

Nockamixon TCE HSCA Site

This information sheet serves as a summary overview of the project

CONTAMINANTS OF CONCERN

Trichloroethylene (TCE) and Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) are solvents commonly used in circuit board manufacturing, the textile industry and for the removal of grease from metal parts. PCE is also used for dry cleaning.

Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)

- concentrations in drinking water ranged up to 92 ppb
- concentrations in soil ranged up to 276,000 ppb

Trichloroethylene (TCE)

- concentrations in drinking water ranged up to 411 ppb
- concentrations in soil ranged up to 131,000 ppb

The safe drinking water maximum contaminant level for TCE & PCE is 5 ppb.

The cleanup standard for TCE & PCE in soil is 500 ppb.

BACKGROUND/GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATION

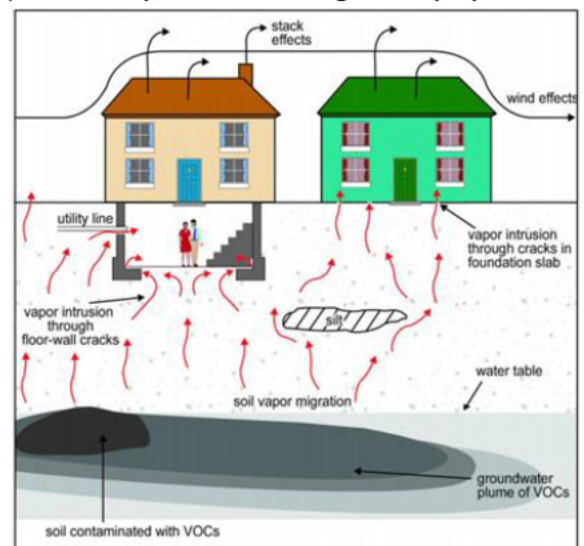
- In 2009, the Bucks County Health Department referred the Site to DEP after TCE contamination was discovered in wells serving a local restaurant and a number of nearby homes.
- Since starting the investigation, DEP has sampled more than 100 private wells in the area.
- In 2012 and 2013, DEP installed 17 monitoring wells (including nested wells) in the Site area. Initially the monitoring wells were sampled on a quarterly basis to determine seasonal fluctuations. They are now sampled annually.
- In August 2011, DEP initiated an Interim Response Action under the authority of the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act; as a result, carbon filtration systems have been installed at 41 local properties served by private wells. DEP sampled and maintained the filtration systems it installed for one-year before turning over the maintenance to the homeowners.
- Environmental Covenants (EC)s regarding continued operation and maintenance of the filters were signed by 39 property owners. DEP issued an order placing a deed notice on one property, and is working with another property owner to reach an EC where a filter was installed in 2017.

SOURCE INVESTIGATION

- DEP identified a property along Brennan Road (formerly owned by the Estate of William Schulberger), as the source of the groundwater contamination. Mr. Schulberger reportedly disposed of hazardous substances on the property prior to 1973. Soil sampling on the now subdivided property confirmed the presence of TCE and PCE in soils, exceeding DEP's cleanup standards.
- DEP is planning additional sampling to characterize soil contamination, and to help with evaluating cleanup options.

VAPOR INTRUSION INVESTIGATION (VI)

- DEP is evaluating the potential that TCE and PCE vapors may be entering homes near this source area due to the soil and groundwater contamination (a process known as Vapor Intrusion or VI). Our VI evaluation includes a combination of indoor air sampling and soil gas monitoring to delineate an area of concern for VI.
- DEP sought access to 11 properties to evaluate VI. Several property owners have declined this sampling.
- DEP has confirmed that one home is affected by VI and is working with the homeowners to address the concern by upgrading an existing radon mitigation system.
- DEP initiated the installation of the mitigation system on May 14, 2018.



PROMPT INTERIM RESPONSE ACTION

- DEP is planning to facilitate the vapor mitigation work at the affected home and any others identified during our investigation by initiating a Prompt Interim Response action under HSCA.
- All information that the DEP utilized in formulating the response action will be incorporated into the Administrative Record.
 - The Administrative Record will be open for public comments for 90-days from June 2, until August 31, 2018.
 - A public hearing will be held at 7 pm on July 19th at the Nockamixon Township Municipal Building located at 589 Lake Warren Road, Upper Black Eddy, PA.
 - During the public comment period, the public may submit written comments for the record by sending them to Dustin Armstrong at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, 2 East Main Street, Norristown, PA 19401, or by email at darmstrong@pa.gov. (If submitting a comment in writing, please identify your correspondence as an official comment in your email or letter submitted to the DEP.)

NEXT STEPS

- DEP will continue to investigate the extent of the soil contamination.
- After the soil investigation is complete, DEP will conduct a separate interim response action to address the soil contamination.

MORE INFORMATION

Please direct correspondence or inquiries to one of the following:

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