



For Immediate Release

June 6, 2017

Contact:

Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper, Delaware Riverkeeper Network 215 801 3043 cell

**Concerned Residents to Take Action At June 7
Township Meeting Regarding Toxic Bishop Tube Site**

Township and State officials have not been responsive to the needs of the community on the Bishop Tube development and a local community action group is ready to make their voices heard

East Whiteland, Chester County, PA: Bishop Tube is a 13.7 acre site that was formerly used as a metal processing plant. Since the 1970's the site has been abandoned and has not yet been remediated. Improper dumping of waste and use of chemicals during its previous operations has contaminated soils and groundwater with high levels of TCE (trichloroethylene), a probable human carcinogen. The East Whiteland Township Board of Supervisors has shown support for a partial remediation of the site prior to development of over 200 town homes, as well as construction of an emergency access road through an adjacent neighborhood. The proposed development would cause the township to lose valuable woodlands, fail to ensure full remediation of toxins prior to development, allow ongoing TCE discharges for an undetermined period of time, and increase potential pollution of the designated Exceptional Value Little Valley Creek and associated wetlands.

People of the East Whiteland Township community have had growing concerns about plans for the site. A local community action group was formed to press for full remediation of the site at the expense of responsible parties, to oppose a \$1 million dollar grant that would advance the partial remediation and development plan, and to urge the site be protected as natural open space for the benefit of the community.

An informational meeting on the proposed development is to be held on Wednesday, June 7th at 7:30pm at the Great Valley Middle School, 255 North Phoenixville Pike in Malvern, PA. In recognition of concerns the community has about the quality of information being given to the public, and the failure of town and state officials to hear community concerns and goals on the matter, the group has insisted they be given time on the meeting agenda. The Department of Environmental Protection is expected to attend the meeting and give its own presentation.

#####

DELAWARE RIVERKEEPER NETWORK
925 Canal Street, Suite 3701
Bristol, PA 19007
Office: (215) 369-1188
fax: (215) 369-1181
dmn@delawareriverkeeper.org
www.delawareriverkeeper.org