

April 15, 2011

I believe that it is not a question of whether or not we should include Vapor Intrusion as part of the HRS, but rather how quickly can we add it to the HRS. When I met and later married my wife, a life long Pompton Lakes resident, she convinced me to move to her favorite town. Over the years we have spent together I began to notice something very alarming. I was born and raised in the small town of Lincoln Park, NJ less then 10 miles from Pompton Lakes and I never witness anywhere near the number of incidences of cancer and other life threatening illnesses my wife and her friends have seen among their family, friends and neighbors here in Pompton Lakes. Now a NJ health study has raised a red flag stating that yes there are elevated levels of cancer in the Plume area (over 450 homes) of Pompton Lakes, where my wife and I currently live, and these elevated levels of cancer can be associated to the vapors (TCE & PCE) entering our homes. We do not have a minute to lose! Adding Vapor intrusion to the HRS will save countless lives that in the past ended prematurely do to a lack of action or lack of urgency required in dealing with this silent killer. The EPA was created to protect the environment and the people of this great nation. Do not become an accomplice to what amounts to murder, I urge you to include Vapor Intrusion as part of the HRS immediately. Create enforceable policies that force immediate notification of the problem to the public of a problem. Strict guidelines for testing and installation of vapor mitigation systems that allow for third party contractors paid for 100% by the polluter. Strict timelines for remediation of the contaminated are and stiff penalties for non compliance. These are just some of the many important things to consider when you add vapor intrusion to the HRS. So again I strongly urge you to include Vapor Intrusion as part of the HRS. You just may be saving someone you love.

Respectfully,

Michael Garbe
Pompton Lakes, NJ