

## **Kliegman Brothers, Inc.**

76-01 77<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Glendale, Queens County

### **ADDENDUM TO THE MAY 2001 FACT SHEET ON KLIEGMAN BROTHERS**

Issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in consultation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

July 24, 2001

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1241-031*

#### **Follow-up Environmental Site Investigation**

Additional soil and groundwater sampling at the site started at the end of May 2001 and is ongoing. A consulting firm retained by the owners of the site is performing the investigation. The field work is expected to be completed in early to mid August 2001, and a report of the findings of the investigation will be prepared following receipt and review of the laboratory results.

State Superfund monies have been made available to perform a Remedial Investigation (RI) and a Feasibility Study (FS) for the off-site portion of the project. The off-site RI/FS will define the extent of the contamination, examine the human health and environmental risks associated with the contamination, and evaluate alternatives for remediating the off-site impacts from the site. The work will include study components for both groundwater and soil gas and will be sufficient for the NYSDEC to prepare a Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) and issue a Record of Decision (ROD). PRAP is the Department-proposed remedial plan for the site and the ROD is the official remedial plan that is adopted after the full public participation process. The NYSDEC has prepared the Standby contract work assignment for State Superfund, and will be retaining a professional environmental consultant to prepare a detailed work plan for the off-site RI/FS. The field work associated with the off-site RI/FS will begin after the work plan has been reviewed and approved by the NYSDEC and NYSDOH.

#### **Indoor Air**

Representatives of the NYSDOH, NYSDEC and the New York City Department of Health conducted indoor air sampling at selected homes around the Kliegman Brothers property to determine if tetrachloroethene contamination at the Kliegman Brothers property is affecting indoor air quality in homes nearest to the site. Tetrachloroethene is a common dry cleaning solvent and the most prevalent contaminant at the site. The investigation, conducted in October and December 2000, indicated no effects on indoor air quality in seven of ten homes tested, and only marginal effects on indoor air quality were noted in two of the three remaining homes tested. However, significant impacts to indoor air quality were noted in the basement of a residence tested on Edsall Avenue. In June 2000, the NYSDEC conducted indoor air sampling at an additional residence on Edsall Avenue. The sampling results were received by the NYSDOH in late July and are

currently under review. A preliminary review of these results indicate impacts to indoor air quality in the basement of this residence, although at levels significantly less than those detected at the Edsall Avenue home previously tested. Pending a final evaluation of the indoor air sampling results, the NYSDOH may recommend corrective measures be taken by the NYSDEC to address the impacts to indoor air quality.

### **Food, Ventilation, and Odor Issues**

The NYSDEC met with the Environmental Board of Community Board No. 5 in June 2001 to discuss the status of the project. The Board expressed concern that a food processing operation is operating at the Kliegman Brothers site and questioned whether tetrachloroethylene (PCE) vapors emanating from site soils might render the foods stored and distributed from the facility unsafe for human consumption. The Board also expressed concern about odors at that site and the fact that ventilation fans, installed by the current site owner to reduce tetrachloroethene concentrations within the building, were venting to the street and may present an exposure concern to the community. The NYSDEC discussed the concerns with the NYSDOH and it was determined that the facility, as a food processor, is under the jurisdiction of the New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets. The NYSDOH has referred the matter to the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for appropriate follow-up.

Regarding the odor complaints, the odors appear to result primarily from spices used in the food reprocessing operation. The NYSDOH has referred that matter to the New York City Department of Environmental Protection for appropriate follow-up. The NYSDEC is investigating the ventilation system to determine if it requires an air permit and if any solvent vapors emanating to the street are in violation of applicable air-quality standards. In particular, the NYSDEC's Division of Air staff in the Region are reviewing the ventilation issue.

### **For More Information**

Please contact the following if you have questions about:

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