeting, but if you have questions before or after the meeting, please call the community line at (310) 857-2335. Thank you for allowing us to sample your home.



Typical Air Sampling Equipment

Instrucciones para Residentes - Muestreo del Aire Interior

Personal de una empresa de consultoría ambiental, recolectarán una o más muestras del aire dentro de su casa. Estaremos en contacto con usted por lo menos un día antes de la toma de muestras para discutir los detalles. Queremos visitarlo antes del muestreo para darle más información sobre nuestras actividades y para que nos ayude a identificar las fuentes de productos y actividades cotidianas (disolventes y ropa de la tintorería) en el interior de su casa que pudieran afectar los resultados del muestreo. Le daremos una encuesta con una serie de preguntas sobre la construcción de su casa, productos que almacena en su casa y sus actividades cotidianas en el hogar.

Además de la encuesta, utilizaremos un instrumento manual que nos podrá ayudar a identificar las fuentes comunes de productos químicos en el aire interior. Aquellos productos que pudieran afectar la toma de muestras del aire serán identificados y, si es posible, deberán ser alejados de la residencia 24 horas antes y durante el muestreo.

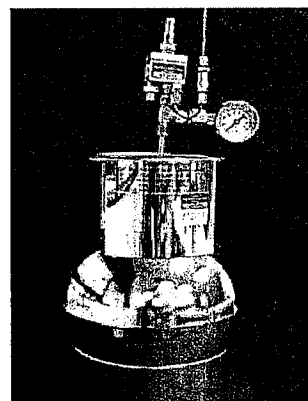
Le diremos en donde tomaremos las muestras y nos podrá decir si estas ubicaciones son de su agrado. Se espera que el muestreo dure 24 horas. Le pedimos que por favor siga los procedimientos indicados a continuación 24 horas antes y durante el muestreo:

- No utilice estufas de leña, chimeneas o calentadores de queroseno
- No abra las ventanas y mantenga las puertas cerradas
- No fume dentro de la casa
- No utilice ambientadores ni eliminadores de olores
- No utilice productos de limpieza (por ejemplo, limpiadores de baño, cera para muebles, aparatos de limpieza, limpiadores de piso)
- No use cosméticos como spray para el cabello, removedor de esmalte de uñas, perfumes, etc.
- Evite el ingreso de la ropa recién lavada en la tintorería
- No utilice disolventes en interiores (por ejemplo, el pegamento, desengrasantes, disolventes de pintura)
- No utilice insecticidas o repelentes
- No almacene envases de gasolina o disolventes a base de petróleo dentro de su casa o en el garaje anexo
- No utilice ni almacene automóviles en el garaje anexo
- No utilice equipos con motores a base de gasolina dentro de garajes o en el perímetro inmediato de la casa
- No utilice pinturas o barnices, preferiblemente una semana antes de la toma de muestras.

Si es posible, evite el uso de acondicionadores de aire de ventana, ventiladores o rejillas de ventilación. Sin embargo, puede operar su aire y calefacción central, según sea necesario. Esto no debería afectar los resultados del muestreo.

Esta imagen muestra un ejemplo del contenedor que quedará en su casa durante las 24 horas del período de muestreo. El contenedor mide aproximadamente 24 pulgadas de alto con una circunferencia de 12 pulgadas. Éste se colocará en un lugar acordado y en donde no interfiera con sus actividades.

Usted puede dirigir sus preguntas y preocupaciones personalmente el día antes del muestreo. Mientras tanto, si usted tiene preguntas, por favor llame al 310) 857-2335. Gracias por su participación en el muestreo y por su paciencia con nuestras actividades.



Equipo de muestreo del aire