



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The Southwest Indianapolis Air Toxics Study Public Advisory Group (PAG)

www.idem.IN.gov

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Background:

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) recently concluded a two-year study of air toxics in the Southwest quadrant of Indianapolis. IDEM studied one-hundred-sixty-eight (168) pollutants to determine whether any of them were present in the air in concentrations that would warrant further attention to reduce potential health risks.

Description:

The Public Advisory Group (PAG) was comprised of Southwest Indianapolis residents and community leaders who work toward increasing the quality of life for area residents through community improvements. The PAG met regularly at the Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center from June 2008 through March 2010.

Purpose of the PAG:

- To ensure study results reached Southwest Indianapolis residents first;
- To ensure study results were communicated in a clear and understandable manner to the general public in the area;
- To give residents of Southwest Indianapolis a forum for voicing questions and concerns regarding the study; and,
- To provide community input concerning any necessary follow-up actions once the study is complete.

The PAG achieved these goals by helping IDEM create a community involvement plan for the study. The community involvement plan was used to help IDEM understand which information would be most useful to residents and to identify which organizations and individuals should be involved with the release of the study results.

PAG Members:

- Beth Gibson - West Indianapolis Development Corporation (WIDC)
- Joanne Hamilton - Marion County Alliance of Neighborhood Associations (McANA)
- Elizabeth McMillin - Southern Wayne Neighborhood Organization
- Dennis Papenmeier - Mayor's Neighborhood Liaison, City of Indianapolis
- Robyn Schuller - Director of Health Operations, Occupational Health and Hygiene Corporation of America
- Martha Wedemeyer - Southwest Health Clinic
- Kathy Dee - Parent Liaison, Daniel Webster School, IPS # 46
- Janet McCabe - Improving Kids' Environment
- Pastor John Hay, Jr. - West Morris Street Free Methodist Church
- Richard Myers - Environmental Health and Safety, Indianapolis Public Schools

More Information:

- For more information on the PAG, please visit IDEM's Web site at <http://www.in.gov/idem/5682.htm>.
- For more information on the Southwest Indianapolis Air Toxics Study, please visit the study's Web site at <http://www.idem.IN.gov/programs/air/workgroups/swindyairtox>.
- For questions and concerns, please call IDEM's Office of Air Quality Project Management Section at (317) 234-3499.

