

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Pilot Study at Grenada



Stamping - Information for Workers and Community

Fact Sheet #11

July 2017

Introduction

EPA directed Grenada Manufacturing, LLC (Facility) to install a long-term treatment system to further reduce levels of trichloroethene (TCE) inside the manufacturing building (commonly known as Grenada Stamping and currently operated by Ice Industries). TCE contamination is believed to be present beneath the Facility as a result of spills from prior operations. Sampling since October 2016 shows TCE vapors from beneath the slab are rising into the building and may pose a risk to workers.

The new treatment system will replace intermediate measures taken since January 2017 to increase ventilation. These have decreased TCE concentrations within the building. The new treatment system is a more reliable, long-term method to ensure TCE concentrations remain at acceptable levels.

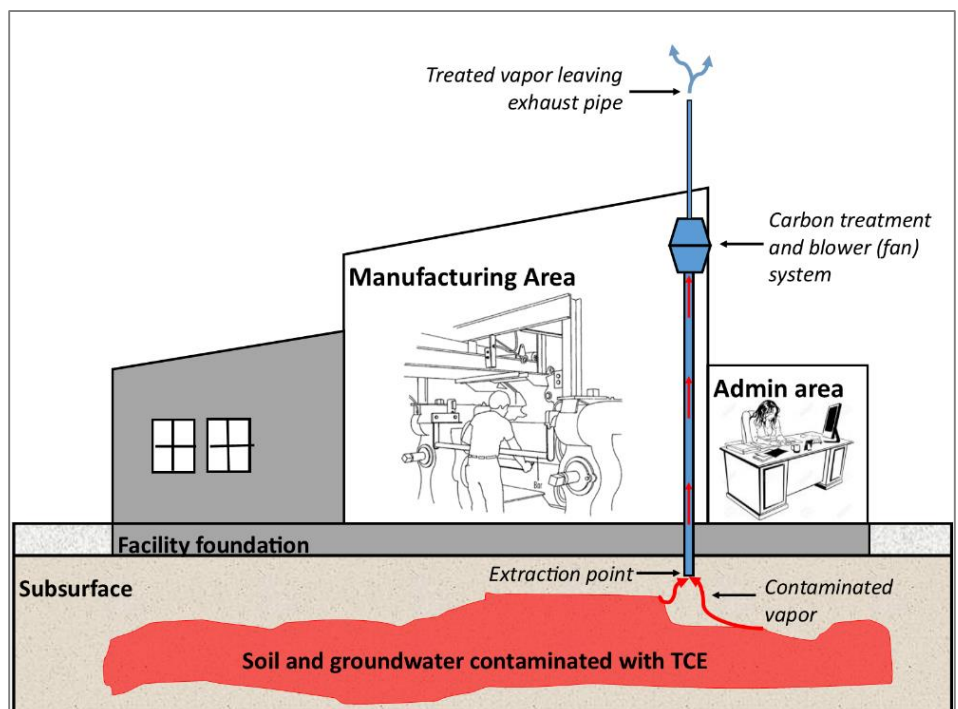
A pilot study of the proposed treatment system is scheduled to begin during July 2017. This study will be used to optimize the treatment system to reduce the TCE concentrations in indoor air while limiting the pollutants discharged to outdoor air. Potential emissions will be estimated to determine whether a State air permit is required. As part of the study, data will be collected to evaluate possible impacts on outdoor air quality.

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

How does treatment work?

The Facility plans to use a vapor intrusion treatment system called "sub-slab depressurization" (SSD).

SSD works to remove vapors from beneath the building through extraction points which connect to an electric fan (see figure). The extracted vapors will be treated by activated carbon units that capture pollutants. Treated emissions will be discharged through a stack and vented outdoors. The stack's height will be 20 feet above the building. The stack's location will be more than 150 feet from the nearest residential or recreational area, in accordance with Mississippi law.



Pilot study and air permitting

The Facility will conduct a pilot study of the treatment system beginning July 2017. EPA and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) will provide oversight. The system will run for a period of up to 30-days. Extensive monitoring will be conducted to assess the impact on indoor air quality, optimize system operation, monitor treatment system performance and collect treated emissions data.

A permit is required if the source has the potential to emit more than 10 tons per year of an individual hazardous air pollutant (HAP) or 25 tons per year of total HAPs. TCE and other chemical vapors expected to be removed and discharged by the system are HAPs. During the pilot study, all emissions from the extracted vapors will be treated by activated carbon units that capture pollutants.

If monitoring during the pilot indicates that emissions have the potential to exceed thresholds, the study will cease and the Facility will be required to submit a permit application to MDEQ. Intermediate ventilation measures will resume to manage TCE concentrations inside the Facility during the processing of the permit application. The air permit will be drafted by MDEQ and made available for public comment before being issued.



The treatment system uses extraction points drilled through the building's foundation to remove chemical vapors

Is it safe?

Vapor treatment systems are safe to use and improve the quality of the indoor air by removing chemical vapors. SSD has proven to be the most effective solution for removing chemical vapors in large industrial settings.

The system will be regularly inspected to ensure it is working properly. The treatment system will remain in place over the long-term until the contamination beneath the slab is remediated. Indoor and outdoor air monitoring will continue at the Facility to ensure TCE levels remain within acceptable levels.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Website

www.epa.gov/grenadacleanup

Information Repository

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