

Neighborhood Environmental Sampling South of Amphenol

Former Amphenol Facility
Franklin, Indiana

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For more information

For questions, comments or more information on the Amphenol investigation, contact these EPA team members:

For general information

Rafael P. Gonzalez

Community Involvement
Coordinator

312-886-0269 or

gonzalez.rafaelp@epa.gov

For technical information

Carolyn Bury

Project Manager

Remediation and Re-use Branch
EPA Region 5

77 W. Jackson Blvd. (LU-16J)

Chicago, IL 60604-3590

312-886-3020

bury.carolyn@epa.gov.

EPA toll-free at 800-621-8431,
weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

You may see site-related documents at EPA's Regional office, 7th Floor Records Center, Metcalfe Federal Building, 77 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago.

or visit

<https://www.epa.gov/in/amphenol/franklin-power-products-franklin-ind#documents>

Residents living in the neighborhood along Hamilton Avenue, North Forsythe Street, Ross Court and Glendale Drive in Franklin may see work crews collecting samples along streets over the next few months. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is overseeing contractors collecting samples as part of a contamination investigation (*see Study Area map, last page*). This area is south of the former Franklin Power Products/Amphenol Corp. site at 980 Hurricane Road in Franklin. Amphenol, under EPA oversight, is completing a vapor intrusion investigation to determine if volatile organic chemicals, or VOCS, including TCE and PCE, are impacting homes. EPA thanks you for your cooperation and apologizes for any inconvenience during this investigation.

Soil gas, sewer gas, and groundwater sampling

During September and October, workers sampled soil on city-owned right-of-way (along streets) and in sewer manholes to collect soil gas and sewer gas samples. The work was completed by Amphenol's contractor, IWM, consistent with requirements of the EPA Corrective Action program. Later this month, crews will be sampling groundwater in the same area using drilling equipment. Groundwater is an environmental term for underground sources of fresh water.

The sampling is part of an investigation to see whether historic releases of solvents into a storm sewer and the ground at the former Amphenol site may

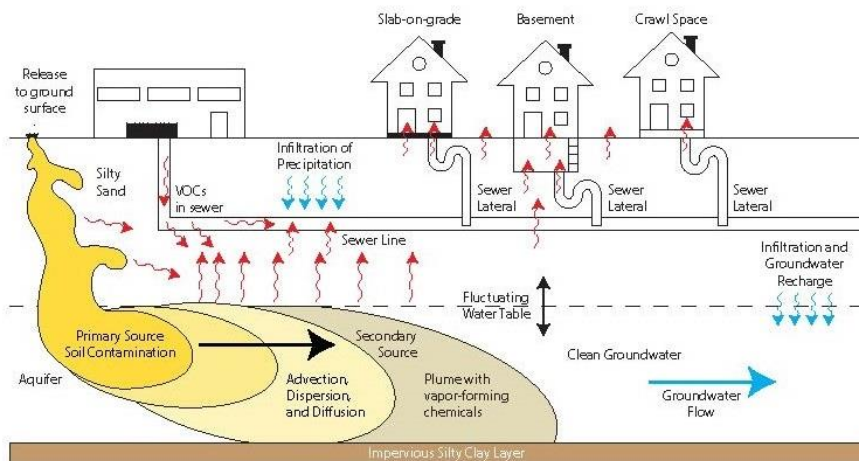


Figure 1 – Vapor intrusion model showing potential migration pathway of volatile organic chemical gas.

be impacting residents in nearby homes. Releases of solvents at the site occurred prior to 1983. However, soil and groundwater contamination may still be present in the area, including near sewers. IWM has been sampling indoor air in some homes near the former facility to see if VOCs have penetrated inside buildings. Follow-up activities may include sampling beneath and inside more homes based on the soil, sewer and groundwater sample results.

The VOCs that make up solvents can turn into gas and move upward from soil and groundwater into homes through openings such as cracks in foundations. VOC gas may also move into homes when sanitary sewer pipes have fissures or breaks and there is nearby contaminated soil or groundwater emitting VOC gas. This problem is called vapor intrusion.

Background

In 1996, EPA evaluated vapor intrusion in the neighborhood south of Amphenol. Based on the science at the time, EPA determined that exposure to the levels

of VOCs present did not harm human health. EPA has since established new vapor intrusion guidance and updated health-based screening values for some VOCs, and therefore must collect new data to compare against these updated values.

Where VOCs are present above levels of concern, home-specific mitigation techniques will be completed. Potential actions may include installing vapor removal systems under homes, lining sewers, sealing openings at utility connections, sealing basement walls and floors.

In September, Amphenol began sampling soil gas, sewer gas, ambient air, and indoor air at eight priority homes near the facility. Access to eight additional homes has been requested. Based on the results of all sampling, additional priority homes will be sampled.

Home sampling is contingent upon access agreements with homeowners and residents. EPA encourages your cooperation with these efforts.



Map of vapor intrusion study area at former Franklin Power Products/Amphenol Corp. site in Franklin, Ind.