



## **City of St. Louis Groundwater Ordinance and Memorandum of Understanding with DNR**

The *Missouri Risk-Based Corrective Action (MRBCA) Process for Petroleum Storage Tanks* guidance document allows the use of an ordinance as an activity and use limitation (AUL). The guidance allows AULs to be considered in determining whether the current and future groundwater domestic use pathway is or is not complete in association with a specific site (refer to subsection 6.3 and Figure 6-2). However, the guidance does not allow the domestic use pathway to be considered incomplete based *solely* on an ordinance unless 1) there is no existing use, 2) the aquifer is not capable of providing the quantity and quality of water to provide reasonable domestic use, and 3) the ordinance is the subject of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the entity responsible for the ordinance and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

On August 1, 2005, the City of St. Louis approved Ordinance 66777. The Ordinance prohibits the use or attempted use of groundwater as a potable water supply and the drilling or installation of wells to be used for a potable water supply within the corporate limits of the City of St. Louis. Further, the Ordinance authorizes the Mayor of the City of St. Louis to enter into a MOU with DNR with regard to the Ordinance.

On October 25, 2006, the City of St. Louis and DNR entered into the MOU referred to in Ordinance 66777. The intent of the MOU is to specify the roles and responsibilities of the City and DNR and to specifically satisfy the requirements for MOUs specified by the MRBCA guidance. The MOU ensures that both DNR and the City track remediated sites and that the City notifies DNR of changes to, and violations of, the Ordinance.

For those using the MRBCA process, the existence of the MOU allows Ordinance 66777 to be used, by itself, to sever the future groundwater domestic use pathway for sites within the corporate limits of the City of St. Louis.