



State of Louisiana

Department of Environmental Quality



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ENVIRONMENTAL ALERT

GASOLINE CONTAMINATION DETECTED ON SOUTH CARROLLTON AVENUE

(Baton Rouge) – A public notice to alert citizens about environmental contamination detected in their property was hand delivered today by members of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). DEQ field agents provided written notification that gasoline contamination was detected in the subsurface soil and groundwater in the vicinity of the Shell Branded Service Station, located at 600 South Carrollton Avenue in New Orleans. The contamination is a result of a leaking underground tank system. Information on the properties and known health effects of gasoline were delivered along with the notice.

Recently, Motiva Enterprises LLC via their consultant, Applied Earth Sciences, Inc., conducted a Limited Site Assessment to evaluate the subsurface conditions at the Shell Station. The results of the assessment indicated gasoline was released into the soils and groundwater at levels above DEQ's Risk Evaluation and Corrective Action Program (RECAP). The sample results indicate the presence of chemicals commonly found in gasoline (i.e. benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, xylene and methyltert-butyl ether).

RECAP is a consistent decision-making process for the assessment of, and the response to, environmental contamination that is based on the protection of human health and the environment. It is based on national health risk assessment principles and methods.

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Gasoline, also known as motor fuel, petrol, natural gasoline, is a clear liquid, highly flammable, dangerous fire and explosion risk. Gasoline is mixture of volatile hydrocarbons for use in a spark ignited internal combustion

engine and having an octane number of at least 60. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Service National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has determined that gasoline is a potential occupational carcinogen. Breathing high levels of gasoline can cause irritation to eyes, skin and mucous membrane.

Motiva Enterprises LLC, is the responsible party for the site and is in the process of investigating the area, with DEQ oversight. The contact person for Motiva for this site is Ms. Joyce Davis and she can be reached at (281) 874-1402.