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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Signed

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Watertown Public Opinion (Watertown, SD)

Run Date	Ad Size	Caption / Position / Special Instructions	Section and Page information
Thu 12/12/24	3.00 X 9.90	Caption: PUC Notice of Public Meetings: Midwest Carbon Express	
Thu 12/26/24	3.00 X 9.90	Caption: PUC Notice of Public Meetings: Midwest Carbon Express	
Wed 01/08/25	3.00 X 9.90	Caption: PUC Notice of Public Meetings: Midwest Carbon Express	
		Special Instructions: Run date changed to Jan. 8 due to no USPS delivery on Jan. 9	

South Dakota NewsMedia Association

South Dakota Newspaper Services, Inc. 1125 32nd Avenue Brookings, South Dakota 57006

Phone: 800-658-3697

EPA bans 2 common toxic solvents

NASA uses both 'trike' and 'perc' as degreasers

Jim Waymer Foriga Today CAA TODAY HETWORK - FLORIDA

Titike" and "perc" helped purify our way to space, cleansing rocket parts to maximize performance and safety. Now the federal government plans to ban the two common solvents, both used by NASA, and one primarily to dry dean our most coveted clothes.

Long term exposure to the two toxic solvents, trichlerosethylens and perchloroschiptene, can be deadly. But the formor, in particular, has fueled cancer and other choncic health concerns on Plorida's Space Coast and in other serospace and military towns for decades.

While the two solvents get plassed out, cleaning up their toxic legacy in Brevard County, Florida, and elsewhere will take decades.

What did EPA do and why?

The Environmental Protection Agen-

The Environmental Protection Agency announced it will be nichloroethylone (TCE, or trike) withis a year, and perchloroethylone (PCE, or perc) within 10 years. Both are used as degressers, but the latter mostly for dey desaning. Trike is an extremely taxe chemical known to cause liver cancer, kidney nancer, and non-Hodgkin lymphome, according to the EPA. It damages the central norvous system, liver, kidneys, immune system and reproductive organs and can cause fetal heart defects. These risks happen at own trace levels.

A 2023 University of Rochester study found causal links between TCE and

found causal links between TCR and Parkinson's disease. Vinylchlorids, one of title's breakdown products, can be even more carcinogenic to the liver than TCR. Perc also is known to causa liver, kidney, brain and testicular cancer and to harm the immune, nervous and re-productive systems.

By far, the most common contami-nant at Kennedy Space Center is trike



One contaminated groundwater plume at the Kennedy Space Center's Launch Complex 34 encompasses 530 acres and is 86 feet deep, according to a 2021 report by the Government Accountability Office, was corwingers and present a robust

and its breakdown products. Out there, where man launched to the moon, those whate man launched to the moon, those chemicals reach levels in the ground thousands of times higher than federal drinking water standards allow. No one drinks groundwater there, but federal law requires that the chemicals eventually get cleaned up bocause the anulier is within a sone that one day could conceivably be a source of drinking water. One contaminated groundwater plume at the KKC's Launch Complais 'A encompasses' 330 acres and is 80 feet deep, according to a 2021 report by the federal Government Accountability Office. The chemical plume is about

fice. The chemical plume is about 700 million gallons of impacted ground-water and contains an estimated 3,000 to 6,000 pounds of trike and other chlo-rinated volatile organic compounds.

Threat to neighborhoods?

Some who live near Patrick Space Force Base have for decades feared the dangers from tike, chlombornene (used in DD' production during and af-ter World War II) and other commonly used solvents from past military and agreement withting.

aerospace activities.

More than 300 homes lie within a 52-

acre area south of Patrick Space Force

acro area south of Patrick Space Force Bass currently targeted for cleanup. That cleanup paite originated from fears among residents that some World War II-rar military waste found there was causing cancers and rare diseases.

Efforts in the late 1980s and early 1990s falled to turn up any definitive public health risk. But residents saw those efforts as a whitewash. Three decades later, a radiological oncologist and rancers survivor who grew up in Sandline Beach, Plorida, brought the issue back to the forefront, after she and a few dozen others from the area were diagnosed with cancers at young ages.

en others from the area were diagnosed with cancers at young ages.

After multiple community meetings, lobbying by activists and media attention that brought environmental setting the state of the sta

NASA's Kennedy Space Center had been finding trike and related com-pounds in the groundwater for decades.

TCE dominates a combined 2 square miles of chemicals that have plumed out on XEC's grounds, a 200 Pi-0,RIDA TO DAY analysis found.
More than a decade ago, NASA estimated it would cost 396 million over 30 years at KSC to clean up trike and other chemical plumes. Around the same time, the Air Force said it could take an additional \$50 million to get the rest of its cleanups that were expected under-way at Cape Canaveral Space Force Sta-tion.

tion.

In 2021, Kennedy Space Center reported an increase of about \$53 million in unfunded environmental liabilities, a growth of shout 37%, hereven 2014 and 2019 - the second-highest growth in unfunded environmental liabilities in NASA. The increase happened because, in 2015, NASA officials changed the way they estimated costs for a complex cleanup project at Launch Complex 34, a 125 acre site heavily contaminated with TCE. with TCE.

KSC's environmental remediation budget typically is about \$10 million per year, according to NASA officials.

is the drinking water safe?

In Brevard, generally, the drinking water is not at risk from TCE or PCE. But industrial solvents such as trike and other chemicals that contaminated drinking water near military bases around the country, such as Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, North Carolina, have been linked with outbreaks of carrers and other rare diseases, snarking cers and other rare diseases, sparking lawsuits and federal intervention.

uswsuits and rederal Intervention.
What long provided a degree of plausible deniability to the military regarding the need for an environmental cleanup at a military disposal site just south of Patrick Space Porce Base was the fact that drinking water to the beachside area comes from mainland

beachside area comes from mainians sources.

Most of the TCE at KSC and the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station launchpads is stopped from reaching desperaquifers – where distikling water could someday be drawn – by a natural clay layer about 40 feet underground. But in some spots, the solvents reach more than twice that depth.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

WMAT) Notice of Public Meetings regarding Permit to Cristmut at Cathon Dioxide Transmission Pipeline In the countier of Beadle, Brookings, Brown, Clark, Codington, Derkon, Edmunds, Gran, Hamille, Hand, Hyde, Kingsbury, Lake, Lincoln, McCock, McPharson, Minnehaha, Miner, Senborn, Spink, Sulky, Transs, and Linkon.

WHEN AND WHERE:

ELL: Wednesday, Jenuary 15, 2025, et 10:00 e.m., CT Mitchell High School Performing Arts Center, 821 N. Capital St., Mitchell, South Dakota.

SIOUX FALLS: Wednesday, January 15, 2025, et 5:00 p.m., CY HUB Auditorium, Southeast Technical College, 2001 N. Career Ave., Sloux Fells, South Dekota.

DE SMET: Thursday, Jenuary 16, 2025, at 11:30 s.m., CT De Smet Evant Canior Theater, 705 Wilder Lane, De Smet, South Dakota WATERTOWN: Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., CT Kampasko Hali, Ramkota Hotel & Watertown Event Center, 1901 Ninth Ave. SW, Watertown. South Dakota.

ASERDEEN: Friday, January 17, 2025, at 10:30 s.m., CT n, The Dakota Event Center, 720 Lamont St., Aberdeen, St

REDFIELD: Friday, January 17, 2025, et 6:00 p.m., CT Redfield School Auditorium, 111 E. Skith Ave., Redfield, South Dakota

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