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Fact Sheet

December 2019

Removal Action at the PCE Carriage Cleaners Superfund Site Bellevue, Sarpy County, Nebraska

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is conducting a removal action, pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), at the PCE Carriage Cleaners Superfund Site in Bellevue, Nebraska. This action is being conducted to address the tetrachloroethylene (or PCE) vapor intrusion issues found at several buildings at the site, and to conduct additional investigations to determine the extent of contamination.

BACKGROUND

Based on available data, EPA has determined that there is a groundwater plume of PCE at the site. The plume was first detected in 2017. Subsequent sampling conducted by the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy in 2019 determined that PCE, and PCE degradation products such as trichloroethylene (or TCE), are also present in soil gas associated with this groundwater plume, which have the potential to migrate into homes and commercial buildings through vapor intrusion.

As part of the removal action, EPA will assess whether any PCE vapors have intruded into any additional buildings at the site. As a result, samples of indoor air and soil vapors will be taken from inside buildings in the downtown Bellevue area. EPA will also conduct additional site investigations that include soil, groundwater, and soil gas sampling to define the extent of the contamination.

ABOUT THE CONTAMINATION

PCE is a chlorinated hydrocarbon solvent, commonly used as a dry-cleaning fluid and spot remover in dry cleaning operations and as a degreaser in manufacturing plants. The levels of PCE vapors already found in buildings at the site present a health threat due to the inhalation hazards. Therefore, vapor mitigation systems will be installed in affected buildings as soon as possible.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

An Administrative Record has been established for the PCE Carriage Cleaners Site. The Administrative Record contains site-related documents and is available for review online at:

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/PCECarriageCleaners>

If you have questions or need additional information about this sampling event or any aspect of the site, please contact:

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