

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

## Ongoing Remedial Action Investigations Fact Sheet: December 2016

Greenfield Environmental Multistate Trust LLC, Trustee of the Multistate Environmental Response Trust (Multistate Trust), in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MoDNR), prepared this fact sheet to update the community on the status of investigations and remediation activities at and around the 67.7-acre former Tronox/Kerr-McGee Wood Treatment Facility located at 2800 W. High Street in northwest Springfield, Greene County, Missouri.

### Update: Recent 2016 Investigation Activities and Preliminary Results

In the Fall of 2016, according to a MoDNR-approved work plan, the Multistate Trust installed new groundwater monitoring wells in the public rights-of-way in neighborhoods to the northeast and southwest of the Facility, and to the east on property owned by Greene County. These wells were installed to better understand the extent and nature of on- and off-site groundwater contamination.

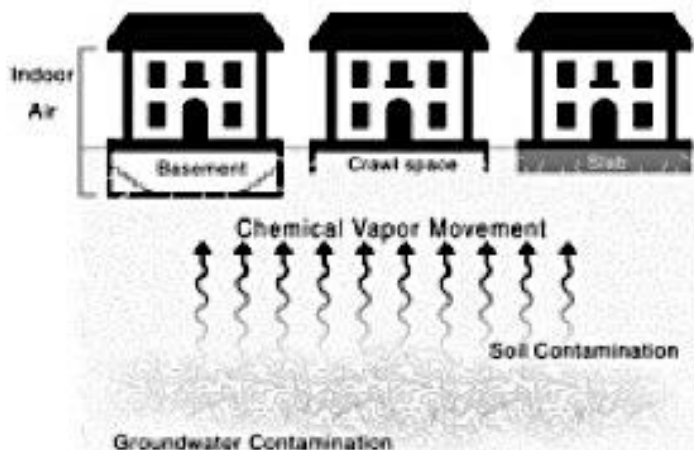
Five new wells have been installed to date along the Clifton Drainage way. Creosote has been seen in some of the wells. Groundwater sampling results also showed levels of site-related chemicals at concentrations higher than the groundwater protection standards, which are the maximum allowable concentrations of such contaminants in groundwater established in the relevant Facility-specific permit. The preliminary analysis results for groundwater indicate that some of the groundwater contaminants have the potential to emit vapors that exceed screening levels established by the Environmental Protection Agency.



### What Do These Results Mean?

The vapors could potentially move through the soil and accumulate under or next to buildings. Under certain conditions, these vapors can also move into homes through foundation floors and walls in a process called vapor intrusion. Standard environmental practice is to investigate possible vapor intrusion pathways if contaminants in groundwater are present at high concentrations close to occupied buildings.

## Vapor Intrusion into Indoor Air



## What is Vapor Intrusion?

Certain chemicals can give off vapors. Vapor intrusion refers to the movement of these gases from the soil or groundwater into homes or businesses around pipes or through joints, foundation cracks, a sump, or a drain system. Vapor intrusion is similar to the way that naturally occurring radon gas can enter a home.

Vapor intrusion is a concern when gases build up inside buildings to a point where the health of building occupants could be at risk. When human health or safety is threatened by vapor intrusion, response action is warranted.

## Next Steps

Additional investigation is needed to determine how far the groundwater contamination has moved off-site and whether vapors are present at concentrations that could potentially move into buildings and neighborhood homes. For that reason, the Multistate Trust will be installing additional area wells in December 2016 to further monitor and assess groundwater conditions.

The Multistate Trust will also collect samples of “soil-gas”—the vapor present in air spaces between soil particles—and samples of outdoor air from various locations to assess potential vapor intrusion issues. These tests will help determine whether contaminants in the groundwater are moving up through the soil as a vapor. As part of this study, the Multistate Trust may also contact nearby residents and businesses to gain a better understanding of home and building construction, household chemicals that are present, and other factors (such as smoking, fireplaces, and furnaces). Gathering this information is important to help us evaluate how vapors might enter the building and, if indoor air is sampled, the building-specific factors that could influence the sampling results. All of these activities will be performed in close cooperation with MoDNR.

## Potential Indoor Air Sampling

If soil-gas and outdoor air sampling results suggest vapors are present and could potentially move into nearby buildings or homes, the Multistate Trust may ask to test those homes or buildings for vapor intrusion. These tests would not be conducted without the owner’s consent.

The tests would likely involve collecting an air sample inside the building and from soil beneath the building’s foundation. Sampling involves drilling one or more small holes into the basement or lowest level of a home or building, collecting a vapor sample from those holes, and then sending the sample to a specialized laboratory for analysis. The results would be used to determine whether vapors are present and, if so, at what levels. Areas disturbed by sampling activities would be repaired, and any sampling results would be provided to the homeowner.

## Potential Vapor Mitigation Measures

If vapors are present beneath a building’s or home’s foundation and are present in the home or building at levels above a health concern, we would propose installing a mitigation system to remove the vapors. This system is similar to systems used for homes with high radon gas levels. The system would redirect the vapors entering the building to the outdoor air. If required, and subject to MoDNR’s approval, the system would be paid from funds managed for Facility cleanup activities.

Because vapors in outdoor air dissipate quickly and tend to pose little exposure concern, it is highly unlikely any action would be required to address outdoor vapors.



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Springfield, Missouri**

### The Multistate Trust

The Multistate Trust is an independent, court-appointed trustee whose main purpose is to protect human health and the environment. Created as part of, and funded by, the 2011 global Tronox bankruptcy and subsequent Anadarko settlement, the Multistate Trust is responsible for owning, investigating, remediating and facilitating the long-term stewardship of more than 400 former Tronox/Kerr-McGee sites in 31 states, including the Facility, for the benefit of federal and state governments.

### Questions or Concerns

We remain committed to the investigation and cleanup of impacts from the Facility and will continue to share information as the work progresses. Contact information for the MoDNR project manager and the Springfield-Greene County Health Department is provided below. Please feel free to contact the Multistate Trust, at the contact information below, if you have a question or need an update on our progress.

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