

By ANGEL ROY
Staff Writer

Unity No definite answers could be given to the standing-room-only crowd at Unity Town Hall Tuesday

night about what options residents will have, or what costs they will face, if the state board of education votes July 8 to shutter the doors of its school.

"There is a lot of uncharted territory we're sailing our boat into here," said Superintendent

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Oil leak monitoring continues at complex

By KRISTEN SENZ
Senior Writer

Unity An oil leak discovered earlier this month at the Sullivan County Complex in Unity has led to emergency excavation and the use of a temporary, above-ground oil tank, county officials said Tuesday.

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services continues to monitor with two wells the leak that

maintenance workers at the facility discovered behind the nursing home June 3. County Administrator Greg Chanis said one of the lines that delivers oil from the building's 12,000-gallon underground oil tank to the boiler room ruptured, spilling an unknown amount of oil onto the ground outside the boiler room.

"They caught it really quickly," Chanis said following a meeting Tuesday of the Sullivan County

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Commissioners, where county officials discussed the progress of the cleanup effort.

Two engineering firms are currently developing proposals for the replacement of the underground oil lines and the transition of one type of oil to another, which would require a full cleaning of the existing tank, Chanis said. In the meantime, the facility is running on a temporary tank that was trucked to the facility after the spill.

Chanis said the cost of the cleanup has not been calculated but the county stands to receive some state aid through the state's Oil Discharge and Disposal Cleanup Fund.

In other county energy news, a study that examined the feasibility of running the county complex in Unity on a combined heat and power biomass plant that burned wood chips rather than the existing oil-burning furnace is now complete. The study found that the transition to a biomass plant is feasible and recommended a system with an initial cost of about \$3 million. The combination gasifier and reciprocating engine generator system would allow the county to recoup the expenditure through energy savings over about seven years.

Chanis said county officials have no immediate plans to

pursue the project but are investigating what grant funds are available.

Prepared by Bonhag Associates of Lebanon and available on the Sullivan County Web site, the feasibility study was funded with \$25,000 in federal economic stimulus funds.