Thomas Hecker, *Board President*Matthew Vahey, *Board Vice President*Christopher S. Christman, *Township Manager*

TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 19, 2025, 8:30 AM

Update on Abington Township Response to Major Fire and Explosion at SPS Technologies

ABINGTON, PA: As of February 19, 2025 at 8:30 AM the fire at SPS Technologies located at 301 Highland Avenue remains active and investigations are ongoing. Emergency personnel have worked all night and will continue to work around the clock to ensure public safety.

The shelter-in-place for residents and businesses within a one (1) - mile radius remains in effect. All residents are asked to continue to avoid the area. The shelter in place zone map can be viewed at www.abingtonpa.gov/SPSshelterinplacezone.

The **evacuation recommendation remains in effect**. A map of the evacuation area can be viewed at www.abingtonpa.gov/SPSevacuationzone. The evacuation shelter in the gymnasium at Cheltenham High School located at 500 Rices Mill Rd, Wyncote, PA 19095 remains open for any residents.

At the direction of the Abington Township Emergency Operations Center and Jenkintown Emergency Management, Abington School District, Jenkintown School District, and Cheltenham School District will be closed today, Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) regional rail lines have reopened; however, Noble Train Station, Glenside Train Station and Jenkintown Train Station remain closed until further notice.

The air quality continues to be monitored by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is on-site, working with local hazmat teams to monitor air quality, water runoff, and hazardous materials for public health risks and performing water sampling. Air quality and water quality monitoring is ongoing and updates will be provided as available.



We appreciate the support and understanding of the Abington, Jenkintown and Cheltenham communities. We cannot emphasize enough how your cooperation and support have helped our public safety efforts. The safety of our communities is our number one priority, and we are continuously evaluating the recommendations in place and working with our federal, state, county and local partners for the best outcomes.

More detailed information will be provided at the press conference scheduled for 10 AM at the Abington Township Municipal Building located at 1176 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001. The press conference is media only and is not open to the public. The press conference will be filmed and posted to Township outlets.

Updates regarding the shelter-in-place recommendation and the status of the fire will be provided at the Township website at www.abingtonpa.gov, on Township social media on Facebook and Instagram @AbingtonTownship and on X @AbingtonPA. Any change to the shelter-in-place or evacuation recommendation will be communicated through the Ready Montco alert system to those within the affected zones. The next update will be provided at the press conference scheduled for 10 AM as indicated above.

Please sign up for notifications about emergencies, disasters, and community information through Ready Montco at https://member.everbridge.net/453003085612338/login.

For media inquiries, please contact Ashley McIlvaine, Assistant Township Manager, at amcilvaine@abingtonpa.gov or 267-536-1004.