

Cleanup Update

Antique Chrome Shop Facility

Indianapolis, Indiana

November 2020

For more information

For questions or concerns regarding this site, please contact:

For technical questions

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For general questions

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In preparation of cleanup and treatment, EPA held a virtual public meeting on September 3, 2020. To view the presentation, visit the website (below) and look under “Documents” on the right-hand side of the Resources panel:

<http://response.epa.gov/formerhoytmachine>.

Background

The Antique Chrome Shop, also known as the former Hoyt Machine Shop, is located at 1544 Samoa St. The facility was used for industrial purposes beginning in the 1920s until 2011. At the request of the city of Indianapolis, EPA tested soil and soil gas (air found in between soil particles) for hazardous substances. EPA found high concentrations of trichloroethene, or TCE, and lead in on-site soil, and high TCE in soil gas south of the site near residential properties. EPA was concerned that an environmental problem known as “vapor intrusion” could occur. Vapor intrusion takes place when chemicals in soil and groundwater (water below the surface) give off hazardous chemicals that can rise through the soil and seep into buildings through foundations, and potentially be inhaled by residents. EPA signed an action memorandum in July 2020 to initiate cleanup actions.

Sampling Results

As of late October, EPA has tested the air inside four homes for chemical vapors from the site. Testing results from those properties showed that vapors were below screening levels. Still, EPA is hoping to sample the remaining properties within the area (see map below). If your property has not been tested, please consider doing so. You can request testing by contacting EPA or downloading a Consent for Access form from <https://response.epa.gov/formerhoytmachine>.



Site boundaries are in a thick lined box, while residential sampling area is in a thin lined box.

Installation of Monitoring Wells

In September, EPA installed groundwater and soil gas monitoring wells in public rights-of-way at six locations near the site. These wells allow EPA to test groundwater and soil gas to monitor the effectiveness of cleanup activities. The wells are closed and inaccessible when not in use (see photo below). The wells will remain in place until cleanup is complete. EPA plans to begin testing groundwater and soil gas in mid-November.

While installing the wells, EPA tested soil at the six locations. Two of the locations in the alley near the site had high levels of lead in the soil. EPA will excavate this lead-contaminated soil in the spring.



Groundwater and soil gas monitoring wells.

Treatment Injections

In late November or early December, EPA will begin the process of cleaning up soil at the site. Initial cleanup will consist of a process called *in situ*, or in place, chemical reduction (also known as ISCR). ISCR uses chemicals called “reducing agents” to help change contaminants into less toxic or less mobile forms. This process is often used to clean up TCE, which is a contaminant of concern at this site.

ISCR will include direct injection of zero-valent iron, or ZVI. Direct injection involves mixing the ZVI with water to create a slurry, which is pumped down holes directly into the contaminated soil. This part of the cleanup is expected to last up to a month. EPA anticipates significant reductions in TCE within a few months.

Additional Community Outreach

While continuing to study the nature and extent of contamination at the site, EPA has been conducting public outreach activities to learn the informational and communication needs of the community.

The information gathered from resident interviews was used to create the site’s Community Involvement Plan, or CIP, a communication strategy guide that the agency follows to enable meaningful community involvement throughout the Superfund cleanup process. This CIP is now posted on our website (*see front of fact sheet*).

EPA is looking for additional residents to speak with regarding the Antique Chrome Shop site. During a short discussion, EPA staff will ask questions to help us understand your community’s concerns about ongoing investigations and cleanup at the site.

If you’d like to participate in a short interview, please contact Kirstin Safakas, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, at:

Email: safakas.kirstin@epa.gov

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EPA contractors used a Geoprobe machine to install monitoring wells near the site.