

February 13, 2018

Investigation Update

As an update to previous public statements made on January 12, and February 2, 2018, regarding the release experienced by Town of Unity, the Ministry of the Economy (ECON) would like to provide the following information:

- The measured concentration of chemicals in the air samples collected on January 2nd and 3rd, 2018, have been determined to be a mixture of gaseous compounds of petroleum hydrocarbons and sulfur-based compounds.
- The concentration of the released compounds, and the timeframe of exposure, could have resulted in the short term effects described by some residents of Unity; however, due to the low levels and short term exposure no serious or long term health effects are expected.
- As previously indicated, ECON has contracted Intrinsic Corp. (Intrinsic), a consulting firm with expertise in toxicology for the protection of human health and the environment, to advise ECON on the investigation process and assess the results of the air testing. The Ministry of Health, Saskatchewan Health Authority and the Ministry of Environment have also been consulted on this matter.
- The compounds that were identified from lab results were compared to established and recognized standards and guideline values published by Health Canada, the World Health Organization, and the United States Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry, among others.
- An investigation report will be prepared by the provincial regulator which will include actions to address items identified during the investigation. Upon completion of the investigation, this report and supporting analysis will be provided to the public.

Investigation work will continue over the next several weeks with a full report prepared once it is completed.

This report will include actions required to address issues identified in the investigation. Some of these measures will be implemented as they are identified through the course of the investigation.

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