

## **Summary of Rosewood site toxicological evaluation**

The following is a summary of the toxicological evaluation of soil and water samples collected from the area behind the houses on Ridgeway and Pandora in the Homewood Heights Neighborhood.

### **Background**

The City of Austin Watershed Protection and Development Review Department conducted sampling of soil and water on city-owned property in the vicinity of the Homewood Heights neighborhood. The purpose of this sampling was to assess an area that appeared to be a site of historical dumping. As an initial assessment, samples were collected to characterize contaminants in soil and water.

Three soil and one water samples were collected on April 11, 2007 and were analyzed for metals, semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs) and pesticides.

### **Results**

#### Soil

Table 1 summarizes the results of the soil samples. In two samples, the concentrations of lead were detected significantly above the State protective level of 500 ppm. Ingestion of lead in soil at this concentration can increase the risk of neurobehavioral deficits in children and fetuses in utero.

#### Water

Table 2 summarizes the measured concentrations of metals in water. Table 3 summarizes the measured concentrations of SVOCs and pesticides. These tables show that the metals barium and selenium and the pesticide DDT were detected but are below their corresponding State protective levels, and are not expected to pose a risk to residents who are in contact with groundwater.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

In summary, measured concentrations of compounds of lead in two soil samples were significantly above the TCEQ protective contaminant level (PCL) of 500 mg/kg. Exposure to lead concentrations at these levels may pose a risk to children who accidentally or intentionally ingest soil from this area. Further investigation and evaluation is recommended to determine fully the extent and source of lead contamination in this area.

In the interim, to limit exposure to soil and other physical hazards in this area:

- Public access, especially by young children, to this area should be restricted until the area has been completely assessed and remediated.
- Persons with access to this area need to be informed of the lead concentrations detected, risk of exposure, and prevention measures such as cleaning clothes and shoes, and using proper hygiene that will reduce exposure to contaminated soils.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Janet Pichette at 972-5486.

**Table 1. Concentration of Compounds in Soil  
Reported over the Practical Quantitation Limit (milligrams per kilograms)  
Homewood Heights, April 11, 2007**

Compound	Soil Sample 193418	Soil Sample 193419	Soil Sample 193420	TotSoil <sub>comb</sub> (mg/kg)
Arsenic	3.18	11.9	49.4	24
Barium	197	694	986	2800
Cadmium	1.32	12.8	6.2	52
Chromium	14.8	46	61	1200
Lead	190	2000	4210	500
Mercury	.38	0.101	0.1946	3.6
Selenium	<1	<1	<1	310
Silver	<0.5	29.5	7.02	96
4,4-DDD	0.0281	0.197	0.157	114
4,4-DDE	0.186	1.07	0.504	10
4,4-DDT	0.244	1.37	0.207	54
Dieldrin	<0.008	0.032	<0.008	.15
Endosulfan I	<0.020	0.0214	<0.020	61
Endosulfan II	<0.008	<0.008	<0.008	270
Endrin	<0.008	<0.227	<0.020	8.8

**Table 2. Concentration of Metals in Water  
Reported over the Practical Quantitation Limit (milligram/Liter)  
Homewood Heights, April 11, 2007**

Compound	Water Sample 193421	<sup>GW</sup> GW <sub>Class 3</sub> (mg/L)
Barium	0.145	200
Selenium	0.0198	5

**Table 3. Concentration of SVOC and Pesticides in Water  
Reported over the Practical Quantitation Limit (micrograms/Liter)  
Homewood Heights, April 11, 2007**

Compound	Water Sample 193421	<sup>GW</sup> GW <sub>Class 3</sub> (µg/L)
4,4-DDT	.026	270