

PUBLIC NOTICE

DEQ PUBLIC HEARING ON THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY MIDLAND AREA SOILS WORK PLAN FOR RESOLUTION OF DIOXIN ISSUE March 11, 2012

On March 7, 2012, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Resource Management Division (RMD), received an Interim Response Activity Plan Designed to Meet Criteria, Midland Area Soils (Work Plan) from The Dow Chemical Company, Michigan Operations, Midland Plant (Dow), located at 1790 Building, Midland, Michigan 48674. The Work Plan is for cleanup of soil contaminated by airborne emissions from Dow's historic waste management practices and was submitted as part of corrective action work required under the Hazardous Waste Management Facility Operating License issued to Dow by the DEQ in 2003 pursuant to Part 111, Hazardous Waste Management, of Michigan's Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (Act 451), and the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

The DEQ and Dow reached conceptual agreement on the proposed cleanup plan that was introduced at a public information meeting on March 1, 2012. If approved, the Work Plan will allow Dow to proceed with the sampling of residential properties in the Resolution Area and to offer cleanup for properties that test above the action level. Properties that test less than or equal to the action level and those that have had cleanup will not be considered contaminated under Michigan law. All sampling and cleanup work will be done only with the consent of the property owner. Soil sampling is expected to begin in June.

The Work Plan includes: (1) a proposed Midland site-specific dioxin "action level" of 250 parts per trillion for soil; (2) a soil sampling design plan for the affected properties; (3) a description of the process to be used to trigger cleanup on individual properties; (4) a description of cleanup activities to be taken and process to address deferred cleanups; and (5) a schedule for the proposed work that is expected to take from 2012 through 2017.

The DEQ invites public comment on the Work Plan. **A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2012, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library Auditorium, 1710 West St. Andrews Street, Midland, Michigan.** The purpose of the hearing is to allow interested persons to submit oral or written comments regarding the Work Plan. Representatives from the DEQ and Dow will also be available to answer questions before the meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. The public comment period begins on March 11, 2012, and ends on April 25, 2012.

Public comments can also be given at three informal public availability sessions that are scheduled on March 19 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; March 28 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and March 29 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Other public availability sessions may be scheduled based on interest. The public availability sessions will be held at Dow's Midland Resolution Center located at 1008 Jefferson Street in Midland, Michigan.

The Work Plan is available for review at the Reference Desk of the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 West St. Andrews Street, Midland, Michigan, and the DEQ, Saginaw Bay District Office, 401 Ketchum Street, Suite B, Bay City, Michigan (contact Ms. Trisha Confer at 989-894-6296). The Work Plan and related materials are also available at the DEQ, RMD, Constitution Hall, Atrium North, 525 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan (contact Mr. Al Taylor at 517-335-4799) and at <http://www.michigan.gov/deqdioxin> under "Midland Area Soil Cleanup". Copies of the documents may be obtained for the cost of reproduction by sending your request to Mr. Al Taylor at the mailing address at the end of this notice.

All comments submitted on the Work Plan must be e-mailed or postmarked by April 25, 2012. Before issuing a final decision on the Work Plan, the DEQ will evaluate all comments received. The final decision on the Work Plan will be communicated to all persons who submit written comments and/or are on the Dow facility mailing list. The DEQ will respond to all significant comments and explain any changes that are made to the Work Plan. To receive future DEQ notifications concerning this facility, please submit a written request for placement on the Dow facility mailing list. Requests, comments, or questions regarding the Work Plan should be addressed to:

Mr. Al Taylor, DEQ, Resource Management Division, P.O. Box 30241, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7741 or taylor@michigan.gov.