

Cusick, Reilly (DEM)

From: Owens, Kelly (DEM)
Sent: Friday, May 9, 2025 12:27 PM
To: [REDACTED]; Cusick, Reilly (DEM); Hellested, Leo (DEM); Sue Courtemanche
Cc: Gagnon, Ron (DEM); [REDACTED]; Rep Joe Shekarchi; rep-mcnamara@rilegislature.gov; Matthew LaMountain; mark mckenney; frank. j. picozzi@warwickri. com; Anthony Sinapi; wafoley2@gmail.com; jeremymichaelrix@gmail.com; Nappa.ward3@gmail.com; salvatoredeluse@yahoo.com; Ed Ladouceur; Councilman Muto; Ward 9; jackkirby2010@yahoo.com; william.mccaffrey@warwickschools.org
Subject: RE: 30-Day RIDEM Public Comment Period ending May 23, 2025 re: Pilgrim HS, Warwick Phase II Site Assessment. ☀Request RIDEM conduct general public informational meeting in Warwick and expand public comment period.
Attachments: SR-35-2241 - 2025.04.24 - Pre-SI Public Notice & Meeting Package.pdf; SR-35-2241 - 2025.04.01 - LOR.pdf; Submitted Pilgrim RNF 3-27-25.pdf

Subject: 30-Day RIDEM Public Comment Period ending May 23, 2025 re: Pilgrim HS, Warwick Phase II Site Assessment.
☀ Request RIDEM conduct general public informational meeting in Warwick and expand public comment period.

[REDACTED],

Thank you for your email. Attached is everything that the Department has received or issued. There is a Notification of Release that was submitted to the Department. Based on that information, the Department issued a Letter of Responsibility to further investigate the contamination that was found. The Department then received a draft Notification to Abutters which we commented on. Attached is the final version of that Notification to Abutters.

The meeting last night was to receive information from the Public that they may have known about the site, so that the consultant has a better idea of where to take additional samples. There were some samples collected which resulted in the Notification of Release to the Department, but the investigation is not yet complete. The 30-day Public Notice is required in Statute and in the Remediation Regulations for schools. The current 30-day Public Notice is for the public to offer information that they know about the property so that the consultant can make educated selections of sampling locations. In addition to abutters, the information of the meetings was in the Warwick Beacon. We do not have the anticipated dates of completion.

The Department has not yet received a Phase II (aka Site Investigation Report) because the investigation is not complete, and they cannot take any more samples until the 30-day Public Notice Period has ended and they respond to comments. When the Site Investigation Report(SIR) is received, it will be available to the public upon receipt. After the Department reviews and issues the developer any comments that it has, the developer will edit the SIR. At that point there will be a second 14-day Public Notice period for the public to comment on the technical feasibility of the proposed remedy.

The developers and the consultant indicated that they would have a second meeting after the investigation is completed. I have added your name and email to the list that will receive information prior to the second meeting. The list is made up of the abutters and everyone that attended last night's meeting. Anyone else who would like to receive information for the second meeting can email Reilly.Cusick@dem.RI.gov or myself.

The DEM is not in a position to speak to the financial issues that you cited.

The Department's role is to protect human health and the environment.

Thank you for your interest,

Kelly Owens

RIDEM



Kelly J. Owens

Deputy Administrator

**Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Land Revitalization & Sustainable Materials
Management**

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908

Please Note New Telephone Number

401.537.4358 (o)

kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov (E) dem.ri.gov

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Leo Hellested, RIDEM Assistant Director Land Revitalization and Sustainable Materials Management, Kelly Owens, RIDEM Administrator and Reilly Cusick, RIDEM Environmental Scientist I:

Where may the public have access to view/make copies of RIDEM file information and documents during the RIDEM 30-day public comment period which ends on May 23, 2025 pertaining to Pilgrim High School, Warwick Phase II Site Assessment? Please see attachment for the public meeting held on May 8, 2025 at Pilgrim High School, Warwick. Has RIDEM determined that the Phase II Site Assessment and proposed remediation plan are complete and are they accessible for public review? If not, what are the anticipated dates of completion?

It is my understanding from information reported by a Warwick citizen, [REDACTED] (cc'd on this email) who attended the meeting held yesterday at Pilgrim High School, that abutters were noticed (per RIDEM rules) of the meeting and that RIDEM attended.

😊 RIDEM, please consider conducting an advertised general public informational meeting in Warwick and expanding the RIDEM public comment period appropriately.

The construction of a new Pilgrim High School and recreational facilities and ballfields is to be funded with Warwick taxpayer dollars, and student & teacher safety at a new high school is paramount concern to parents and taxpayers. The project of replacing two new high schools (Pilgrim HS and Tollgate HS) and recreational facilities and ballfields is expected to exceed the \$350,000,000 bond referendum approved by Warwick voters. The Warwick City Council recently approved a Resolution to the General Assembly requesting to place an addition \$50,000,000 as bond referendum on special ballot for Warwick voters to decide to fund this additional expense.

The site contamination issues at the Pilgrim High School site and remediation plan, along with the Warwick School Department's determination on how these affect project construction & scheduling and expenses/funding--are critical information to Warwick elected officials in any future decision making process. Public input is a valuable component in this process.

Many thanks.

[REDACTED]

Warwick resident and taxpayer

Cusick, Reilly (DEM)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, May 8, 2025 7:35 PM
To: Cusick, Reilly (DEM)
Subject: Sl: Pilgrim HS

Tonight's meeting was informative. Thank you. Please consider this email a formal request for a follow up meeting for property abutters once final testing is complete and results are conclusive.

Thank you
[REDACTED]

Cusick, Reilly (DEM)

From: Sue Courtemanche <SCourtemanche@TigheBond.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 3:12 PM
To: [REDACTED]; Cusick, Reilly (DEM)
Cc: Owens, Kelly (DEM); Gagnon, Ron (DEM); Hellested, Leo (DEM)
Subject: RE: 30-Day RIDEM Public Comment Period ending May 23, 2025 re: Pilgrim HS, Warwick Phase II Site Assessment. ☀Request RIDEM conduct general public informational meeting in Warwick and expand public comment period.
Attachments: Pilgrim 05-08-205 Presentation.pdf

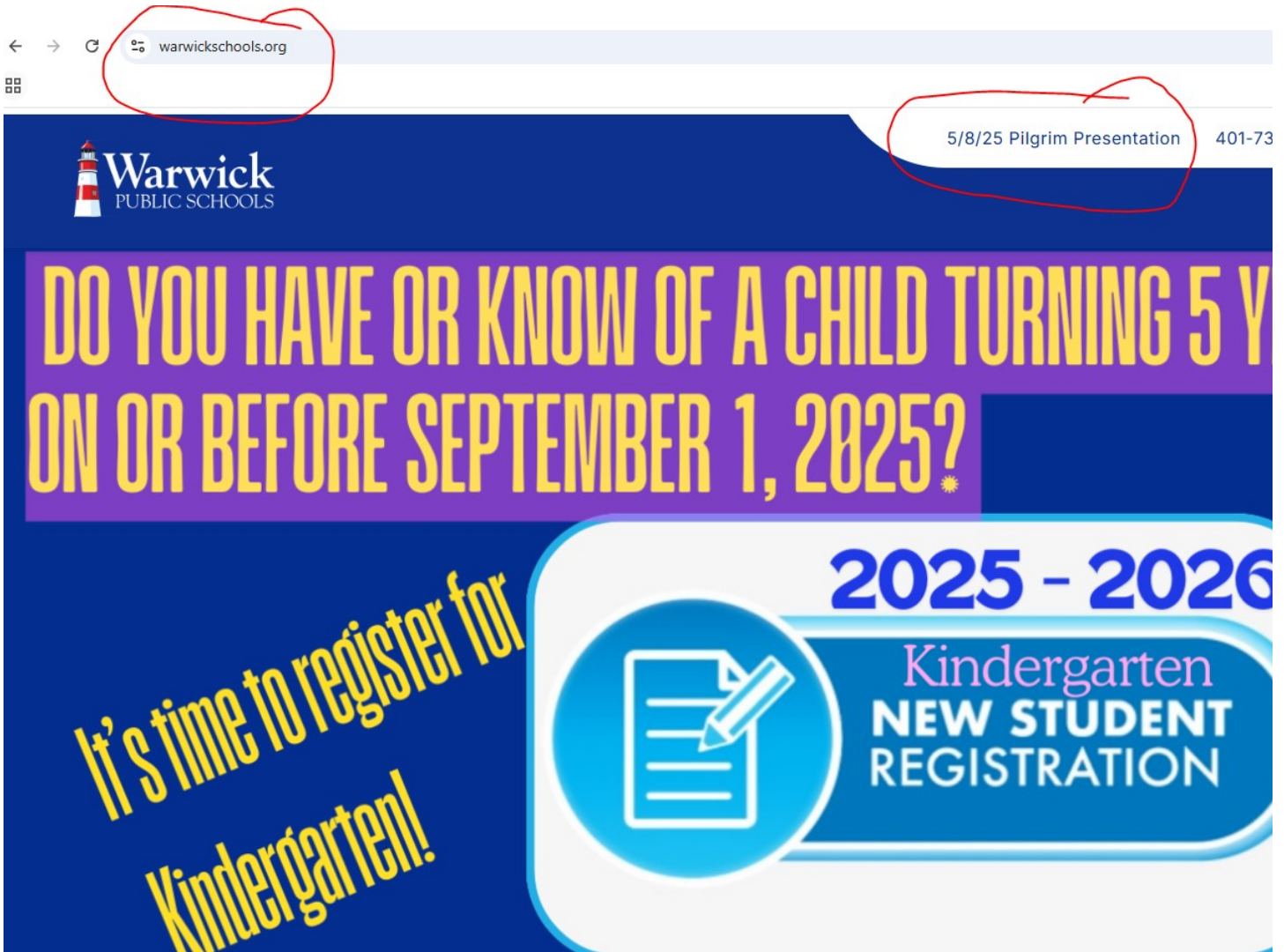
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[REDACTED] – I've attached a copy of the May 8, 2025 presentation for your convenience. Also, you can find a downloadable copy of the Presentation at the Warwick Schools website www.warwickschools.org [warwickschools.org]. Other relevant information will also be published there moving forward. When you click the link, this screen below will appear. The presentation is shown circled in red. That is a live link that will open a copy of the attached PDF with options to print or download the document.

Sue



Suzanne C. Courtemanche, LSP, CHMM *(she/her/hers)*
Vice President/Technical Director

Tighe&Bond

o. 603.294.9660 | m. 508.641.3633

177 Corporate Drive, Portsmouth, NH 03801

w: tighebond.com [tighebond.com] | halvorsondesign.com [halvorsondesign.com]

 [linkedin.com]  [facebook.com]  [twitter.com]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 1:39 PM

To: Cusick, Reilly (DEM) <Reilly.Cusick@dem.ri.gov>

Cc: Owens, Kelly (DEM) <kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov>; Gagnon, Ron (DEM) <Ron.Gagnon@dem.ri.gov>; Hellested, Leo (DEM) <leo.hellested@dem.ri.gov>; Sue Courtemanche <SCourtemanche@TigheBond.com>

Subject: RE: 30-Day RIDEM Public Comment Period ending May 23, 2025 re: Pilgrim HS, Warwick Phase II Site

Assessment. 🌟 Request RIDEM conduct general public informational meeting in Warwick and expand public comment period.

[Caution - External Sender]

Thank you for the responses to my questions, Reilly.

Request to Sue Courtemanche: Please kindly email pdf of the public slide presentation mentioned in responses.

Thank you.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: "Cusick, Reilly (DEM)" <Reilly.Cusick@dem.ri.gov>

Date: 5/12/25 12:01 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: "Owens, Kelly (DEM)" <kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov>, "Gagnon, Ron (DEM)" <Ron.Gagnon@dem.ri.gov>, "Hellested, Leo (DEM)" <leo.hellested@dem.ri.gov>, Sue Courtemanche <scourtemanche@tighebond.com>

Subject: RE: 30-Day RIDEM Public Comment Period ending May 23, 2025 re: Pilgrim HS, Warwick Phase II Site Assessment. 🌻 Request RIDEM conduct general public informational meeting in Warwick and expand public comment period.

Hi [REDACTED],

I was able to get your questions answered by the environmental consultant, Sue Courtemanche from Tighe & Bond. Below are her replies.

“Question: *Are all the Phase I investigations and initial Phase II Site Assessment testing performed to date directly related to the reported hazardous materials release?*

- *No. The Phase I ESA was conducted in accordance with the ASTM Standard E1527-21 Standard Practice for Environmental Site Assessments: Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Process. Per the ASTM Standard, the purpose of the practice is “to define good commercial and customary practice in the United States of America for conducting an environmental site assessment of a parcel of commercial real estate....”*
- *Page 4 of the public meeting presentation slides provides a summary of the process followed noting:*

- *The Phase I ESA was conducted as a requirement of the RIDE-SBA capital improvement project funding for the proposed new school. The funding also requires a Phase II ESA “if necessary” based on the Phase I ESA findings.*
- *Based on the Phase I ESA Findings a Phase II ESA was conducted.*
- *The results of the Phase II ESA identified hazardous materials exceeding the RIDEM criteria in the Remediation Regulations for the location and usage of the property. These were reported to RIDEM as noted.*
- *The site is now subject to the investigatory process set forth in the Remediation Regulations. An overview of the process is included on Page 15 of the public meeting presentation. It begins with completion of a Site Investigation Report per the RIDEM Remediation Regulations.*

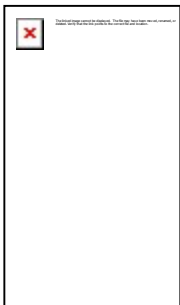
Question: *What is the source of the hazardous materials release?*

- *The purpose of the Site Investigation is to determine the source of the hazardous materials identified. Tighe & Bond is preparing a Site Investigation Work Plan (SIWP) for review and approval by RIDEM. The SIWP will establish the proposed approach to identify the source of the hazardous materials reported to RIDEM.”*

Please let me know if you have any other questions or concerns!

Best,

Reilly Cusick



Reilly Cusick (she/her)

Environmental Scientist I

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

**Office of Land Revitalization & Sustainable Materials
Management**

Site Remediation & Brownfields

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908

401.537.4343 / reilly.cusick@dem.ri.gov

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, May 9, 2025 3:51 PM

To: Owens, Kelly (DEM) <kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov>; Cusick, Reilly (DEM) <Reilly.Cusick@dem.ri.gov>; Gagnon, Ron (DEM) <Ron.Gagnon@dem.ri.gov>; Hellested, Leo (DEM) <leo.hellested@dem.ri.gov>

Subject: RE: 30-Day RIDEM Public Comment Period ending May 23, 2025 re: Pilgrim HS, Warwick Phase II Site Assessment. 🌞 Request RIDEM conduct general public informational meeting in Warwick and expand public comment period.

NOTE: RECEIVED EMAIL MESSAGE THAT EMAIL TOO LONG TO DELIVER TO RIDEM. I CC'D THE SAME RECEIPTENTS AS MY PREVIOUS EMAIL. BELOW IS RESPONSE TO KELLY OWENS' EMAIL.

Hi, Kelly.

Thank you for your prompt and helpful response. Very convenient to have the attached documents you provided, now at our fingertips!

From the documents attached to your email, the Warwick School Department and their consultant notified RIDEM of hazardous materials release on March 27, 2025. Question, please: Are all the Phase I investigations and initial Phase II Site Assessment testing performed to date directly related to the reported hazardous materials release? What is the source of the hazardous materials release?

I missed the Warwick Beacon notice of the May 8, 2025 public informational meeting. I could find no notice of this meeting posted on the City of Warwick or Warwick School Department websites. Thank you for adding my name/email to the contact list.

Thank you.



Cusick, Reilly (DEM)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2025 9:51 PM
To: Owens, Kelly (DEM); Cusick, Reilly (DEM)
Cc: Gagnon, Ron (DEM); Hellested, Leo (DEM); Sue Courtemanche
Subject: RE: 30-Day RIDEM Public Comment Period ending May 23, 2025 re: Pilgrim HS, Warwick Phase II Site Assessment. 🌻Request RIDEM conduct general public informational meeting in Warwick and expand public comment period.

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Hi, Kelly.

Meant to get back to you sooner.

You, Reilly and Sue Courtemanche have been very helpful in responding to my questions.

Thank you with your response on May 9, 2025 to inform me that the public comment period deadline date remains unchanged and my name & email will be added to the list that will receive information prior to the second meeting.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: "Owens, Kelly (DEM)" <kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov>

Date: 5/13/25 2:40 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: [REDACTED] "Cusick, Reilly (DEM)" <Reilly.Cusick@dem.ri.gov>

Cc: "Gagnon, Ron (DEM)" <Ron.Gagnon@dem.ri.gov>, "Hellested, Leo (DEM)" <leo.hellested@dem.ri.gov>, Sue Courtemanche <scourtemanche@tighebond.com>

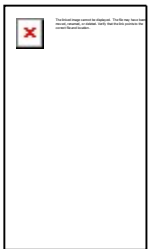
Subject: RE: 30-Day RIDEM Public Comment Period ending May 23, 2025 re: Pilgrim HS, Warwick Phase II Site Assessment. 🌻Request RIDEM conduct general public informational meeting in Warwick and expand public comment period.

[REDACTED]

I see that you are requesting the 30-day comment period which does not end until May 23rd be extended. The meeting that was held on May 8th was to receive information from the Public that they may have known about the site, so that the consultant has a better idea of where to take additional samples. The investigation is not yet complete. The 30-day Public Notice is required in Statute and in the Remediation Regulations for schools. The current 30-day Public Notice is for the public to offer information that they know about the property so that the consultant can make educated selections of sampling locations. If you have knowledge about the property that will assist the consultant in sampling locations, please forward them to Reilly Cusick and myself via email.

The Department has decided not to extend the Public Comment period during this phase of the project because there will be another Public Notice which will include a Public Meeting and an opportunity for the public to comment after the Site Investigation Report(SIR) is completed. The public will have the opportunity to comment on the technical feasibility of the proposed remedy. The developers and the consultant indicated that they would have a second public meeting after the investigation is completed.

Kelly



Kelly J. Owens

Deputy Administrator
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

**Office of Land Revitalization & Sustainable Materials
Management**

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908

Please Note New Telephone Number

401.537.4358 (o)
kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov (E) dem.ri.gov

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Assessment. 🌞 Request RIDEM conduct general public informational meeting in Warwick and expand public comment period.

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Hi, Kelly.

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I missed the Warwick Beacon notice of the May 8, 2025 public informational meeting. I could find no notice of this meeting posted on the City of Warwick or Warwick School Department websites. Thank you for adding my name/email to the contact list.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

Cusick, Reilly (DEM)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2025 10:04 AM
To: Cusick, Reilly (DEM)
Subject: Pilgrim High School manholes catch basins

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As you research the history of the existing Pilgrim High School

FYI it is my understanding that the catch basins at Pilgrim in the court yards for example drain into a system that connects with drains at the former John Brown Francis school and then drain into the bay.

[REDACTED]

Cusick, Reilly (DEM)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 1:29 PM
To: Cusick, Reilly (DEM)
Subject: Pilgrim High School

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Hi Reilly,

I was at the PHS meeting and I recall the team was looking for past info about the site. I was told by some neighbors many people would change the oil in their car in the area with sand, that was used for volleyball. They would let the oil drain out of the car into the sand. Of course this was not sanctioned by the school, it would happen nights and weekends.

The area I am referring to is located in the parking lot not far from the fence at the end of the football field. Also, prior to it being a volleyball court there were two tennis courts there. One under the volleyball court and the other next to it.

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you,
[REDACTED]

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

Cusick, Reilly (DEM)

From: Cusick, Reilly (DEM)
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2025 12:34 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Owens, Kelly (DEM)
Subject: RE: Public Comment Pre-Site Investigation Pilgrim High School, Warwick, RI

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

I want to sincerely apologize for the late response to your questions below! Things have been very busy, but I want to assure you that we did not forget about these questions that you asked. The environmental consultant from Tighe & Bond has provided answers to these concerns which you can view in your original email in red font below.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me!

Best,
Reilly



Reilly Cusick (she/her)
Environmental Scientist I

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Land Revitalization & Sustainable Materials
Management
Site Remediation & Brownfields

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908

401.537.4343 / reilly.cusick@dem.ri.gov

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 23, 2025 5:37 PM
To: Cusick, Reilly (DEM) <Reilly.Cusick@dem.ri.gov>
Cc: Owens, Kelly (DEM) <kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov>
Subject: Public Comment Pre-Site Investigation Pilgrim High School, Warwick, RI

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May 23, 2025

Reilly Cusick, Environmental Scientist 1
RIDEM Office of Land Revitalization and Sustainable Materials Management

Re: Public Comment Submitted via email: reilly.cusick@dem.ri.gov

Pre-Site Investigation

Pilgrim High School

111 Pilgrim Parkway, Warwick, RI

Plat Map 299/Lot 194

and Plat Map 300/Lot 268

Dear Reilly Cusick,

Please find below my comments which are submitted to you during the 30-day public comment period closing on May 23, 2025 at 6 pm regarding the Pre-Site Investigation at Pilgrim High School, Warwick, RI. RIDEM's stated purpose for the solicitation of public comments is to obtain information about conditions at the Site and the environmental history at the Site which may be useful in establishing the scope of the investigation and/or establishing the objectives for the environmental cleanup of the Site.

COMMENTS

1) The Pilgrim High School property is located under the flight path of airplanes approaching to land on runway at T.F. Green International Airport.

The site investigation sampling should include pollutants in airplane exhaust and fuel. In addition to chemical pollutants, sampling should include particulate matter, including ultra fines. There is much scientific literature regarding these pollutants and these should be assessed for public health concerns using USEPA, RI Department of Health and RIDEM applicable limits.

If the existing Pilgrim High School is to remain or if it is to be replaced with new high school building and track/ballfields, a health risk assessment for student exposure or contact to these pollutants, including particulate matter and ultra fines should be conducted--for potential health impacts to school staff and students inside the high school building and outside on the school property, both walking and utilizing the track/ballfields.

Site remediation should include future preventive and/or protective measures from pollutants from airplane exhaust and fuel.

This investigation is subject to evaluation and assessment under the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) Rules and Regulations for the Investigation and Remediation of Hazardous Material Releases (the Remediation Regulations) at this time. Soil samples collected at the Site thus far have been analyzed for the following parameters for which remedial objectives have been

included in the Remediation Regulations. Several of these could be pollutants associated with exhaust and fuels, in addition to many other applications and uses:

- *Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs): VOCs readily evaporate and include, but are not limited to, compounds that are contained in lighter fuels such as gasoline and diesel, in addition to material used as cleaners and solvents;*
- *Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs): SVOCs don't evaporate as readily as VOCs and can include, but are not limited to petroleum-related compounds present in #6 fuel oil, tar, and ash, in addition to compounds present in pesticides, herbicides, cleaners and solvents;*
- *Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH): TPH is a measure of petroleum hydrocarbons in the sample in total. There is no identification of a specific petroleum product (such gasoline, 2 oil, #6 oil, etc.) unless additional analysis is performed;*
- *Total RCRA 8 Metals: Total RCRA 8 analysis provides the individual concentration of each of the eight heavy metals that EPA and RIDEM may designate as hazardous waste based on the concentrations reported by the laboratory. These metals include: arsenic, barium, cadmium, chromium, lead, mercury, selenium and silver;*
- *Pesticides and Herbicides; and*
- *Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs): PCBs are manmade chemicals that were commonly used as coolants, lubricants, or additives in electrical equipment and, depending on age, building materials.*

Groundwater at the school was analyzed for VOCs. The school is in a RIDEM groundwater area designated as GB and the RIDEM Remediation Regulations have established VOC standards for GB Groundwater evaluation.

2) Research/determine sources and composition of fill imported from offsite which were used for construction of the existing Pilgrim High School and track/ballfields. Sample soil and groundwater in these areas of fill.

Preliminary investigation of fill at the track/ballfields was conducted during the Phase II ESA with results reported to RIDEM. As a result of the notification, additional Site Investigation (SI) activities related to this will be conducted as required by the Remediation Regulations.

3) Assess past roofing replacement and repair/patching materials in rainwater from roof drains which discharge via ground infiltration, overland flow or into the City of Warwick public stormwater drainage system--relative to need for sampling.

Preliminary investigation of building discharges involved research via the Phase I ESA and preliminary subsurface investigations via the Phase II ESA. Additional SI activities related to this will be conducted as required by the Remediation Regulations.

4) Local history: During the late 1970s or early 1980s, the Warwick School Department issued concern regarding asbestos in the Pilgrim High School building. Such was the urgency to address asbestos, that when announced, students outside during school hours were not allowed back into the school building to retrieve personal items.

Site investigations should include asbestos and other materials, which require special handling and treatment for removal and disposal. Research how asbestos was removed and disposed from the Site.

Hazardous Building Material Assessment (HBMA) does not fall into the purview of the RIDEM Remediation Regulations. However, HBM evaluation, identification and mitigation measures for proper removal and disposal will be addressed by the civil engineering contractor as applicable.

5) Sample soil and groundwater for gases, fluids or condensates emitted from Pilgrim High School.

Soil and groundwater is being investigated at the Site in accordance with the Remediation Regulations and the soil and groundwater objectives established therein. The need for evaluating soil gas will be determined based on the results of the soil and groundwater investigations and as required by the Remediation Regulations.

6) Investigate the need for cooking oil separators or pre-treatment from school cafeteria before wastewater discharges into Warwick Sewer Authority public sewer system.

Included in the project.

7) Investigate sources of phosphates/phosphorus and nitrates/nitrogen and their respective loadings in stormwater and if applicable, grass irrigation waters which may flow overland or are discharged or enter the City of Warwick public stormwater drainage system. Determine ultimate receiving wetlands and waterways and if discharges are in compliance with applicable TMDLs for waterways or ponds in Warwick. Assess need for reduction of loadings or pre-treatment of stormwater and if applicable, irrigation waters.

Management and loading of phosphates/phosphorous and nitrates/nitrogen, establishment of discharge permits, and issuance of permits and/or violations are regulated, evaluated and issued via the RIDEM Office of Water Resources via the Water Quality Regulations 250-RICR-150-05-1, Wetland Regulations 250-RICR-15-3, and Groundwater Discharge Rules 250-RICR-150-05-4.

These investigations are being conducted to address the requirements of the Remediation Regulations issued via the RIDEM Office of Land Revitalization and Sustainable Materials Management, Site Remediation Program.

8) Have radon levels been tested inside the existing Pilgrim High School? Radon exceedances which have been determined by testing/sampling, should be mitigated to maintain use and occupancy of the existing Pilgrim High School. Parents and students should be notified of the radon levels and health concerns of radon regarding both the existing and new Pilgrim High School. Implemented mitigation measures should include periodic testing/reporting and if technology exists, an alarm system should be installed to alert for radon level exceedances.

Radon levels have not been tested inside the existing Pilgrim High School as part of the SI activities. However, radon levels are tested at all WPS facilities on a regular basis by our Staff Environmental Coordinator.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.



Warwick resident

Cusick, Reilly (DEM)

From: Cusick, Reilly (DEM)
Sent: Thursday, May 29, 2025 2:30 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Owens, Kelly (DEM)
Subject: RE: Proposed new Tollgate High School, Warwick, RI

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

Apologies for my later reply, I was out of the office this past week!

Regarding Tollgate High School, the Department has not received any sort of documentation on the current status of the property. If anything is submitted, the documents will be uploaded to the Department website.

Best,
Reilly



Reilly Cusick (she/her)
Environmental Scientist I

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Land Revitalization & Sustainable Materials
Management
Site Remediation & Brownfields
235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908
401.537.4343 / reilly.cusick@dem.ri.gov

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, May 27, 2025 8:29 PM
To: Owens, Kelly (DEM) <kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov>; Cusick, Reilly (DEM) <Reilly.Cusick@dem.ri.gov>
Subject: Proposed new Tollgate High School, Warwick, RI

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Kelly and Reilly,

Since learning that the Phase I ESA for the proposed new Pilgrim High School project was conducted as a requirement of the RIDE-SBA capital improvement project funding for the proposed new school and that the funding also requires a Phase II ESA "if necessary" based on the Phase I ESA findings...

Question: Does RIDEM have a public file for a Phase I performed, and if required Phase II for the Pilgrim High School "sister" project which is the proposed new Tollgate High School in Warwick? RIDE required as funding requirement that both schools be replaced with new construction. The former Warwick Schools Superintendent promoted "buy one, get one free"; it is 2 new schools or no RIDE funding for these high schools.

It is my understanding that construction of the new Tollgate High School will require blasting. Any radon testing of soil or inside the existing Tollgate High School?

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Cusick, Reilly (DEM)

From: Cusick, Reilly (DEM)
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2025 10:03 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Owens, Kelly (DEM)
Subject: RE: Recent sign

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

Thank you for reaching out about the signage posted at Pilgrim High School!

In March of this year, an initial environmental assessment was done on the property as part of due diligence for the construction proposed. The assessment showed some contamination in Site soils and groundwater that were in exceedance of the RIDEM Direct Exposure Criteria and Groundwater Objectives found in our [Remediation Regulations](#). The Department has been working with the City of Warwick and their environmental consultant to address these exceedances, and a more thorough investigation is currently being conducted to get a better understanding of Site conditions.

Our Department website has a webpage dedicated to Pilgrim High School in regards to the property's remediation. It can be accessed via this link, [Pilgrim High School - DEM Webpage](#), and contains any documentation received and issued by the Department up until this point. It is updated regularly as reports are submitted/issued.

A public meeting discussing the results of the additional investigation will be held in the near future, as the investigation is not yet complete. If you would like, I can add you to our mailing list so you can be notified via mail of the public meeting details. If this interests you, please provide your name and address.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at 401-537-4343 and for more specific details, please reach out to the environmental consultant Ms. Sue Courtemanche of Tighe & Bond at scourtemanche@tighebond.com.

Best,
Reilly Cusick

Reilly Cusick (she/her)
Environmental Scientist I

**Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Land Revitalization & Sustainable Materials
Management
Site Remediation & Brownfields**



235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908
401.537.4343 / reilly.cusick@dem.ri.gov

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2025 7:45 PM
To: Cusick, Reilly (DEM) <Reilly.Cusick@dem.ri.gov>
Subject: Re: Recent sign



This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

Report Suspicious

[REDACTED]
> On Jun 23, 2025, at 7:44 PM, [REDACTED] wrote:

>

> Hello,

>

> I noticed this sign installed in front of pilgrim high school in Warwick RI. Could you help me understand what's happening?

>

> Thank you,

> [REDACTED]