

STATEMENT TO THE MEDIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (**Toronto, ON, August 14, 2008**). TSSA today respectfully declined the invitation to attend the public meeting being sponsored by the Ancaster Ratepayers Association scheduled for August 14, 2008 at 7:00pm. This is the only invitation that TSSA has received to attend a public meeting related to the Ancaster neighbourhood.

The invitation was declined as a result of recent legal developments. Subsequent to the original invitation sent on August 12, 2008, TSSA has been named as a defendant in a civil lawsuit launched by residents impacted by the explosion. Under these circumstances it would be inappropriate for TSSA to attend a public meeting that may include individuals and organizations that have brought a lawsuit against TSSA.

This being said, TSSA wants to assure the residents of the Ancaster neighbourhood that our highest priority remains to ensure the safety of the Ontario public and most importantly to continue working cooperatively with other authorities to ensure this investigation is completed as quickly as possible.

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For more information on the Technical Standards and Safety Authority, please visit <u>www.tssa.org</u>.