



Workers clean up contaminated dirt in the vicinity of the pipeline which ruptured Monday.

When Haase was asked what Buckeye could do to reassure residents in the area, he said, "No one can guarantee accidents won't happen," he said. "With anything that is built by man this can happen."

The spokesman, however, noted that the 20-year-old line does not run under homes on Darcey. He said the line travels under Victory Boulevard in Willowbrook, then passes by South Gannon Avenue and under the Staten Island Expressway all the way into Brooklyn.

To further allay fears, Haase said Buckeye has hired the New England Pollution Control company to conduct soil tests today to make sure no other gasoline is trapped in the area along Victory Boulevard.

As of yesterday, Buckeye and city Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) employees were still uncovering small pockets of fuel as they dug up stretches of soil on a sidewalk along South Gannon Avenue. Ted Navasi, a DEP hazardous materials specialist, said the digging might continue for several more days.

Navasi said he did not think workers would have to dig up the soil near a new, unoccupied development of 110-condominium units.

Many of those units were caught in a crossfire of foam and gas Monday. Robert Lombardi, a carpenter with Avon Green, the company that built the units, said two of the buildings in the development would require new shingles because they had been sprayed with gas. He predicted