United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Major Expansion of SVE System to Begin This Summer

Hartford Area Hydrocarbon Plume Site
Hartford, Illinois August 2006

This summer, the Hartford Working Group will begin expanding the soil vapor extraction system in selected areas of northern Hartford. HWG consists of several oil companies that have agreed to clean up refined petroleum products in the ground. The original SVE system, installed in the 1990s, was fully rebuilt in 2005 and will now be significantly expanded. This project is expected to be completed by the end of the year. SVE works by pulling contaminated vapors to a well and sending them to equipment on the refinery property called thermal oxidizers where they are destroyed. (*See photo of oxidizers on Page 2 and map of expansion of SVE system on Page 3.*)

Pardon our dust

Thank you for putting up with the recent testing and drilling. (*See "Recent Testing" on Page 2.*) And, of course, this summer's expansion of the SVE system will involve additional construction. However, EPA feels the benefits of this project to the community will make some further inconvenience and disruption worthwhile. This can best be illustrated by the success of the updated and rebuilt SVE system that is already running. To date, it has

More trenches like this one will be installed in selected areas of northern Hartford. These trenches hold piping that carry vapors removed by the extraction wells to the refinery property where it is then burned in thermal oxidizers.

Construction timeline

May - June 2006
Testing to determine the design of the expanded SVE system

June 2006
Contractors selected to install expanded SVE system

July 2006
Design for location of wells completed

Draft liquid/vapor cleanup system design submitted to EPA

August 2006
Construction begins on expanded SVE system

August/September 2006
EPA reviews liquid/vapor cleanup system design

December 2006
Target date for expanded SVE system to be substantially completed

Winter 2006/2007
Liquid/vapor cleanup system design completed

Spring/Summer 2007
Target for construction of liquid/vapor cleanup system to begin

EPA and the Hartford Working Group will be cooperating with the village to keep any disruptions associated with this construction to a minimum.

removed vapors equivalent of more than 140,000 gallons of refined petroleum product from the ground. Once this phase of the expansion of the SVE system is finished, it is expected to be even more efficient and productive.

Recent testing

During May and June, Hartford Working Group contractors drilled and installed monitoring equipment and extraction wells in selected areas of northern Hartford. The equipment was installed to gather the information needed to design the expanded SVE system. In order to place all of the SVE equipment in the most effective locations, the current testing determined the composition and amount of the vapors and how much vapor can be removed from each location. This study also measured the area that each well will draw from (called its zone of influence). This work helped determine more accurately where to place each SVE extraction well.

Remaining phases of the cleanup

In addition to expanding the SVE system, the Hartford Working Group has agreed to design other ways to remove petroleum products from the ground. HWG has proposed building a cleanup system that will remove both vapor and liquid. EPA is reviewing a draft design of this solution. By this fall, EPA expects the design for this cleanup system to be finished. Construction should then begin in 2007. (*See timeline on front page.*)

Drill rigs like this one will be used to install the additional SVE wells.

Home assessments

HWG contractors continue to do home assessments to determine what measures should be taken to protect people from the potential for vapors to enter their residences. These protective measures include: sealing cracks in building foundations, basements and crawl spaces; insulating and sealing ductwork; and installing ventilation systems. These measures are free to the homeowner and were explained in a fact sheet sent to residents in October 2004. That fact sheet is available on the EPA Web site at www.epa.gov/region5/sites/hartford/index.htm. HWG contractors are also continuing to maintain the systems and improvements already installed and to do repairs as necessary.

If you have any questions or requests concerning in-home protective measures, please call EPA's Mike Joyce or Stuart Hill at (800) 621-8431, 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

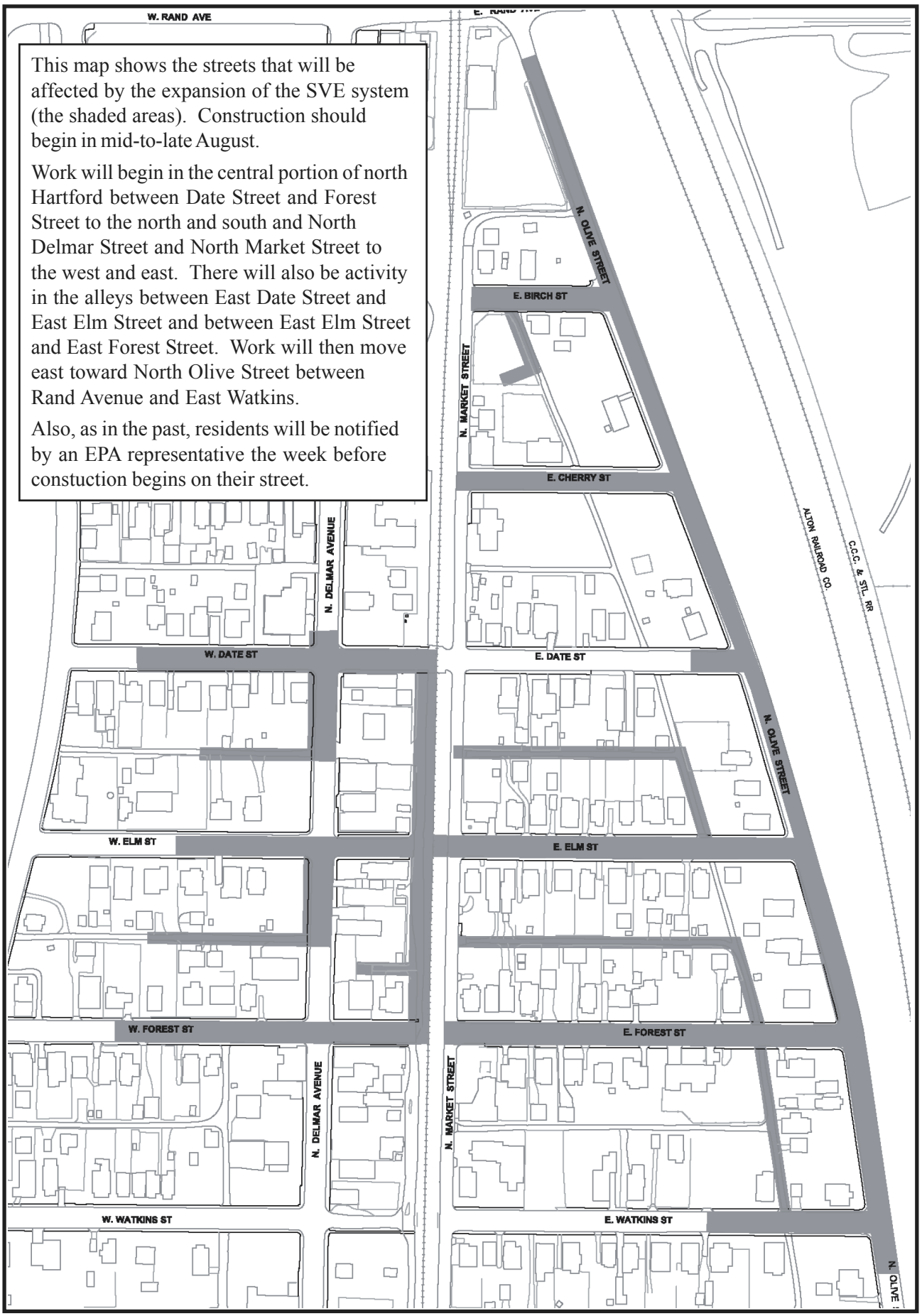
Four thermal oxidizers on the refinery property are being used to burn the vapors piped from the system of extraction wells.

Area of SVE Expansion in North Hartford

This map shows the streets that will be affected by the expansion of the SVE system (the shaded areas). Construction should begin in mid-to-late August.

Work will begin in the central portion of north Hartford between Date Street and Forest Street to the north and south and North Delmar Street and North Market Street to the west and east. There will also be activity in the alleys between East Date Street and East Elm Street and between East Elm Street and East Forest Street. Work will then move east toward North Olive Street between Rand Avenue and East Watkins.

Also, as in the past, residents will be notified by an EPA representative the week before constuction begins on their street.



For more information

For more information about the Hartford Area Hydrocarbon Plume site, you may review documents at Hartford Public Library District, 143 W. Hawthorne St., or on the EPA Web site at www.epa.gov/region5/sites/hartford/index.htm, or contact:

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