

# Neighborhood Forum: Tidewater Site

Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8 pm

International Charter School (334 Pleasant St)

Did you know there are dangerous chemicals in the fenced area behind Taft & Tidewater St?

We need YOU to come learn what you can do to protect your health and your family!



## Mercury spill

- \* Contamination from 2004 mercury spill was big news
- \* Whole apartment complex was evacuated and cleaned
- \* The company (Southern Union) fined \$18 million!
- \* But, appealing to Supreme Court to avoid paying a cent

*Mercury is dangerous when touched or breathed, and can cause nervous system damage. Higher exposure can damage the kidneys, lead to respiratory failure or death*

## Toxic Sludge in tanks

- \* 300 tons of toxic sludge was held in two tanks sitting next to elementary schools
- \* tanks dismantled during school day by workmen wearing white suits and masks, while children played across the street
- \* National Grid (site owner) didn't take full safety precautions: their own tests show high releases of dangerous air toxins like naphthalene (smells like moth balls...)

*Exposure to naphthalene can cause anemia in children, confusion, nausea, vomiting and is known to cause cancer*

## National Grid site: PCB contamination

- \* PCB = dangerous chemical that was banned in 1979
- \* PCB exposure limit = 10 mg/kg...  
PCB levels found on site: 3178 mg/kg

*PCBs are linked to cancer, reproductive & developmental disorders. PCBs store in the body, are transferred from mother to child*

## Have concerns? Speak up!

**It's up to us to make sure National Grid doesn't harm this neighborhood or put our families' health in danger**

## Questions? Want more information? Contact:

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