



Contact Us:

RACER has set up a toll-free number specifically to answer your questions about the vapor intrusion sampling, schedule the testing or to obtain more information about the project:

855-RACER-411

Information on the site and past environmental tests can be viewed at the RACER website at www.racertrust.org

For more information on vapor intrusion, please visit the Indiana Department of Environmental Management's website: www.in.gov/idem/4335.htm

If you would like to read more about the project, please contact IDEM to view documents:

IDEM Office

Doug Griffin
100 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-2710

IDEM Virtual File Cabinet:

www.in.gov/idem/6551.htm

For information on health questions about vapor intrusion of TCE, contact the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) at 1-888-422-8737 or visit the ATSDR website at www.atsdr.cdc.gov. The ATSDR, a public health agency that is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is responsible for determining whether people experience harmful effects from exposure to hazardous substances.

A Guide to Vapor Intrusion Sampling

The Revitalizing Auto Communities Environmental Response Trust (RACER) is working with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to complete on-site and off-site investigation activities related to the facility located at 340 South White River Parkway West Drive, in Indianapolis. Sampling near the former GM Corp. Stamping Plant has indicated the presence of volatile organic compounds in groundwater above applicable IDEM standards, which triggers the need for further testing. While groundwater in your neighborhood is not used for drinking purposes, IDEM is requiring the collection of air samples from underneath the foundation of your home and in some cases samples of the indoor air in your home. This fact sheet describes this sampling, referred to as Vapor Intrusion (or VI) sampling and provides sources for obtaining more information on sampling procedures and other activities occurring at the site.

What is Vapor Intrusion?

Vapor intrusion describes the manner in which chemical vapors from soil or groundwater beneath a building may affect the indoor air quality in that building. Vapors can enter buildings through cracks in basements or foundations, through a basement sump, through a crawl space and any other type of openings. To evaluate whether vapor intrusion is occurring, RACER is requesting access to your property so that air samples can be collected from the lowest level of your home or crawlspace and be analyzed in a laboratory.

Sampling Methods

VI sampling will be completed by ARCADIS U.S., Inc., a RACER contractor representing the Trust, as outlined below:

1. An initial visit will be completed to confirm appropriate sampling locations and perform an interior survey of your

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home. The interior survey will identify certain features of your home foundation such as floor coverings, heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment, work and storage areas, and identify household products (e.g., paints and cleaners) that could affect the sampling results. During this visit, an air sampling canister about the size of a basketball will be left in the living area or crawlspace of your home for 24 hours. This initial visit will take approximately 1–2 hours.

2. The second visit (approximately 24 hours later) will be to pick up the indoor air or crawlspace sampling canister. This visit will take approximately 90 minutes. If you have a crawlspace, this will be the final visit. If your house has a basement or is a slab-on-grade, a port will be installed to collect an air sample from below your home's foundation (referred to as a sub-slab sample). To accomplish the sub-slab sampling, a small hole about the size of a nickel will be drilled through the slab of your home's foundation and a sample will be collected on the third day.
3. If your house has a basement or is a slab-on-grade foundation, on the third day, a sample will be collected from the sub-slab port. This visit will take approximately one hour. Once the sample is collected, the sub-slab port will be removed and the hole will be sealed with a non-shrink cement grout.

The air samples will be analyzed in a laboratory to determine whether certain chemicals are present and, if so, at what concentrations. **This testing will be completed at no cost to you.** A RACER representative will contact you to provide you with the laboratory results and to discuss those results with you.

If test results exceed applicable regulatory standards, re-sampling or the installation of a mitigation system (similar to a radon mitigation system) may be warranted and would be provided by RACER and installed **at no cost to you.**



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Project Location

The site is located at 340 South White River Parkway West Drive in Indianapolis.

As shown on the map to the left, the facility is located at the corner of White River Parkway West Drive and Oliver Avenue west of the White River and north of a residential area.

Project History

The plant, which has been vacant since June 2011, operated as an industrial and manufacturing site since the late 1800s. For a period of time during the more than 100 years of operation, chemical solvents were used in the manufacturing process. GM Corp. also purchased a property adjacent to their property in the 1980s that historically operated as a former chemical distribution company, which stored and distributed solvents similar to those that have been identified in the groundwater.

The site was originally developed and operated by Martin-Parry Carriage Works until 1930 when the Chevrolet Motor Division, Inc. assumed ownership of the site. The property continued to be owned and operated by the Chevrolet Motor Division, Inc. until 1982 when it was transferred to the Truck and Bus Operations of General Motors Corporation (GM Corp.). After GM Corp.'s bankruptcy in 2009, the facility was owned by Motors Liquidation Company. In March 2011, the RACER Trust was created to clean up the contamination and position the property for redevelopment. RACER is driving the cleanup efforts resulting from these historical industrial manufacturing activities.

Numerous studies and cleanup activities have been conducted at the property since 2002. These activities have included investigations of the sub-surface soil and groundwater.

RACER continues to further define the extent of chemicals of concern through additional off-site investigation and will conduct additional cleanup efforts in the coming year.

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Health and Safety

RACER is committed to the safety of its neighbors and of the workers performing the on-site and off-site investigation activities. All work has, and will be, conducted in a safe manner that follows a Health and Safety Plan and other detailed plans prepared specifically for this project. RACER and/or ARCADIS will work closely with you to safely complete the work and limit disruptions to you.

Guidelines for Residents

When the testing technicians are in your home, they will review the testing procedures so you know what to expect. They also will review the IDEM Guidance (dated June 2006), which provides suggestions for homeowners to follow to help reduce interference and obtain valid air samples. The sampling equipment we are using is very sensitive. The use of certain common household products (listed below), as well as smoking or using air fresheners during the time the sampling equipment is in your home, can interfere with and significantly affect the accuracy of the sampling results. This may result in the need to return to your house to sample again.

We appreciate your attention to these important requirements as they can affect the sampling and could necessitate additional testing. To the extent practicable, we ask that, beginning 48 hours prior to and during the sampling event, that you do **not**:

- Open windows, fireplace opening, or vents or keep doors open.
- Operate ventilation fans, including attic fans.
- Use wood stoves, fireplace or auxiliary heating equipment (e.g., kerosene heater).
- Use paints or varnishes.
- Engage in indoor hobbies that involve the use of solvents.
- Apply pesticides.
- Store containers of gasoline, oil, or solvents within the house or attached garage (except for heating oil tanks).
- Store rags or clothing containing spilled or soaked-up chemicals within the house or attached garage.
- Use air fresheners or odor eliminators.
- Smoke in the house to the extent practicable.
- Use cleaning products (e.g., bathroom cleaners, furniture polish, appliance cleaners, and floor cleaners).
- Use hair spray, nail polish, nail polish remover, perfume, etc.
- Operate or store automobiles in an attached garage.



The photographs above show the typical equipment used to collect the sub-slab sample. A tube attached to the sampling device is connected to a nickel-sized port installed in the floor. Once the sample is collected, the port will be removed and the hole sealed with cement.