

# Former Tronox/Kerr-McGee Wood Treatment Facility Springfield, Missouri

## Indoor-Air Sampling Update and Further Investigations Fact Sheet: May 2018

Greenfield Environmental Multistate Trust LLC, Trustee of the Multistate Environmental Response Trust (Multistate Trust), in close cooperation with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MoDNR), is managing environmental investigations and cleanup activities at and around the former Tronox/Kerr-McGee Wood Treatment Facility (the Facility). The 67.7-acre Facility is located at 2800 W. High Street in northwest Springfield, Greene County, Missouri.

Since September 2016, the Multistate Trust has held three public meetings with community residents and other members of the public to share results of ongoing investigations and activities. This Fact Sheet describes the results of recent investigations and the plans for the next phase of the investigation, which includes additional air sampling inside homes located above contaminated groundwater and soil sampling of yards near the Clifton Drainage.

## What is Vapor Intrusion?

Certain chemicals can give off gases or vapors. Vapor intrusion (VI) refers to the movement of these gases from the soil or groundwater into homes or other buildings around pipes or through joints, foundation cracks, sumps, or drainage systems. VI is similar to the way that naturally occurring radon gas can enter a home. **Figure 1** shows how VI can occur.



## What are Vapor Intrusion Health-Based Levels?

Health-based levels are conservative, independently established standards used to determine whether chemicals in air might pose a long-term risk to you. The Multistate Trust uses health-based levels to evaluate potential long-term risks from chemicals attributable to the Facility. These chemicals are benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, and naphthalene (BTEXN).

#### **Review of Recent Investigations**

The Multistate Trust previously provided the public with the following important information:

• An area of shallow groundwater beneath the Facility and the neighborhood to the northeast of the Facility is contaminated with chemicals previously used at the Facility.

• These chemicals have the potential to evaporate from the groundwater, move through soil and utility conduits as vapors, and accumulate under, next to, or inside buildings. *See What is Vapor Intrusion?* 

The Multistate Trust sampled vapors in the soil (known as "soil-gas") in the area. Based on the results, the Multistate Trust began sampling air in homes to determine whether vapor concentrations exceed healthbased levels established by regulatory agencies. *See What are Vapor Intrusion Health-Based Levels?* 

#### Preliminary Results of Vapor Intrusion Investigations

The Multistate Trust is studying seasonal variations in indoor air. The sample results indicate that none of the BTEXN compounds detected above health-based levels in indoor air are the result of vapor intrusion coming from the ground. Where BTEXN compounds were found in indoor air, they appear to be related to background sources. The Multistate Trust is continuing its vapor intrusion studies and air sampling. We encourage residents with concerns or questions to contact us.

#### What to Expect Next

The Multistate Trust will continue these studies. If sampling results indicate vapor intrusion is occurring, the Multistate Trust will notify the residents and discuss measures to address this condition. While evidence does not currently indicate the need for mitigation measures to address Facility-related vapors. The Multistate Trust in coordination with MoDNR will evaluate requests and make decisions on a case-by-case basis. Please direct your inquiries to Lauri Gorton of the Multistate Trust at (414) 732-4514 or <u>lg@g-etg.com</u>.

Subject to approved access, the Multistate Trust will also investigate soils along the Clifton Drainage to determine whether Facility-related chemicals are above health-based levels. This sampling is minimally intrusive and involves workers using hand tools to collect soil samples from yards near the drainage area. Disturbed soil will be restored to its prior condition by the workers at the time of the sampling. The samples will be analyzed by a qualified laboratory. The results of the sampling will be provided in a letter to the participants. The Multistate Trust will provide an update at a future public meeting.

## **Questions or Concerns**

Protecting human health and the environment is our number one priority. We encourage you to contact us with your questions and concerns:

> Lauri Gorton Multistate Trust (414) 732-4514, <u>lg@g-etg.com</u>

Mark Hogan Missouri Department of Natural Resources (573) 751-3553, <u>mark.hogan@dnr.mo.gov</u>

If you have health-related questions, please contact:

Michelle D. Hartman Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Environmental Specialist (573) 751-6102, <u>michelle.hartman@health.mo.gov</u>