



Results Released from First Phase of EPA’s Fifth Ward Vapor Testing

OMAHA, Neb., March 28, 2024 – The first round of validated results from vapor testing conducted in and around the Fifth Ward neighborhood in Houston are now available to the public on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website.

These initial vapor tests are the first step in Union Pacific’s EPA-approved plan to conduct extensive soil and air screening in the Fifth Ward neighborhood with data collected being used to conduct a health risk assessment for area residents.

“Transparency and ongoing communication with the public remain paramount as we follow the EPA-approved testing plan,” said Toni Harrison, a spokesperson and community liaison for Union Pacific. “We will continue working closely with regulators and subject matter experts as we prepare to conduct the next, most extensive, phase of testing in the Fifth Ward to date.”

A second round of vapor testing is planned for this summer to evaluate how warmer weather impacts vapor migration. In addition, comprehensive soil testing will begin soon in the Fifth Ward community.

The data released Thursday is the first round of validated results from vapor testing that began last fall to analyze vapor and gases near homes and businesses. The screening levels established by the EPA to evaluate chemicals are set low by design and will be used to help determine where additional investigation is required.

Union Pacific assumed ownership of the former Houston Wood Preserving Works site from Southern Pacific in 1997 and has prioritized remediation efforts and achieved measurable progress in on-site cleanup activities.

For more information about HWPW and Union Pacific's remediation endeavors, please visit houstonwoodpreservingworks.com.

ABOUT UNION PACIFIC

Union Pacific (NYSE: UNP) delivers the goods families and businesses use every day with safe, reliable and efficient service. Operating in 23 western states, the company connects its customers and communities to the global economy. Trains are the most environmentally responsible way to move freight, helping Union Pacific protect future generations. More information about Union Pacific is available at www.up.com.

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