



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

*CHRIS CHRISTIE*  
Governor

*BOB MARTIN*  
Commissioner

*KIM GUADAGNO*  
Lt. Governor

June 18, 2010

Dear Wilson Avenue School Community,

The purpose of this letter is to update you on the progress the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has been making at the Wilson Avenue School to address gasoline odors and flooding in the school. Work at the school will continue during the summer to ensure a safe environment for your children when the school year begins in September. Before school reopens, NJDEP will make a presentation to the community of all work that has occurred and offer a tour of the school to view this work for parents as well.

Please check NJDEP's Web site at [www.nj.gov/dep/srp/community/sites/newark\\_wilson\\_ave\\_school](http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/community/sites/newark_wilson_ave_school) for updates on the work being conducted. Dates for the presentation to the community and to see the work conducted by NJDEP will be posted at this Web address as well.

As you may know, the waters that flooded into the lower level of the school were contaminated with gasoline products that caused the odor problem. Those odors have been eliminated by the installation of a new sump pump system that includes vapor extraction. The vapor extraction system draws vapors from all three sump pumps and directs it to the roof of the building. The vapors are then moved through a carbon filter treatment unit before being released safely to the atmosphere.

This week, NJDEP conducted indoor air sampling throughout the school to confirm the vapor extraction system is working properly and to ensure that no other areas of the school have contaminated air. Results are expected in early July.

NJDEP has also been conducting an unknown source investigation to determine the source of the gasoline contaminated ground water. At this time, we have identified a small area around the southeast area of the school (near the library) that requires further investigation. In addition, NJDEP sampling found low levels of chlorinated solvents in the ground water under the courtyard and around the northern area of the school. These contaminants were also found in one of the sumps in the school. The new sump pump and vapor extraction system in the school also effectively removes any

chlorinated solvent contamination in the sumps. NJDEP will conduct additional investigation work in July to better define the extent of all ground water contamination in the area.

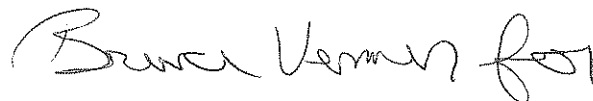
As part of the vapor intrusion investigation, NJDEP conducted sampling at 11 properties surrounding the school. Those results are being evaluated and will be summarized on the Web site in the future.

NJDEP wishes to thank the Wilson Avenue School community for all of its patience and cooperation during this difficult time. If you have any questions this summer, or would like to check up on any issues, please feel free to call Mindy Mumford, NJDEP Community Relations Coordinator, at (609) 777-1976 or (800) 253-5647. You can also receive updated information about the August meeting by reaching out to Assemblyman Albert Coutinho at (973) 589-0713. For information in Portuguese you can contact Dr. Ana Baptista at the Ironbound Community Corporation at (973) 589-3353 x213 or for information in Spanish contact ICC's Cynthia Mellon at 973-344-5949 x207. Remember to check the NJDEP Web site as well for updates and future meeting information.

***Se você gostaria de receber informações sobre a reunião de agosto ligue para o deputado Alberto Coutinho em (973) 589-0713. Para obter informações em Português, pode contactar a Dra. Ana Baptista na Ironbound Community Corporation (973) 589-3353 x213 e para obter informações em espanhol por favor contate Cynthia Mellon em (973) 344-5949 x207.***

***Si desea recibir información sobre la reunión de agosto por favor llame al Asambleísta Albert Coutinho al (973) 589-0713. Para información en portugués se puede contactar a la Dra. Ana Baptista en la Ironbound Community Corporation (973) 589-3353 x213 y para información en español se puede contactar a la Cynthia Mellon en ICC (973) 344-5949 x207.***

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward Putnam" followed by a stylized flourish.

Edward Putnam, Assistant Director  
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