

Continental Aluminum

February 25, 2005
For Immediate Release

Contact: Bill Altgilbers
(248) 437-1001, Ext. 101
C: (248) 379-7290

Comprehensive Investigation Confirms Continental Aluminum poses no health risks

New Hudson, MI — A three-month comprehensive Exposure Investigation on air monitoring from Continental Aluminum found no public health hazards to the community. The investigation report also concluded, “Because no impact is expected, further environmental sampling is not warranted”.

The Michigan Department of Community Health conducted the Exposure Investigation under a cooperative agreement with the federal Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). A small group of citizens petitioned ATSDR for a public health assessment of the emissions from Continental.

“I am very pleased that agencies of the state of Michigan and the federal government conducted a comprehensive scientific study, thoroughly analyzed the results, and determined – very unambiguously – that Continental Aluminum is not a public health hazard to the community”, said Bill Altgilbers, president of Continental Aluminum. “This investigation along with last year’s state public health consultation validates that our plant is operating within the established health-based screening limits.

“I commend the Michigan Department of Community Health and members of the community for conducting such a thorough investigation based on sound science that applied technical methods. I hope now that the community can come together and move forward.”

The Exposure Investigation began March 1, 2004 and concluded May 31 2004. The report was released February 25, 2005. Under the investigation, air samples were analyzed for chemicals likely to be emitted by a secondary aluminum smelter. Samples for metals, mercury, and acids were taken at the air-monitoring trailers set up at Dolsen Elementary School. The volatile organic compound (VOC) “grab” samples were taken where reported odor events occurred and at corresponding control sites. On the sampling of Airborne Metal Particulates, the aluminum sample was 27,000 times less than its comparison value.

Continental Aluminum recycles various grades of aluminum scrap into products for the automotive and steel industries. The company melts raw materials consisting of post-consumer aluminum scrap and other metal scrap that contains aluminum.

###