

April 5, 2016

To: Distribution List

Subject: Notice of Public Meeting and Fact Sheet for the Remedial Investigation of the UMore Park/Former Gopher Ordnance Works Site, Dakota County, MN

The University of Minnesota will perform a Remedial Investigation (RI) of UMore Park/Former Gopher Ordnance Works (Site) in Dakota County. The Site consists of approximately 8,000 acres of the former Gopher Ordnance Works (GOW), a smokeless powder production facility owned, constructed and operated by the federal government during World War II, and includes all of the University of Minnesota Outreach, Research and Education (UMore) Park and the Vermillion Highlands Research, Recreation and Wildlife Management Area. Since its acquisition by the University in 1947 and 1948, the Site has been used for University agricultural and other research projects and tenant agricultural and commercial activities, and since May 2006, as Vermillion Highlands, which is jointly managed by the University and the Department of Natural Resources. The RI Work Plan incorporates and builds upon findings from past studies and addresses ten areas of known or suspected releases through soil, groundwater or soil gas sampling. The RI Work Plan and supporting documents have been submitted to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for review and approval.

Enclosed is a Fact Sheet for the RI. The RI project documents and past environmental reports regarding the Site are available for public review at the Information Repository, which is located at the UMore Lease Office, 15325 Babcock Ave, Rosemount, MN 55068. Please contact Mike Waldemar at 651-423-1118 to make arrangements to view the Repository or view it electronically at: <http://www.umorepark.umn.edu>.

In order to provide the public with an opportunity to learn more about the project, **the University will host a Public Meeting:**

DATE: Tuesday, April 26, 2016

PLACE: Rosemount Community Center (13885 South Robert Trail, Rosemount)

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. (6:30 presentation)

All interested parties including residents, businesses owners, and governmental officials are encouraged to attend. Representatives of the MPCA will also be present to answer any questions from the public.

The MPCA will accept public comments to the RI project documents for thirty (30) days from April 11, 2016 through May 12, 2016. Written comments will be accepted by the MPCA at the public meeting or may be submitted to the MPCA by mail or hand delivery, as follows:

Mr. Gary Krueger
Remediation Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Avenue North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194

Parties desiring additional information should contact Tim Busse, Director of Communications, University Services at 612-624-2863, Ken Kerns, Assistant Vice President of University Health and Safety at 612-626-4399, or Gary Krueger of the MPCA at 651-757-2509.