



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

APR -9 2009

OFFICE OF
SOLID WASTE AND EMERGENCY
RESPONSE

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Withdrawal of the January 15, 2009, OSWER Guidance Entitled "Interim Recommended Trichloroethylene (TCE) Toxicity Values to Assess Human Health Risk and Recommendations for the Vapor Intrusion Pathway Analysis"

FROM: Barry N. Breen, Acting Assistant Administrator
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry N. Breen", written over the "FROM:" line.

TO: Acting Regional Administrators, Regions 1 - 10

On January 15, 2009, the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) issued a guidance memorandum entitled "Interim Recommended Trichloroethylene (TCE) Toxicity Values to Assess Human Health Risk and Recommendations for the Vapor Intrusion Pathway Analysis." That guidance was subsequently distributed to EPA regional staff and managers. The Agency is withdrawing this guidance to further evaluate the recommendations regarding the non-cancer TCE toxicity value for use in risk assessments of inhalation exposures. Once this re-evaluation is complete, we will update you.

In the interim, toxicity values for TCE should be determined consistent with the National Contingency Plan (e.g., 40 CFR 300.430(e)) and the 2003 Toxicity Hierarchy (OSWER Directive 9285.7-53, December 5, 2003). The Directive provides guidance on a hierarchy of approaches regarding human health toxicity values in risk assessments, and provides guidance for regional risk assessors to help them identify appropriate sources of toxicological information that should generally be used in performing human health risk assessments at Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA or "Superfund") sites. This hierarchy of approaches is also appropriate for human health risk assessments at Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) corrective action sites.

The guidance memorandum also addressed the vapor intrusion pathway and recommended a multiple lines of evidence approach in assessing sites for vapor intrusion. EPA expects to issue a separate document that will address the multiple lines of evidence approach as it relates to the vapor intrusion pathway.

If you have any questions, please contact Jayne Michaud in the Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation at 703-603-8847 or Mary Cooke in the Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office at 703-603-8712.

cc: Regional Superfund Division Directors
Regional RCRA Division Directors
Mary Cooke
Gail A. Cooper
Deborah Dietrich
Matt Hale
Carolyn Hoskinson
Barbara Hostage
Ann Johnson
David Lloyd
Peter Ludzia
Mary Kay Lynch
Ellen Manges
Jayne Michaud
John Michaud
John Reeder
William Sette
Elizabeth Southerland
James Woolford
Renee Wynn