TOWN OF JACKSON GASOLINE PIPELINE SPILL UPDATE

DATE: September 7, 2012

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WisDNR establishes hotline: The WisDNR has created a Town of Jackson gasoline pipeline spill hotline. By dialing 866-220-4841, the public can get updates on the status of the spill and leave questions for WisDNR staff. The hotline will be operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Calls received during the five-day work week will be returned within 24 hours. Calls received over the weekend will be returned the following Tuesday.

Area Wide Drinking Water Advisory and Flush Only Advisory Notice: Late last week, the Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater lifted the flush only advisory. Letters were sent to the 50 residents who live in the flush only area. Flush only residents now can use water for non-consumptive uses such as bathing, laundry and watering the garden. But residents must continue to use bottled water for drinking, cooking, brushing teeth, making ice, etc. All wells in the former flush only area were sampled on September 4th and no new wells were affected.

Private water supply wells: A total of 296 discrete water supply wells at 284 residences have been sampled and will continue to be sampled twice weekly. Benzene has been detected in 25 wells although in only 14 of these wells was benzene detected above the drinking water standard. Although the flush only advisory has been lifted, the sampling plan and schedule for the area wide drinking water advisory has not changed.

Bottle water delivery: Bottled water continues to be delivered. A total of 26 bulk tanks have been delivered to residents who requested them. The five gallon drinking water coolers have been placed in 216 homes.

Point-of-Entry (POETs) water treatment systems: The 70 POET filtration systems remain in place and post-POET system water sampling continues. Sampling will continue in the future to ensure that the POETs are providing residents with water that is not contaminated, but residents should continue to consume bottled water only.

Groundwater investigation and product recovery: To date, a total of 64 remediation wells have been installed. Of those, five are 6 inch recovery wells drilled to 165 feet, 21 are two inch monitoring wells and 38 are vapor extraction wells. Several of the monitoring wells are nested – one shallow with one deep. The shallow monitoring wells extend to 135 feet while the deep ones go to 165 feet. The vapor extraction wells extend approximately 25 feet into the bedrock.

West Shore’s contractor on-site will be installing additional monitoring wells and vapor extraction wells. Free-product continues to accumulate in the recovery wells and in some of the monitoring wells closest to the pipeline release point. In addition free product is accumulating in two private water supply wells closest to the release site. Now that the interim remediation system is up and running, free product is being removed primarily through pneumatic pumps though vacuum trucks remain on-site to assist where needed. To date, 2,217 gallons of product have been recovered via the remediation system and the vacuum trucks.

The vapor extraction system is now plumbed and operational. Currently five vapor extraction wells are in use. As concentrated petroleum vapors are detected, additional wells will be connected.
Air monitoring: After weeks of continuous air monitoring around the perimeter of the work zone and no detects, air monitoring has been discontinued. The work zone area is now fenced in.

Long Term Water Supply: WisDNR Staff continue to work with officials from the Town of Jackson, Village of Jackson, and West Shore Pipeline to establish proposed alternatives for a long-term water supply solution for the impacted homes. The Town of Jackson is looking into holding a closed session meeting to discuss alternatives for long term water supply solution, and a follow up meeting with WisDNR, the Town, the Village, and West Shore will occur after the Town has a chance to meet in closed session.