

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
PCE Chestnut RV001 - Removal Polrep



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region VII

Subject: POLREP #2
Progress
PCE Chestnut RV001

Atlantic, IA
Latitude: 41.4036007 Longitude: -95.0138776

To:
From: Susan Fisher, OSC
Date: 7/18/2015
Reporting Period: 6/24/2015 - 7/15/2015

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	A7B4	Contract Number:	
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	5/18/2015
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	
Mobilization Date:	6/4/2015	Start Date:	6/4/2015
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	IAN000703467	RCRIS ID:	
ERNS No.:		State Notification:	
FPN#:		Reimbursable Account #:	

1.1.1 Incident Category

Inactive Production Facility

1.1.2 Site Description

1.1.2.1 Site Location

The PCE Chestnut Site is located in Cass County, Atlantic, Iowa (41.407881 latitude, -95.013053 longitude). The Site is located in downtown Atlantic, Iowa, and consists of at least four former dry cleaning operations.

The Site borders the East Nishnabotna River. Approximately 7,000 people reside in Atlantic, Iowa.

The suspected sources of contamination are former dry cleaning operations, including 317 Chestnut Street, 500 Chestnut Street, 320 Chestnut Street, and 410 Poplar Street. Research of the city of Atlantic, Iowa, was conducted, including reviewing former city directories available in the Cass County Genealogical Society office of the Atlantic Public Library. Results of the search are:

317 Chestnut – A dry cleaning operation at 317 Chestnut began to advertise dry cleaning services starting in 1946 and operated into the 1990s.

500 Chestnut – It appears that dry cleaning operations began at this site in the late 1990s and closed sometime before 2014.

320 Chestnut – Dry cleaning operations began in the early 1990s and ended in a fire in the late 1990s.

410 Poplar – Advertisements for dry cleaning operations at this site were from 1972 to 1991.

These sites are surrounded by business and residential properties.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The contaminants of concern at the Site are tetrachloroethene (PCE) and its degradation products. These contaminants are hazardous substances as defined by Section 101(14) of the Comprehensive

Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), and are designated as hazardous substances in 40 C.F.R. § 302.4.

During a vapor intrusion assessment conducted in March 2015 by the EPA for the PCE Former Dry Cleaners Site, the EPA discovered another former dry cleaner site (PCE Chestnut Street) to the west of the PCE Former Dry Cleaners Site. The levels of PCE vapors found in buildings at the Site present a significant health threat due to inhalation hazards.

1.1.3 Removal Preliminary Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

On March 30, 2015, the EPA collected subslab soil gas and indoor air samples from three properties along Chestnut Street in downtown Atlantic, Iowa. Samples were collected during a vapor intrusion assessment for the PCE Former Dry Cleaner Site. Locations for the sampling were determined from past dry cleaners operating in the area.

On Scene Coordinator (OSC) Susan Fisher met with Keith Wilken, Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) from the Atlantic IDNR field office, during the week of March 30, 2015. The meeting was to explain to Keith how vapor intrusion samples were collected.

The levels of PCE vapors found in buildings at the Site present a significant health threat due to the inhalation hazards. PCE in the soil gas was found as high as 2,300,000 micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) and PCE in the indoor air as high as 550 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The elevated levels of PCE present an immediate human health risk and exceed the established indoor air and subslab soil gas screening and removal action levels for PCE.

The levels of PCE vapors found in buildings at the Site during removal assessment present a significant health threat due to inhalation hazards. Therefore, a time-critical removal action and 12-month emergency exemption Action Memorandum was signed on May 18, 2015.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.0 Current Activities

2.1 Operations

2.1.1 Narrative

2.1.1.1 Current situation

The levels of PCE vapors found in buildings at the Site present a significant health threat due to inhalation hazards. (See POLREP #1 for more detailed site information). The EPA conducted vapor intrusion sampling in this reporting period.

2.1.2 Response activities to date

June 24, 2015

OSC Fisher collected access agreements from property owners in downtown Atlantic, Iowa, for subslab soil gas and indoor air sampling. Access was given to 63 properties.

July 13 - 15, 2015

On July 13, 2015, EPA and START personnel mobilized to Atlantic, Iowa. Vapor intrusion subslab ports were installed in approximately 35 basements and 30 indoor air samples were collected with summa canisters.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

PRP's have not been identified.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

**PCE Chestnut
Access Agreements
Subslab and Indoor Air Sampling
Week of July 13 - 15, 2015**

Access Agreements

Property Number	Property Street	Indoor Air Sample Date	Sample Number
	301Chestnut	7/14/2015	6837-21
	303Chestnut	7/14/2015	6837-20
	305Chestnut		

307Chestnut	
309Chestnut	7/14/20156837-23
311Chestnut	7/14/20156837-16
313Chestnut	7/14/20156837-24
315Chestnut	
317Chestnut	
319Chestnut	7/13/20156837-28
321Chestnut	7/13/20156837-15
327Chestnut	
403Chestnut	
405Chestnut	
407Chestnut	
413Chestnut	
415Chestnut	7/13/20156837-11
417Chestnut	7/13/20156837-8
419Chestnut	7/13/20156837-12
421Chestnut	
501Chestnut	
507Chestnut	7/13/20156837-4
509Chestnut	7/14/20156837-29
513Chestnut	7/13/20156837-3
205Locust	7/14/20156837-30
214Locust	
311Locust	
314Locust	7/14/20156837-22
401Poplar	
407Poplar	7/14/20156837-19
411Poplar	
15W 3rd	
14W 4th	
2233rd st	
302Cedar	7/14/20156837-27
304Cedar	7/14/20156837-18
302Chestnut	
304Chestnut	7/14/20156837-17
306Chestnut	
318Chestnut	
400Chestnut	
402Chestnut	7/13/20156837-14
406Chestnut	7/13/20156837-13
408Chestnut	
412Chestnut	
416Chestnut	
418Chestnut	7/13/20156837-7
420Chestnut	7/13/20156837-10
422Chestnut	7/13/20156837-9
500Chestnut	7/13/20156837-1
502Chestnut	7/13/20156837-2
506Chestnut	
508Chestnut	
512Chestnut	
514Chestnut	7/13/20156837-6
516Chestnut	
518Chestnut	7/13/20156837-5
520Chestnut	
13E 4th St	
8E 5th St	
410Poplar	
412Poplar	7/14/20156837-26

2.2 Planning Section

2.2 Planning

2.2.1 Anticipated activities for next reporting period

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

See initial POLREP #1.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Collect subslab soil gas samples the week of July 20, 2015.

2.2.1.2 Issues

No issues at this time.

2.3 Logistics Section

No information at this time.

2.4 Finance Section

No information available at this time.

2.5 Other Command Staff

No Information at this time.

3. Participating Entities

3.0 Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

3.2 Cooperating and Assisting Agencies

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
City of Atlantic, Iowa

4. Personnel On Site

4.0 Personnel On Site and Off Site

Susan Fisher, EPA OSC and Project Manager START Personnel

5. Definition of Terms

5.0 Definition of Terms

µg/m³ - Micrograms per cubic meter

PRP - Potential Responsible Party

ND - Non Detect

SS - Sub Slab

IA - Indoor Air

PCE - Tetrachloroethene

TCE - Trichloroethene

APA - Abbreviated Preliminary Assessment

OSC - On Scene Coordinator

ATSDR - Agency for Toxic Substance Disease Registry

IDNR – Iowa Department of Natural Resources

6. Additional sources of information

6.0 Source of Additional Information

PCE (Tetrachloroethylene):

- A man-made chemical that is widely used for dry cleaning clothes
- It evaporates easily into the air
- A colorless liquid with a mild, chloroform-like odor - has a sharp, sweet odor.

TCE (Trichloroethylene):

- Remove grease from fabricated metal parts and in the production of some textiles.
- PCE degrades to TCE under certain circumstances
- A colorless or blue liquid with a chloroform-like odor - has a sharp, sweet odor.

For more information about these chemicals go to:

<http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants/basicinformation>

7. Situational Reference Materials

7.0 Situational Reference Material