



October 5, 2010

Dear Carousel Tract Residents and Homeowners,

The City of Carson, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, and the Los Angeles County Fire Department have been closely monitoring the environmental investigation of the Former Kast Property Tank Farm (a.k.a. Carousel Tract) since 2007. We have all been working collaboratively with the lead agency, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) to support efforts to protect the health and safety of the community. We write this letter to urge you to take an active role by ensuring that your house is tested fully to determine the extent of potential environmental contamination.

We understand that the various testing processes can be complex, inconvenient and frustrating at times. However, we strongly encourage you to continue working with the Regional Board, Shell Oil Products US and their environmental consultants to have your home tested, including the indoor air sampling. All testing is done at no cost to residents and homeowners. Collecting the samples and analyzing the data from these samples are important tasks and provides additional information about the conditions impacting your neighborhood.


Many of you have already begun testing and are in the process of completing all five (5) tests (methane check, soil sampling, sub-slab exterior, indoor/interior sub-slab, and indoor air sampling). If you have already begun the process, thank you for your patience and cooperation. We urge you to complete all 5 tests. If you have not yet scheduled any testing, please contact the Regional Board project manager, Dr. Teklewold Ayalew at (213) 576-6739 (tayalew@waterboards.ca.gov) or your legal counsel to initiate the process. Although the 5 tests are not required or mandatory, we believe that all homes in the Carousel Tract should participate in the testing process so a more comprehensive, scientifically validated data is available to guide the selection of effective remediation technologies.


The Regional Board will soon be mailing out a letter and brochure to you shortly that will provide additional information on residential sampling techniques. Indoor air sampling is the most time consuming and difficult test to administer; therefore, please take some time to review the letter in detail and sign up early for the indoor air sampling procedure. We also suggest that you talk to your neighbors and encourage their participation in the testing process.


We are committed to work together with the Regional Board and their State partner, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment to implement an effective and safe cleanup. Our collective goal is to provide a neighborhood that is a safe and healthy place to live and raise families.

Thank you for your time and we hope you will take advantage of the sampling plan and assistance that is available to you.

Sincerely,


Jerry Groomes, City Manager
City of Carson


P. Michael Freeman, Chief
County of Los Angeles Fire
Department


Dr. Jonathan Fielding, Director
County of Los Angeles Public
Health Department