

March 10, 2015

Dear Homeowner/Tenant:

Re: Highbury Avenue/Brydges Street Area Indoor Air Monitoring

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) has received testing results from groundwater monitoring wells near your residence, which reveal levels of trichloroethylene (TCE) that exceed MOECC groundwater standards. The Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) has reviewed available information and advises that the levels of TCE detected so far indicate that there may be a very low level health risk for some residents. Testing is continuing to determine what health risk, if any, may be present, while the MOECC continues to determine the source of the impacts to groundwater.

TCE is a chemical used for cleaning and degreasing metal parts, and can be found in some household products including glues and adhesives, paint and spot removers, rug cleaning fluids, paints, and metal cleaners. In the past, it was used in the food industry to decaffeinate coffee and extract oils from plants. At very high or prolonged exposures, such as for individuals who work with TCE in industrial settings, it may cause cancer and other health effects.

Testing is being planned for the air in the residential basements closest to where monitoring has identified TCE. The MOECC, the City of London, and the Middlesex-London Health Unit are working collaboratively to obtain approval from a number of residents to gain further information on residential air quality.

The MOECC is continuing its effort to determine the source of the TCE contamination to better understand the area of impacts, to confirm the parties responsible for the groundwater and soils impacts, and to identify any steps needed to protect the community and the environment.

We have prepared the attached *Fact Sheet* to help you understand the potential health risks associated with exposure to TCE.

Additional information about the potential health risks can be found at [www.healthunit.com/TCE](http://www.healthunit.com/TCE) or by calling the Middlesex-London Health Unit Environmental Health Team at (519) 663-5317 ext. 3447. For questions about the results of groundwater and soil tests to date, please contact the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change at 519-873-5000.

Sincerely,



Dr. Christopher Mackie,  
Medical Officer of Health, Middlesex-London Health Unit

Attachments: Fact Sheet and Additional Information for residents