January 7, 2014

Resident of West Hillhurst NW
Calgary, Alberta

Dear Residents:

Subject: ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING IN WEST HILLHURST COMMUNITY

As you may know, the Government of Alberta has developed and implemented an environmental sampling program in your community. This program was established in 2010 to update a 1993 Human Health Risk Assessment associated with the former Canada Creosote site, located in downtown Calgary between 1924 and the mid-1960s. We have been working with the City of Calgary on this and have retained Golder Associates Ltd. to do the work.

In the early 1990s, environmental monitoring determined that contaminants from the former Canada Creosote site (south of the river) had migrated under the Bow River and into the community of West Hillhurst. Since this discovery, the Government of Alberta has taken action to prevent further migration of contaminants off of the source site and, more recently, has been actively monitoring the migration of existing contaminants in West Hillhurst by drilling and monitoring approximately 30 wells throughout the community on an on-going basis. Environmental sampling has taken place in the community to continue monitoring the possible environmental and health impacts.

While recent monitoring results are in line with the initial study from 2010, we have detected a higher amount of creosote in one of the wells. Based on these recent monitoring results, the Government of Alberta has asked Golder Associates to undertake further monitoring of existing wells and drill additional monitoring wells. Our presence in the community will help determine what, if any, additional mitigation measures may be necessary to continue to protect human health and the environment. This work is being undertaken so we can provide you with the most up-to-date information about the situation in your community.

The Government of Alberta and Golder Associates will be drilling additional wells in the area and working with residents to collect monitoring samples from inside their homes located near the monitoring well where the creosote was found. This information will help determine what steps, if any, need to be taken to protect the health and safety of residents. This work will begin in mid-January and is expected to last into the spring. Our experts have contacted those residents whose homes will need to be accessed for testing.

Enclosed you will find a question and answer document about the upcoming work in your community, and letters that have previously been shared with residents. Copies of final reports prepared by Golder Associates to date on this issue and all previous correspondence to residents will be available online at esrd.alberta.ca. It is anticipated that the most recent report will be finalized and posted online in February 2014.

If you have any questions regarding the monitoring activities in Hillhurst or the former Canada Creosote site, please feel free to contact either Mr. Warren Riley, Contaminated Sites Specialist at 403-297-7445 (dial 310-0000 for a toll-free connection), or at Warren.Riley@gov.ab.ca or Brock Rush, District Approvals Manager, Environment and Sustainable Resource Development at 403-297-7884 or at Brock.Rush@gov.ab.ca.

Yours truly,

Original signed by
Darren Bourget
Compliance Manager
Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development

Enclosure