



Tsi Nahò:ten Karihwanákere Nó:nen'k

PRESS RELEASE

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Fuel seepage under assessment in the area of Zachary Road

(Kahnawake – 12, Enniska/February 2024) The Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke (MCK) is informing the community that on the evening of Friday, February 9th, the Kahnawà:ke Environment Protection Office (KEPO) responded to concerns from residents who had reported the odor of fuel in an area on Zachary Road. Upon initial investigation, KEPO determined that there was seepage of fuel in a run-off ditch.

KEPO technicians, with assistance from the Public Safety Division, Public Works, and spill response teams in neighboring jurisdictions began immediate removal of contaminants in the water and have since installed a barrier to contain the fuel from spreading. However, the initial assessment has shown that there was seepage into a creek in the area. The MCK is aware that the creek affected is connected to the Suzanne River.



The situation is still under assessment, as mitigation efforts continue and the source of the fuel has yet to be determined.

As a precautionary measure, community members are advised to avoid contact (pets included) with the areas along the Suzanne River, and to avoid consumption of water for those on well-systems. Environmental Health Services (EHS) of Kahnawà:ke Shakotiiia'takehnhas Community Services will be performing water testing for wells in the surrounding residences. Should anyone on a well system detect any fuel odors on their water, they are urged to refrain from using their water and have their water tested by EHS by calling **450-635-9945**.

Soil and water testing will be carried out in affected areas and the community will be informed of impacts once a full assessment is carried out.

Crews are working diligently at this time, and updates will be provided as new information becomes available. More information can be obtained by contacting KEPO at **450-635-0600**.