

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

NOVEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER
regarding
INDOOR AIR SAMPLING ACTIVITIES
at the
RADIO MATERIALS CORPORATION (RMC) SITE
1095 East Summit Street
Attica, Indiana

Introduction

As reported in the July 2008 Newsletter, Kraft submitted a Work Plan to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to perform crawl space, subslab, and indoor air sampling at up to 30 houses located west and northwest of the Radio Materials Corporation (RMC) Site to supplement the appropriate environmental investigation activities related to the Site. The U.S. EPA approved the Work Plan, and the Work Plan was discussed at a public meeting in Attica on July 29, 2008.

The first round of sampling activities was recently completed at houses where access was granted, and the analytical data from the sampling activities is being provided to those homeowners. The purpose of this Newsletter is to explain the sampling results received to date and the next steps in the process.

Background

Investigation activities completed to date on and around the RMC Site identified volatile organic compounds (VOCs) present in the soil, groundwater, and soil gas on the Site property, and to the north and northwest of the Site. Primarily, the VOCs that may be associated with RMC's former degreasing operations include trichloroethene (TCE) and tetrachloroethene (Perc or PCE). VOCs are a class of chemicals that are widely used in a variety of commercial and industrial settings, and also can be found in numerous common household products and materials such as typewriter correction fluid, paint removers and strippers, gun cleaning fluid, cleaners for electronic equipment, rust removers, adhesive glues, spot removers, automotive brake cleaners, suede protectors, water repellents, silicone lubricants, and dry-cleaned clothing.

Under certain conditions, the VOCs present in the soil and groundwater may result in the potential for vapors to accumulate in enclosed

indoor spaces. Based on investigation data collected and the potential for accumulation of these vapors in indoor spaces, approximately 30 houses located to the west and northwest of the RMC Site were selected for sampling.

What Do The Data Mean?

The analytical results for the indoor air, crawl space, and subslab vapor samples are reported by the laboratory in micrograms per cubic meter of air ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) or parts per billion (ppb). The indoor air samples were compared to the residential indoor air guidance levels published by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). The indoor air guidance levels published by IDEM range from 1.2 to 20 ppb for TCE and 3.2 to 52 ppb for PCE.

Next Steps

Based on these recent analytical results and after consulting with the U.S. EPA, Kraft has decided that the best course of action in the near term is to offer to install air treatment systems in all of the houses located within the sampling area while an appropriate long-term solution is developed. These indoor air treatment systems are designed to reduce the concentrations of PCE and TCE and will be installed at no cost to residents.

One of the air treatments systems uses ultraviolet (UV) light to treat PCE and TCE as well as other VOCs that are typically found in household products. The air treatment system is designed to be installed in the duct work of forced hot air furnaces. To ensure optimum results, the furnace fan needs to be set for continuous operation. In the event a house does not have a forced-air furnace, other indoor air treatment units are available. The particular type of unit appropriate for each house will be determined based on discussions with the homeowner and inspection of the house.

The systems take about an hour to install, and operate using a minimum amount of electricity. Maintenance of these systems is minimal -- replacement of the UV lamp approximately once every three years, which will be performed at no cost to you.

Additionally, we will inspect each house to determine what other mitigation measures might be possible to minimize the potential accumulation of vapors in the house (such as sealing the joists in basements and crawl spaces). Since the construction of the houses in the area varies, we cannot state specifically what these measures will be for each individual house. Each residence will need to be inspected to determine what mitigation measures, if any, might be appropriate.

Kraft is offering to install the air treatment systems in all of the residences located in the area depicted on the attached figure. We will need to have a signed access agreement from the homeowner prior to conducting the work. Once we receive a number of the signed access agreements, we will order the units and begin scheduling installations immediately.

In the longer term, Kraft is looking at engineering options that will further reduce the potential for the intrusion of vapors into houses in this area. Any permanent solution will require pilot tests and engineering to ensure the system operates properly, and approval by U.S. EPA. As this will take a period of time, U.S. EPA and Kraft believe that the installation of the in-house treatment systems and other near term mitigation measures should be implemented at this point.

Informational Meeting Notification

Kraft never owned or operated the Site but agreed to conduct these investigation and remediation activities because of a series of corporate mergers, acquisitions and sales. Although Kraft did not contribute to the conditions at the Site, Kraft is working diligently with U.S. EPA to complete the appropriate environmental investigations and clean-up activities at the Site. It is very important to Kraft to address any questions residents might have concerning this matter. Therefore, an informational meeting has been scheduled for

6:30 p.m. on December 16, 2008 at Attica City Hall where representatives of Kraft's technical consulting team and the U.S. EPA will be available to answer questions about the proposed action plan and the air treatment systems.

Contact Information for Questions

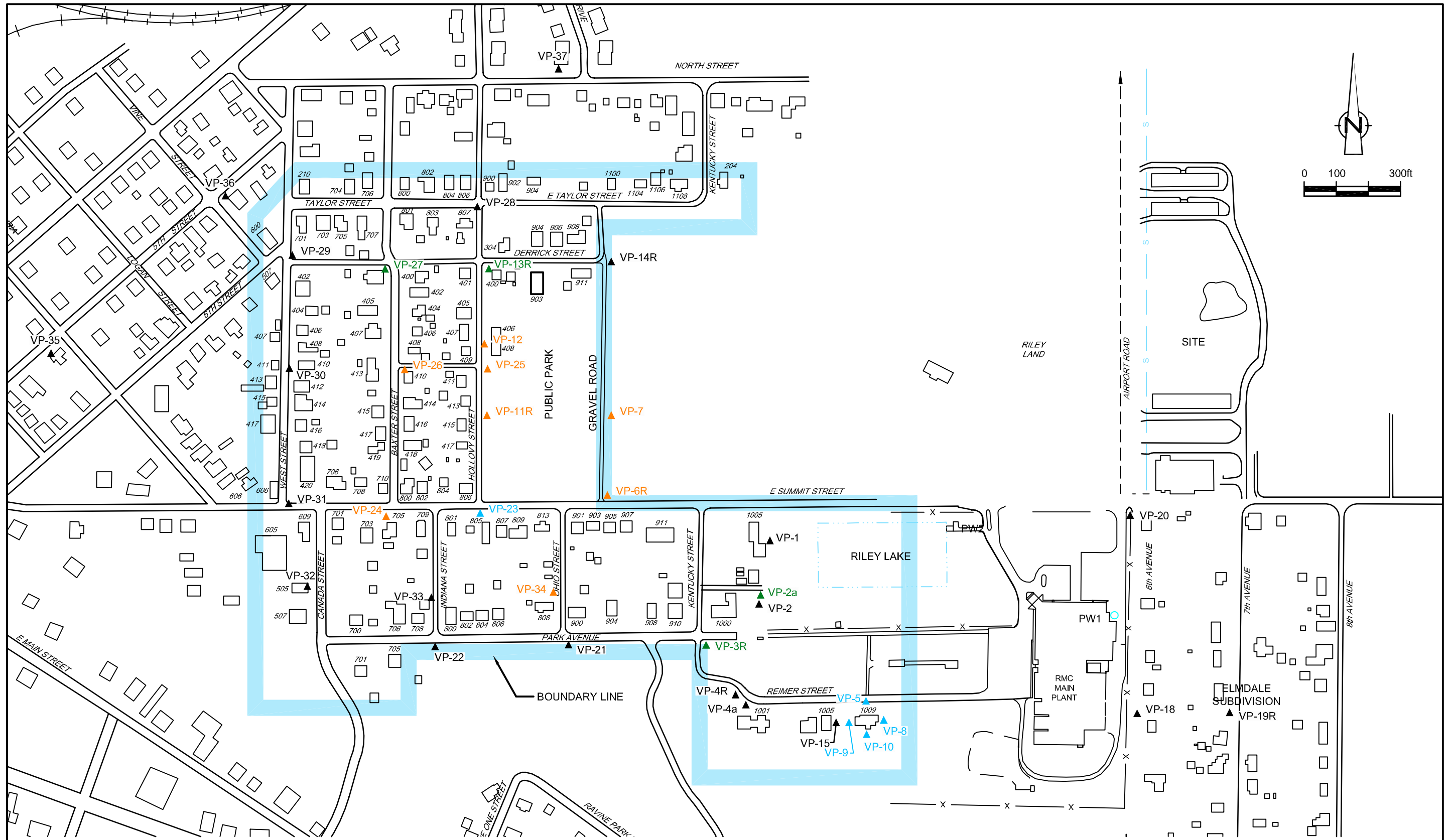
Documents containing specific information on the Site have been placed in a public document repository in the Attica Public Library.

Attica Public Library
305 South Perry St.
Attica, IN 47918
Tel: 765-764-4194
<http://www.attica.lib.in.us>

Interested people also may contact the following individuals for more information:

U.S. EPA Project Manager for the Site:
Bhooma Sundar
Project Coordinator
Land and Chemicals Division
U.S. EPA Region 5
Tel. 312-886-1660

Environmental Technical Consultant for RMC Project:
Steven J. Wanner
CONESTOGA-ROVERS & ASSOCIATES
6520 Corporate Drive
Indianapolis, Indiana 46278
Tel. 317-291-7065



- LEGEND**
- VP-1 ▲ EXISTING VAPOR MONITORING PROBE LOCATION/IDENTIFIER (NO ACTION LEVEL EXCEEDED)
 - VP-23 ▲ VAPOR PROBE EXCEEDING IDEM 1-YEAR PROMPT ACTION LEVEL FOR EITHER PCE (5.2 mg/m³) OR TCE (2.0 mg/m³)
 - VP-6R ▲ VAPOR PROBE EXCEEDING IDEM 5-YEAR PROMPT ACTION LEVEL FOR EITHER PCE (1.0 mg/m³) OR TCE (0.41 mg/m³)
 - VP-27 ▲ VAPOR PROBE EXCEEDING IDEM 30-YEAR POTENTIAL CHRONIC LEVEL FOR EITHER PCE (0.32 mg/m³) OR TCE (0.12 mg/m³)

figure 1
ADDRESS LOCATION MAP
RADIO MATERIALS CORPORATION
Attica, Indiana