



CITY OF HOUSTON - CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date:

District H

Item Creation Date: 10/14/2019

HPW - 20UPA392 Target Corporation

Agenda Item#:

Background:

In 2003, the Texas Legislature authorized the creation of Municipal Setting Designations (MSD), which designate an area in which the use of contaminated groundwater is prohibited for use as potable water. The law is administered by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and requires local City support to designate an MSD. The intent of the legislation is to encourage redevelopment of vacant or abandoned properties while protecting public health. On August 22, 2007, City Council approved an ordinance amending Chapter 47 of the Code of Ordinances by adding Article XIII relating to groundwater, which provides a process to support or not support an MSD application to the State (ordinance amended 7/14/2010).

Target Corporation Application: Target Corporation is seeking a Municipal Setting Designation (MSD) for 9.329 acres of land located at 2580 Shearn Street, Houston, TX 77007. The contamination consists of benzene, arsenic, trichloroethene, cis-1,2-dichloroethene, vinyl chloride, benzo (a) pyrene and carbazole. The site and surrounding area have been involved in industrial and manufacturing operations since as early as 1896. The site is currently a Target retail store built in 2005-2006. A licensed Professional Geologist has certified that the area of contamination has been thoroughly investigated, is fully delineated and is stable.

Target Corporation is seeking an MSD for this property to restrict access to groundwater to protect the public against possible exposure to the contaminants. There is a public drinking water supply system that meets state requirements that supplies or is capable of supplying drinking water to the MSD property and all properties within one-half mile of the MSD property. A public meeting was held on July 9, 2019 at the Houston Permitting Center, and a public hearing was held on September 19, 2019 during the Regulation and Neighborhood Affairs Council Committee. Both meetings are necessary steps prior to City Council's consideration of support.

Recommendations: It is recommended that City Council adopt a Municipal Setting Designation (MSD) ordinance prohibiting the use of designated groundwater at the Target Corporation site located at 2580 Shearn Street, Houston, TX 77007, and support issuance of an MSD by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

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for Carol Ellinger Haddock
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ATTACHMENTS:

Description

RCA Attachments #2018-123-TCH

Type

Backup Material