

You might have read today's Isthmus snip-it about Royster-Clark:

*Land of opportunity*

*The Royster-Clark fertilizer plant on the east side will soon be closing its doors, which will open up about 26 acres of prime land. Ald. Larry Palm wants to hold a neighborhood meeting on what to do with it.*

*"It could be a beautiful site," says Palm. "I'm game for a lot of things going in there." Except more manufacturing.*

*Palm says many neighborhood residents didn't like living next door to a fertilizer company due to concerns about pollution. He thinks the neighborhood will want a mixed-use development, with housing, instead. "I don't see how manufacturing gets back in there," he says.*

*Mayoral spokesman George Twigg says the city has just begun to look into uses for the site. "There are lots of different directions any development could take," he says.*

I would like to follow-up on this with updated information that I have received in the past few days:

1. Royster-Clark will continue to operate until the end of July. They are not receiving any additional supplies; however they are using rail cars to transfer product and equipment from this plant operation to other plants.
2. When Agrium, the new owner of Royster-Clark, purchased the company every plant received a "due diligence" inspection in regards to environmental conditions. This information will be used to formulate a plan for either Royster-Clark or the new purchaser.
3. Agrium is interested in selling the property. While they have held onto property in certain situations in the past, this is not property they have a future interest in.
4. I will schedule a neighborhood meeting during the Fall. Representatives from Agrium and the City's Planning and Development are very interested in participating and interested in your feedback.

If you have any other questions or concerns, please let me know.