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Commissioner Scott Hosts Listening Session Regarding Gelman 1,4 Dioxane Plume

Tuesday, May 28 Ann Arbor Library, Downtown Fourth floor meeting room, 6-7:30 p.m.

ANN ARBOR, Mich.-- As a dedicated health professional and local leader, Commissioner Katie Scott is eager to connect with citizens on Wednesday, May 29 to discuss local pollution concerns.

The listening session for District 9 residents, taking place 6-7:30 p.m., will focus on the 1,4 dioxane plume.

"This issue has plagued our community for almost 40 years, and I want to hear what residents think should be done," Scott says. "Many people have devoted years to resolving this problem. I want residents to know I am listening to their concerns about local pollution and share their hopes for the best outcome possible regarding remediation and cleanup."

Pollution concerns about waste water at Gelman Sciences were first reported in 1968, but the current understand about the scope and breadth of the problem surfaced when Dan Bicknell discovered dioxane contamination in Third Sister Lake, which is to the west of the Gelman property. This raised concerns that dioxane was on the move, Subsequent well testing revealed that to be the case. Many years later, the communities around the property are still working for a solution. Recently, West Park water samples in a sewer line showed a jump from 4.4 ppb/billion to more than 19 ppb/billion. Those results prompted increased concern from citizens about vapor intrusion and the possibility of the plume reaching Barton Pond, the main source for Ann Arbor's water.

The Ann Arbor City Council recently passed a resolution to convene a meeting with co-plaintiffs in the lawsuit against Gelman. This past Wednesday evening at the regular Board of Commissioners meeting, Scott, along with Commissioners Jason Morgan, Sue Shink, and Jason Maciejewski, will presented a similar resolution which passed.

In anticipation of working jointly with other municipal governments, Scott invites concerned Ann Arbor residents to attend the listening session, which will take place on Tuesday, May 28 at the Ann Arbor Public Library Main Branch from 6-7:30 p.m. in the fourth floor meeting room. The event will be moderated by former state representative, Adam Zemke.

Scott is in her first term on the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners for district 9. She is also currently serving as the Ways & Means chair.