



You are invited to a  
**Public Availability Session**  
(2 sessions)

**WHEN?**

2:00 to 4:00 PM

and

6:00 to 7:45 PM

**Thursday November 2, 2006**

**WHERE?**

Broome County Public Library  
185 Court Street  
Binghamton, NY

**For more information:**

Mr. Stephen Malsan

or

Ms. Denise Radtke

NYSDEC

(518) 402-8594

Ms. Melissa Menetti

NYSDOH

1-800-458-1158 ext. 27860

Mr. Ronald Brink

Broome County Health Department  
(607) 778-2806

Mr. James Vitak

Ashland Distribution

1-866-323-3921

(Toll Free-Line Open 24 hours)

## Notice of Public Availability Sessions

Regarding

**Ashland Distribution Facility**

**Binghamton, New York**

You are invited to attend a public information session regarding environmental issues related to the Ashland Distribution Facility. *Two sessions will be held on Thursday, November 2, 2006 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM and from 6:00 - 7:45 PM at the Broome County Public Library (Decker Community Room), located at 185 Court Street, Binghamton, New York.* The sessions will be an open house format with no formal presentation, and you may come at any time during these hours. Representatives from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), Broome County Health Department and Ashland Distribution (Ashland) will be on hand to answer questions regarding environmental issues related to the Ashland facility, located at 3 Broad Street in Binghamton.

### BACKGROUND

The NYSDEC and the NYSDOH are currently in the process of assessing sites across New York State where volatile organic contaminants (VOCs) are present in soil or groundwater. The purpose of these assessments is to determine if there is a potential for subsurface VOC vapor to impact indoor air in buildings where people are living, working, or that are otherwise occupied. The process by which volatile chemicals move from a subsurface source into the indoor air of overlying buildings is known as "vapor intrusion."

The Ashland facility currently handles waste under the authority of a NYSDEC Hazardous Waste Management Permit. Previous operations at the site have contaminated groundwater with VOCs. Available data indicate that VOCs are present on-site and off-site. (Drinking water in this neighborhood comes from a different source area and meets all applicable drinking water standards.) Beginning in August 2005, Ashland has implemented a series of investigative activities, in accordance with NYSDEC approved work plans, to determine if vapor intrusion was adversely impacting nearby structures.

### RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The results of Ashland's air testing program showed that the levels of trichloroethylene (TCE), a VOC, detected in indoor air were below the NYSDOH draft Air Guideline Value of 5 micrograms per cubic meter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) at all structures tested in the study area (one of two samples collected by the NYSDEC indicated an indoor air concentration which slightly exceeded the air guideline). The results of sub-slab testing in certain structures indicated that VOCs were present in sub-slab soil vapor at concentrations that could potentially impact indoor air in the future. These impacts could result from changing weather conditions, future home construction projects, a change in heating or air conditioning systems or general deterioration of a structure.

### NEXT STEPS

As recommended by the state, Ashland has offered to mitigate some structures and to resample others. In July 2006, the state approved Ashland's Vapor Intrusion Mitigation Work Plan, which outlines steps in the mitigation process. Copies of the approved plan will be available at the public availability sessions.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You may obtain additional information by contacting one of the representatives listed on this fact sheet, or you may visit the Ashland document repository at the Broome County Public Library located at 185 Court Street, Binghamton. You may obtain additional information about vapor intrusion from NYSDEC's website at <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/der/guidance/vapor/index.html>