



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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ADPH releases public health assessment for Capitol City Plume site

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Capitol City Plume site in downtown Montgomery currently poses no known public health hazard. The contaminants found in the aquifer under the city pose no apparent health risk since no known exposure via drinking water is believed to be occurring.

These are among the findings of a public health assessment on contamination at the Capitol City Plume site. The approximate boundaries of the contamination are Dexter Avenue (south) to Railroad Street (north) and Coosa Street (west) to Bainbridge Street (east). The department performed the health assessment under a cooperative agreement with the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

The public health assessment also found that Capitol City Plume site represented "no apparent health hazard" in the past. This is due to the quick response by the Montgomery Water and Sanitary Sewer Board in removing the contaminated wells from service. Additionally, contaminants that may enter the water system are greatly diluted since the Montgomery water supply is a blended system.

Permanent capping of the contaminated wells is recommended to prevent any potential future incorporation of contaminated water into the city water supply. Other recommendations for the site include periodic sampling of Environmental Protection Agency wells and the North Well Fields to monitor for the presence of contaminants.

The Department of Public Health invites the public to review the public health assessment and offer comments on it. Copies are available for public review at Montgomery's Main Branch Library, 245 High St. This information is also available through the Internet at www.adph.org/risk.

Information and comments should be addressed to Chief of PERIS, Division of Health Assessment and Consultation, 1600 Clifton Road (E-60), Atlanta, Ga. 30333. Comments on the public health assessment must be received by March 16, 2004. All comments received will be evaluated and considered, and responses will be provided in the final version of the assessment.

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