



Notes from the CAG

March 4, 1999

The Citizen's Advisory Group for the 57th and North Broadway site met on March 4, 1999. I would like to thank everyone for their attendance, support and hard work. I realize this has been a long and, at times, difficult ordeal but there is light at the end of the tunnel as we approach the time to make final recommendations for remediation of this site.

The EPA gave an update on sampling of the plume and its outer edges in the Riverview area in February. This sampling was performed by the City/County Health Department. Low levels of vinyl chloride and other contaminants were found, therefore, additional sampling is to be done the week of March 22nd. Also during that time, research will be done to determine if there are buried containers within the Site that might still be leaking and causing additional contamination to the groundwater.

EPA also indicated that bids for the clean-up work in Riverview were to be out in early March with a contract award occurring mid to late March. Construction should begin at the end of March with initial sampling being done the 1st week of April. Initial sampling data would then be available during May.

David Warren, Director of the Wichita Water Dept., gave us an update on the city

water connections to the Riverview area. Mr. Warren also provided us with a copy of a letter that went to Riverview residents detailing the agreement between the City of Wichita and the EPA. Residents of the area should have already received that letter dated March 4, 1999. We were also advised to contact the Department of Public Works if there are any problems being experienced as a result of the water being brought into the area. There was also some discussion on bringing sewer lines into Riverview but this is a service that would have to be petitioned for by the residents.

It has been agreed that every effort be given to ensure we are addressing the needs of every person and municipality affected by this site. Therefore, time will be set aside at all meetings to allow for this need. In particular, we would like to see representation from each affected municipality at all future meetings.

Our next meeting will be held Thursday, April 1st, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the City/County Health Department, 1900 East 9th, Wichita. A presentation will be given by the KDHE's Underground Storage Tank Division. We will also begin an educational series given by the Outreach Group from K-State on the pros and cons of the various groundwater

clean-up options that will be presented by the EPA in its Proposed Plan due out in mid-April.

I strongly urge all of you to attend this important meeting. There will be a 30 day open comment period once the Proposed Plan is issued. This is the last opportunity to comment on how you believe the clean-up should be performed based on the options given by the EPA. Take advantage of the opportunity to learn about the technology to help you make informed and insightful comments at EPA's public hearing. These choices are not just for the immediate clean-up of our groundwater but are choices that will ensure clean water for generations to come.

As always, I encourage anyone with questions to contact me at 316-838-6639.