

East Central Phoenix (ECP) Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund Site - February 2014

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is conducting the winter round of an indoor air assessment/vapor intrusion study of the ECP Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) site as a follow-up to the sampling event conducted during Summer 2013. Residents living within the areas of 32nd Street and Indian School Road and 48th Street and Indian School Road are encouraged to schedule an indoor air screening of their properties to assess the potential for indoor air impacts from the existing soil vapor plume. Vapor intrusion is the movement of volatile contaminants from subsurface into indoor air.

What is Vapor Intrusion? Vapor intrusion can occur when vapors from contaminated soil or groundwater travel through soil and enters a home through small cracks in the foundation or areas where pipes enter the home for utilities. Atmospheric conditions and building ventilation are some factors that can influence vapor intrusion. This process is illustrated in Figure 1.

Assessment Update: Soil vapor samples were collected by ADEQ in 2012 and 2013 from depths ranging from five to 15 feet below the ground. The results found levels of PCE exceeding health-based soil vapor screening levels in some parts of the study area. During the Summer of 2013, the indoor air of residences in the study area for the residents that chose to participate was sampled. A second indoor air sampling event will occur in February 2014 to compare data on a seasonal level, and residents living near 32nd Street/48th Street and Indian School Road are encouraged to participate. Two events are necessary to evaluate data for seasonal fluctuations and for confirmation.

Indoor Air Sampling Process: The indoor air sampling process will take less than 15 minutes to complete and is free to the resident. ADEQ will work closely with homeowners and tenants to set up a convenient sampling schedule and to minimize any inconvenience. Any follow-up sampling conducted by ADEQ and any potential future mitigation costs will be covered by ADEQ at no cost to the resident/owner.

ADEQ has developed a project website to provide information to the public (such as maps, FAQs, work plans, etc.) regarding the East Central Phoenix WQARF Site. Please visit <http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/waste/sps/phx.html> for more information.

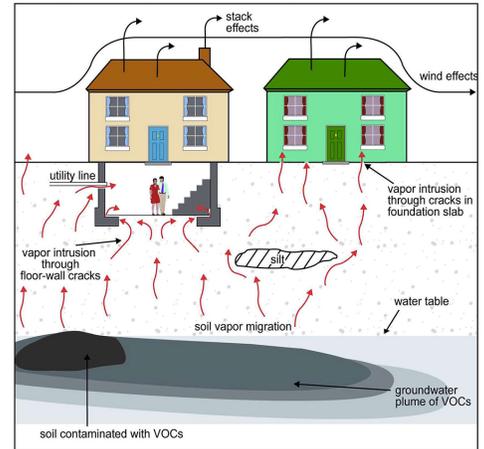


Figure 1 - Migration of soil vapors to indoor air

What are the soil vapor contaminants at the site? Currently, the main soil vapor contaminant of concern within the ECP WQARF Site is tetrachloroethene (also known as PCE). PCE is a solvent widely used for dry cleaning and metal degreasing. Contaminants of concern at the site may change as new sampling information becomes available.

East Central Phoenix WQARF Program: The WQARF program, which is also known as the state superfund program, funds and manages the investigation and cleanup of contaminated sites across Arizona. The ECP WQARF Site includes six areas of groundwater contamination. Two of those areas are the subject of our current indoor air assessment study area. These are 32nd Street and Indian School Road and 48th Street and Indian School Road. The groundwater under the two study areas is located between 32 feet and 55 feet below ground surface and is not a source of drinking water for residents of this area.

PLEASE NOTE:
 When knocking on doors within the neighborhood, ADEQ and ADEQ contractors will always be working in pairs and will carry proper identification.

WINTER SAMPLING EVENT FEBRUARY 18-28, 2014

ADEQ INDOOR AIR SCREENING TO EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL FOR VAPOR INTRUSION (VI)

ADEQ is encouraging residents living within the areas of 32nd Street/48th Street and Indian School Road to schedule an indoor air screening of their properties to assess the potential for indoor air impacts from the existing soil vapor plume.

This assessment focuses on residences (specifically single-family homes and ground-floor residences of multi-unit buildings), daycares, and schools.

To schedule a screening of indoor air, please contact:

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