U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

# Air Study at Grenada Stamping

# Information for Workers

**February 2017**

## Introduction

Last year, EPA directed Grenada Manufacturing, LLC to perform indoor air sampling in the manufacturing building (commonly known as Grenada Stamping and currently operated by Ice Industries). Sampling performed by the Facility's contractor in October 2016 showed elevated levels of trichloroethene (TCE) in the Facility's indoor air and areas beneath the concrete floor. Follow-up sampling performed in January 2017 continues to show elevated levels of TCE inside the Facility (results are summarized in the table below).

In response, the Facility is increasing ventilation and air exchange within the building (to immediately reduce TCE concentrations) and designing an engineered mitigation system for long-term effectiveness.

More information about EPA's ongoing work to oversee the cleanup of the site is posted at: www.epa.gov/grenadacleanup.

## January 2017 Sampling

Findings from the October 2016 and January 2017 sampling are similar. Additional locations were sampled in January in the manufacturing and office areas. TCE was found to be above the screening level in all occupied indoor areas tested during both sampling events. TCE was found to be above the screening level in five of the six sub-slab samples taken during each of the sampling events. EPA uses screening levels to help determine if further evaluation should take place.

During January, TCE was found to be above EPA's Removal Management Levels (RMLs), also called "action levels," in the same five locations previously sampled in October and in two new sampling locations. RMLs are values used by EPA to help determine if any future actions may be needed. A determination that a sample result is higher than a RML by itself does not imply that adverse health effects will occur.

### Air Sampling Results for TCE at Facility (Grenada Stamping)

| Date/ Location | Range of Concentrations Detected | Screening Level | Action Level Sensitive Population | Action Level Non-Sensitive Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **October 2016 Sampling** | | | | |
| Indoor Air | 6.7 – 29 | 3 | 8.8 | 26 |
| Sub-slab Air | 100 – 2,900,000 | 100 | NA | NA |
| **NEW - January 2017 Sampling** | | | | |
| Indoor Air | 6.6 – 81 | 3 | 8.8 | 26 |
| Sub-slab Air | 70 – 220,000 | 100 | NA | NA |

**Notes:** The range of concentrations for trichloroethene (TCE) detected are given in units of micrograms per cubic meter ($ug/m^3$).
NA – not applicable

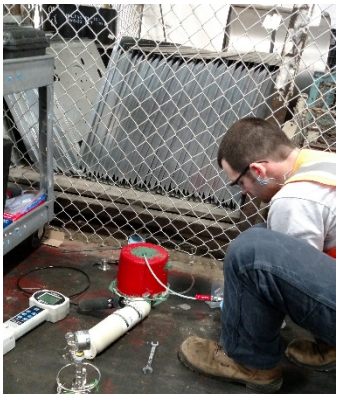
## Worker Health

The health effects of TCE depend upon the pathway, concentration, and time (i.e., length of exposure) to the chemical. Long-term exposure to TCE vapors could pose potential health risks. Women in the first trimester of pregnancy are most vulnerable because of the potential for cardiac malformations in a developing fetus during the 3-week period where the heart forms. Some women may not be aware of their pregnancy during the critical period of the first trimester, so all women of reproductive age are considered to be among the sensitive population.

If you have health questions, you may want to consult your doctor. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) has TCE exposure information available for you and your doctors upon request. The materials explain how you can be exposed to TCE, and how it affects your health. For more information, contact:

- Mississippi Poison Control Center: (601) 984-5577 or (800) 222-1222
- Bruce Brackin, Mississippi State Department of Health: (601) 576-7725
- Leann Bing, ATSDR: (404) 562-1784 or KBing@cdc.gov
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration: (601)965-4606 or www.osha.gov/workers/file_complaint.html

## Actions Being Taken



*Sampling conducted in January 2017 for TCE inside the Facility*

The Facility is implementing the following immediate interim and long-term response actions, with EPA oversight, to reduce indoor air concentrations of TCE below Removal Management Levels (RMLs) in all areas of the building.

Immediate Interim Measures:
- Increasing building pressurization and/or ventilation;
- Continued sampling of indoor air to confirm that TCE levels have decreased; and
- Monitoring the movement of occupants in high TCE areas to limit exposure.

Long-term Measures:
- Sealing potential conduits in flooring where sub-surface vapors may be entering the building;
- Treating indoor air (carbon filtration, air purifiers); and
- Installing an engineered sub-slab depressurization system (to remove sub-slab vapors before they enter the building).



# CONTACTS


**EPA Community Engagement Coordinator**
Brian Holtzclaw
404-821-0697 (cell)
holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

**EPA Outreach Coordinator**
Keriema Newman
404-562-8859 or 404-304-2490
newman.keriema@epa.gov

**EPA Technical Project Manager**
Brian Bastek
404-562-8511
bastek.brian@epa.gov


## FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Website**
www.epa.gov/grenadacleanup

**Information Repository**
Elizabeth Jones Library
1050 Fairfield Avenue
Grenada, MS 38902