

State Rep. Phyllis Kahn

NEWS RELEASE

Minnesota House of Representatives

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Rep. Kahn Working on Toxic Vapor Issue, Pushing to Accelerate Review and Cleanup

St. Paul, Minnesota — State Representative Phyllis Kahn (DFL – Minneapolis) is pushing for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to accelerate their efforts to review and cleanup sites affected by toxic vapors. These toxic vapors are coming from the soil and are the result of dumping of toxic chemicals such as trichloroethylene, or TCE. In the Como neighborhood, an old General Mills research facility dumped thousands of gallons of TCE between 1949 and 1962.

“I have been paying close attention to this issue and responding to the very legitimate concerns of constituents,” said Rep. Kahn. “We must do whatever we can to make sure residents are protected.”

Rep. Kahn has attended briefings for legislators on this issue, attended community meetings and believes, in light of recent news and reports, the state should increase funding and accelerate the efforts in Como as this has become a statewide issue. She believes that the Como effort can and should serve as a model for the state.

“We’re continuing to learn more and more about this issue and that early information and advice was inaccurate,” added Rep. Kahn. “While we’re making progress, we need to move faster to address the problem. Minnesotans should feel safe in their homes and shouldn’t have to worry that they or their families are breathing in dangerous vapors.”

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