



Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Governor Tony Evers | Secretary Kevin A. Carr

December 14, 2023

To Previous Occupants at 4160 N Port Washington Road, Glendale:

During a recent vapor assessment at 4160 N Port Washington Road, Glendale (the “site” below), air vapor samples and sub-slab vapor samples were taken to determine the impact of trichloroethylene (TCE) on the indoor air at the site. This letter is intended to serve as a notification of the results, as recent sampling found that low levels of TCE exist within and beneath the site. **Please note, all results from the Department of Corrections (DOC) previously occupied office space were below DNR-established health-based action levels, so any associated health risks are very low.**

Trichloroethylene, or TCE, is a man-made chemical used as a degreasing agent that has been commonly used in different industries through time, including automotive, industrial, and dry cleaning. When spilled, it can stay in the ground for a long time, and can enter a building through small cracks or openings in the floor of the basement. When exposed to TCE above action levels for a long time, there is evidence that it can cause kidney cancer and possibly increase the risk of malignant lymphomas and liver cancer. Shorter term exposures to TCE above action levels may cause fetal developmental effects including heart defects and disruption of developing nervous and immune systems.

To protect Wisconsin residents against TCE and other contaminants, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) develops vapor risk screening levels (VRSLs) for sub-slab results and vapor action levels (VALs) for indoor air results to use as thresholds. TCE has a VRSL of 290 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ⁽¹⁾ and a VAL of 8.8 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ at commercial sites. The maximum results identified at the DOC office space was a sub-slab concentration of 186 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, and an indoor air concentration of 5.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, both below their respective screening threshold. Again, these levels indicate a very low risk of health effects.

We only have TCE data at the site from November of 2022 and June of 2023. While all of the measurements we have within and below the DOC office space are below the health-based thresholds of concern, vapor data can change a lot over time. As such, we encourage you to have

¹ A measure of concentration in terms of mass per unit volume. A concentration of 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ means that one cubic meter of air contains one microgram (10^{-6} grams) of pollutant.

conversations with your doctors if you have any specific health concerns related to TCE. In addition, if you have additional questions we encourage you to contact the below subject matter experts.

Sincerely,



Tim Reneau-Major
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Division of Management Services
Department of Corrections
608.240.5920 (office)
608.225.2970 (cell)

Local Public Health: Becky Rowland at browland@nshealthdept.org or 414.371.2981

State Public Health: Nathan Kloczko at nathan.kloczko@dhs.wisconsin.gov or 608.867.4448

Department of Natural Resources: David Hanson at David.Hanson@wisconsin.gov or 414.639.4156

Environmental Consultant: Trenton Ott at tott@fecinc.us or 414.228.9815

att: TCE in the Air factsheet, WI DHS (<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02480.pdf>)

att: What is Vapor Intrusion WI DNR (<https://widnr.widen.net/s/qlshnvdsgf/rr892>)