

# Memorandum

**To:** John Mefford, Washington State Department of Ecology

**From:** Pamela Osterhout, Floyd|Snider

**Date:** March 12, 2019 (revised on May 10, 2019)

**Project No:** Smith-Kem

**Re: Proposed Sampling Plan for Vapor Intrusion Assessment at the Smith-Kem Site  
200 S. Railroad Ave., Ellensburg, Washington**

This sampling plan was prepared to document the scope and procedures for a vapor intrusion (VI) assessment at the Smith-Kem Ellensburg, Inc., property (the Property) located at 200 S. Railroad Avenue in Ellensburg, Washington. Data from the VI assessment will be used to determine if any remedial action or design considerations will be necessary to mitigate potential human health risks from subsurface petroleum vapors intruding into the existing office building.

The Property is a commercial agricultural product distribution facility with three existing buildings on the property. An initial VI assessment was completed during the remedial investigation (RI) and is documented in a memorandum submitted to the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) on September 17, 2018 (Floyd|Snider 2018). The initial assessment concluded that there was no immediate VI risk due to elevated concentrations of petroleum in shallow soils; however, the office building located in the middle of the property may require further VI assessment.

Ecology approved the proposal that petroleum VI does not have to be evaluated immediately but sent a November 19, 2018, letter to Floyd|Snider requesting that the VI assessment occur in the next 4 months (i.e., by mid-March 2019) to further evaluate the potential VI risk in the office building (Ecology 2018a).

## BACKGROUND

The office building is approximately 1,500 square feet and is attached to a storage garage area; however, these buildings are separated by an exterior wall and have independent foundations. The storage garage area has a slab-on-grade concrete foundation while the office building is raised approximately 3 feet above the ground with an accessible crawl space. The storage garage area is on top of and adjacent to petroleum-impacted soils. Soil samples collected from borings within and south of the storage garage area contain concentrations of diesel-range total petroleum hydrocarbons (diesel-range TPH) up to 4,700 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg)

between 0 and 7 feet below ground surface (bgs). A more detailed conceptual site model is included in the Draft RI report (Floyd|Snider 2019). There are no other buildings that would require further VI assessment related to TPH based on building use and the lateral inclusion zone of 100 feet from the potential source.

## SAMPLING APPROACH

The following sampling approach was developed in accordance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) *OSWER Technical Guide for Assessing and Mitigating the Vapor Intrusion Pathway from Subsurface Vapor Sources to Indoor Air* (USEPA 2015); the Tier II assessment outlined in Ecology's *Guidance for Evaluating Soil Vapor Intrusion in Washington State: Investigation and Remedial Action* (Ecology 2018b), and Ecology's *Implementation Memorandum No. 18* (Ecology 2018c). Sampling will be performed per Floyd|Snider's standard guideline for VI (Attachment 1), which includes performing a building survey and taking note of other potential vapor sources, such as cleaning products, air fresheners, and cigarette smoke.

To assess VI risk in the office building, three air samples will be collected in 6-liter SUMMA canisters over an 8-hour period during normal working business hours to replicate worker exposure conditions during a full work day at the Property. The SUMMA canisters will be set up with flow regulators to allow continuous collection of air to be sampled over an 8-hour period. One SUMMA canister will be placed in the center of the office building at 3 to 5 feet above the floor level to collect an indoor air sample representative of the breathing zone. A second SUMMA canister will be placed in the crawl space beneath the office building near floor penetrations (if any exist) and away from perimeter vents. The third SUMMA canister will be placed outside and upwind of the office building 3 to 5 feet above the ground surface in a location protected from the elements (i.e., wind, precipitation) to measure ambient air conditions. The outdoor SUMMA canister will be set up first to allow ambient air sample collection prior to the collection of the other samples. This will provide a more accurate assessment of the buildings air exchange rate, which is generally in the range of 0.25 to 1.0 hours for outdoor air to enter indoor air. All efforts will be made to eliminate other sources of vapor-producing chemicals, such as air fresheners, within the office space prior to sampling. If such items are present, they will be noted in the building survey form.

Air samples will be sent to Friedman & Bruya, Inc., in Seattle, Washington, for analysis of air-phase petroleum hydrocarbons (APH), benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, total xylenes, and naphthalene by USEPA Method TO-15. Indoor air results may be corrected for ambient contributions per Section 3.2 in Ecology's guidance (Ecology 2018b). Corrected concentrations of indoor air and crawl space air will be compared to Ecology's Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Method C cancer or non-cancer screening levels presented in Table 1 to determine if unacceptable concentrations of VI are present in the office space. Note that Ecology has objected to the use of MTCA Method C indoor air screening levels. MTCA Method B screening levels are also presented in Table 1.

## SCHEDULE

Scheduling will be dependent on weather considerations to avoid sampling during a period of extreme atmospheric pressure changes or within 24 hours of a rain event that produces 0.5 inches of precipitation or more. Sampling is anticipated to occur within 3 weeks of receiving Ecology approval for this sampling approach.

## REPORTING

Results from the above-described work will be discussed in the Draft Final RI report. All analytical data will be entered into Ecology's Environmental Information Management database.

## REFERENCES

Floyd|Snider. 2018. *Initial Vapor Intrusion Assessment*. Memorandum from Gabe Cisneros, LG, and Allison Geiselbrecht, PhD, Floyd|Snider, to John Mefford and Mary Monahan, Washington State Department of Ecology. 17 September.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2019. *Draft Smith-Kem Site Remedial Investigation*. February.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 2015. *OSWER Technical Guide for Assessing and Mitigating the Vapor Intrusion Pathway from Subsurface Vapor Sources to Indoor Air*. OSWER Publication No. 9200.2-154. June.

Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology). 2018a. *Ecology comments on Floyd Snider memorandum titled: "Initial Vapor Intrusion Assessment."* Letter from John Mefford, Washington State Department of Ecology, to Allison Geiselbrecht, Floyd|Snider. 19 November.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2018b. *Guidance for Evaluating Soil Vapor Intrusion in Washington State: Investigation and Remedial Action*. Review Draft. Prepared by the Toxics Cleanup Program. Publication No. 09-09-047. Originally published October 2009; revised April.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2018c. *Petroleum Vapor Intrusion (PVI): Updated Screening Levels, Cleanup Levels, and Assessing PVI Threats to Future Buildings; Implementation Memorandum No. 18*. Prepared by the Toxics Cleanup Program. Publication No. 17-09-043. January.

## LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Table 1            Laboratory Reporting Limits and Screening Levels for Constituents of Potential Concern

Attachment 1    Floyd|Snider Standard Guideline for Vapor Intrusion

**Table**



**Attachment 1**  
**Floyd|Snider Standard Guideline for Vapor Intrusion**

# F|S STANDARD GUIDELINE

## Vapor Intrusion

DATE/LAST UPDATE: February 2019

*These procedures should be considered standard guidelines and are intended to provide useful guidance when in the field, but are not intended to be step-by-step procedures, as some steps may not be applicable to all projects.*

*All field staff should be sufficiently trained in the standard guidelines for the sampling method they intend to use and should review and understand these procedures prior to going into the field. It is the responsibility of the field staff to review the standard guidelines with the field manager or project manager and identify any deviations from these guidelines prior to field work. When possible, the project-specific Sampling and Analysis Plan should contain any expected deviations and should be referenced in conjunction with these standard guidelines.*

### 1.0 Scope and Purpose

This standard guideline provides details necessary to complete vapor intrusion monitoring, which may include soil vapor point and sub-slab installation, soil vapor point monitoring and/or sampling, indoor air sampling, and remediation system compliance monitoring. Field screening for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) is most often conducted with a photoionization detector (PID) and confirmed via analytical sample collection. The most common sampling methods are included herein. These guidelines are designed to meet or exceed guidelines set forth by the Draft Washington State Department of Ecology's (Ecology's), [Guidance for Evaluating Soil Vapor Intrusion in Washington State: Investigation and Remedial Action](#) (Ecology 2015 and 2018a). In addition, refer to Ecology's [Updated Process for Initially Assessing the Potential for Petroleum Vapor Intrusion: Implementation Memorandum No. 14](#) (Ecology 2016), Ecology's [Petroleum Vapor Intrusion \(PVI\): Updated Screening Levels, Cleanup Levels, and Assessing PVI Threats to Future Buildings: Implementation Memorandum No. 18](#) (Ecology 2018b), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) [Technical Guide For Addressing Petroleum Vapor Intrusion At Leaking Underground Storage Tank Sites](#) and [OSWER Technical Guide for Assessing and Mitigating the Vapor Intrusion Pathway from Subsurface Vapor Sources to Indoor Air](#) (USEPA 2015a and 2015b). Defining the lateral and vertical inclusion zones will determine if soil vapor sampling is required. The Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) [online guidance for soil vapor intrusion](#) (ITRC 2014) is another good source of information.

## 2.0 Equipment and Supplies

The following is a list of typical equipment and supplies that may be necessary to complete vapor intrusion monitoring. It is important to note that this list is for a typical project; site-specific conditions may warrant additional or different equipment for completion of the work.

### Sub-Slab, Soil Vapor Point, and Vapor Pin® Installation:

- Rotary hammer drill
- Drill bit
- Vapor point (AMS or similar)
- Stainless steel (SST) dummy tip (optional)
- Teflon™, nylon, or stainless steel tubing
- Sand pack
- Bentonite chips
- Protective cover for permanent point
- Swagelok® on/off valve (optional)
- Caps or compression fittings
- Quick set (concrete) or hydraulic cement
- Paper towels
- Nylon ferrules
- Vapor Pin® Kits (Cox-Colvin & Associates), which include the following:
  - Brass or stainless steel Vapor Pins®
  - Vapor Pin® sleeves
  - Vapor Pin® caps
  - Plastic or stainless steel flush mount covers
  - Spanner screwdriver
  - Stainless steel drilling guide
  - Installation and extraction tool
  - Bottle brush
  - Water dam for leak testing
  - Vapor Pin® Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)
- Shop vac



**Soil Vapor Point or Remediation System Screening and/or Sampling:**

- PID
- Connector
- Teflon™ or nylon tubing
- Air sampling pump or peristaltic pump
- Tedlar® bag or SUMMA® canisters
- Two adjustable wrenches (to tighten SUMMA® canister connections)
- Duplicate sampling (as necessary if duplicate sample collection is required)
- Soil gas manifolds
- Ferrules/fittings
- Helium (or other detection gas, such as isopropyl alcohol, if leak detection is necessary)
- Helium detector (if leak detection is necessary with helium)
- Soil vapor sampling sheet (attached)

**Indoor Air Sampling:**

- PID
- Flow regulator
- SUMMA® canisters (6-liter, lab certified)
- Sampling cane (optional)
- At least two adjustable wrenches
- Indoor air building survey form (enclosed)

### 3.0 Standard Procedures

Soil vapor samples and/or indoor air samples should be collected from a sufficient number of locations to assess the presence of VOCs and potential exposure to workers or occupants of potentially impacted buildings or future building locations.

#### 3.1 PRE-SCREENING ASSESSMENT

When completing a vapor intrusion survey or indoor air sampling, it is important to complete a pre-sampling survey to document potential activities or storage items that may cause interference with sample results. Some important things to note (list is not comprehensive):

- If smoking has occurred in the building

- Storage of potential contaminants (cleaners, fuels, paints, or paint thinners, etc.)
- HVAC system operation (on or off)
- Temperature and weather (wind direction, barometric pressure, etc.)
- Vehicle maintenance or industrial activities on the property or in the immediate vicinity (especially upwind)
- If new carpet or furniture is present

A pre-sampling soil vapor building survey form can be found at the end of this document. Be mindful of your surroundings and make a comprehensive list of potential factors that may influence sample results.

### 3.2 SOIL VAPOR POINT INSTALLATION

Soil vapor points can be installed along the outside perimeter of a building or in the lowest level of a building directly through the slab (or beneath the floor into the subsurface if there is not a slab). It is important to evaluate the presence of utilities prior to drilling into the subsurface or through a concrete slab.

If the sampling point is for one time use, tubing inserted into a hole drilled in the slab is sufficient. However, if the sampling is to be part of a long-term monitoring program, a more robust sampler, such as a Geoprobe or AMS probe for permanent soil gas point is recommended. Five different methods for installing soil vapor installation points are described here.

1. For temporary sub-slab points:
  - a. Drill a hole into the subsurface. Using a rotary hammer drill and a 3/8-inch drill bit (typical diameter size but not necessary), drill a hole through the concrete floor slab of the building and into the sub-slab material to some depth (e.g., 7 to 8 centimeters [cm] or 3 inches). Drilling into the sub-slab material will create an open cavity, which will prevent obstruction of the tubing intake by small pieces of gravel. Once the thickness of the slab is known, the tubing will be cut to ensure that the probe tubing does not reach the bottom of the hole in order to avoid obstruction with sub-slab material. Sample tubing can be placed directly into the sub-slab. Evaluate and note the sub-slab conditions.
  - b. Care should be taken to reduce cross-contaminating sub-slab vapor and indoor air vapor. This may be done by sealing the sample point with VOC-free hydraulic cement, hydrated bentonite, or with VOC-free putty to the top of the slab. Once sealed, wait 15 to 30 minutes before sampling.

## 2. Installation guidelines for a sub-slab Vapor Pin®:<sup>1</sup>



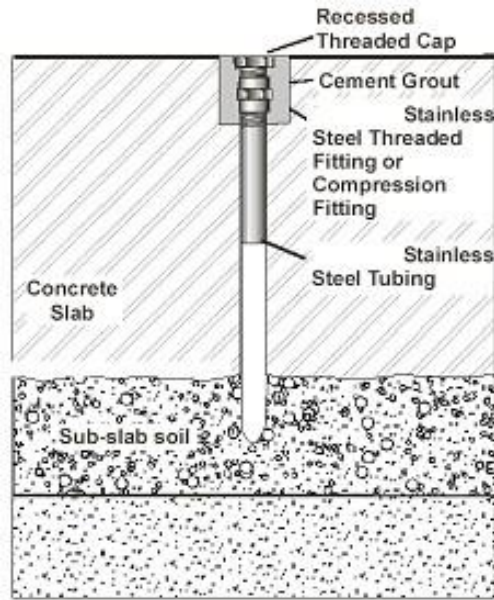
Figure 1. Assembled VAPOR PIN®

- a. Check for buried obstacles and utilities. Set up wet/dry vacuum to collect drill cuttings. Also, look for nearby cracks or other holes in the slab that may cause short circuiting and influence from indoor air.
- b. Drill a 1.5-inch (38 millimeters [mm]) diameter hole at least 1.75 inches (45 mm) into the slab. Use of a Vapor Pin® drilling guide is recommended in the SOP.
- c. Drill a 0.625-inch (16 mm) diameter hole through the slab and approximately 1 inch (25 mm) into the underlying soil to form a void. Hole must be 0.625 inches (16 mm) in diameter to ensure proper seal. The Cox-Colvin SOP recommends using the drill guide provided in the kit. Remove the drill bit, brush the hole with the bottle brush provided in the kit, and remove the loose cuttings with a vacuum.
- d. Place the lower end of Vapor Pin® assembly into the drilled hole. Place the small hole located in the handle of the installation/extraction tool provided in the kit over the vapor pin to protect the barb fitting, and tap the Vapor Pin® into place using a dead blow hammer or rubber mallet. Make sure the installation/extraction tool is aligned parallel to the Vapor Pin® to avoid damaging the barb fitting.
- e. For flush mount installations, cover the Vapor Pin® with a flush mount cover, using either the plastic cover or the optional stainless-steel Secure Cover provided by Vapor Pin®.
- f. Allow 48 hours or more for the sub-slab soil-gas conditions to re-equilibrate prior to sampling.

<sup>1</sup> Additionally, refer to Cox-Colvin [SOP Installation and Extraction of the Vapor Pin®](#), which is included with the Vapor Pin® kit.

3. Suggested installation guidelines for temporary outdoor soil gas points using a rotary hammer and drill bit:
  - a. Manufacturers, such as Geoprobe or AMS, make soil gas implant systems designed for use with their equipment. Stainless steel or polyvinyl chloride (PVC) screen can also be used to construct an appropriate soil gas point. The probe screen will be fitted with a Swagelok® or similar fitting and connected to a length of 0.25-inch outer diameter, rigid wall nylon or Teflon™ tubing that will be above grade. Refer to the manufacturer or driller's instructions for specific details regarding assembly and deployment.
  - b. To seal the point, the implant should be surrounded with a clean sand pack. Concrete (VOC-free hydraulic cement preferred) should be used above the seal to the top of the slab. Placement of some sort of cap or protective device is recommended if the sampling point will remain in place for some time after the soil gas sample is collected. Once sealed, wait 15 to 30 minutes before sampling.
4. Suggested installation guidelines for outside permanent points installed with a Geoprobe rig or hand auger:
  - a. Advance the boring using a geoprobe or hand auger to the required maximum depth. Install a 6-inch long by 0.75-inch diameter stainless steel screen that is capped on the bottom end and fitted with a Swagelok® fitting connected on the other end (or similar approved screen or soil vapor point). Attach a length of 0.25-inch outer diameter rigid wall nylon or Teflon™ tubing to the probe screen that will be above grade. The above grade end of the probe should be fitted with a stainless steel Swagelok® on/off control valve or similar valve (optional), which is used to prevent short-circuiting of ambient air into the probes and to conduct closed-valve tests. Teflon™ tape should be used on threaded joints to ensure a good seal. Depending on the work plan, it might be necessary to collect an air equipment blank sample through the vapor probe components prior to installation.
  - b. The 6-inch screen tip should be vertically centered in a 1-foot long interval containing standard sand pack, resulting in 3 inches of sand above and below the screen. The sand pack will be covered with a 1-foot interval of dry granular bentonite, which should be covered with at least 2 feet of pre-hydrated granular bentonite. The dry granular bentonite is emplaced immediately above the sand pack to ensure that pre-hydrated granular bentonite slurry does not flow down to the probe screen and seal it. The remainder of the borehole will be filled with pre-hydrated granular bentonite slurry (mixed at the surface and poured in) to approximately 12 inches below ground surface (bgs). The top portion should be completed with a 1-foot thick cement cap. A flush-mounted well box or other suitable protective cover should be installed to protect the nylon/Teflon™ tubing and on/off control valve.

5. Suggested equipment and installation guidelines for permanent sub-slab vapor points within a building; however, site-specific conditions may warrant additional or different equipment for completion of the work:
  - a. To install the sub-slab vapor probes, a rotary hammer drill will be used to create a “shallow” hole (e.g., ¼-inch deep) that partially penetrates the slab (do not completely penetrate the slab). A portable vacuum can be used to remove the drill cuttings from the hole without compromising the soil vapor samples. Next, a smaller diameter “inner” hole (e.g., 0.8 cm or 5/16 inch diameter) will be drilled through the remainder of the slab and into the sub-slab material to some depth (e.g., 7 to 8 cm or 3 inches). Drilling into the sub-slab material will create an open cavity which will prevent obstruction of the probes by small pieces of gravel. Once the thickness of the slab is known, the tubing will be cut to ensure that the probe tubing does not reach the bottom of the hole and in order to avoid obstruction with sub-slab material.
  - b. Each sub-slab vapor point should consist of vacuum-rated Nylon, Teflon™, or stainless steel tubing with ¼-inch outer diameter by 0.15-inch inner diameter, and stainless-steel compression to thread fittings (e.g., ¼-inch outer diameter Swagelok® (SS-400-7-4) NPT female thread connectors or similar equipment). This will be capped with sub-slab tamper resistant cap or other similar protective caps that will be inset into the floor to avoid trip hazards. When time to sample, the sub-slab tamper resistant cap will be removed and Nylon tubing will be attached to the sub-slab vapor point with a ¼-inch out diameter (SS-400-1-4) male NPT. Prior to the installation of one of the sub-slab vapor probes, an air equipment blank sample will be collected if required by the work plan (See Section 3.4.3).
  - c. Teflon™ tape should be used with all stainless steel threads. All fittings should be attached prior to installing the probe in the sub-slab. A sub-slab tamper resistant cap will be used to ensure that the top of the probe is flush with the surface so as not to interfere with day-to-day use of the building. Portland cement can be used as a surface seal and allowed to cure for at least 24 hours prior to sampling. Hydraulic cement may also be used if free of VOCs, and requires less cure time (typically less than one hour) prior to sample collection. A typical soil gas probe schematic is provided here for reference.



Sub-slab soil gas probe schematic (Source: Ecology 2016a)

### 3.3 SOIL VAPOR POINT SAMPLING USING TEDLAR® BAGS

The objective of the vapor sampling procedures is to collect representative samples of the targeted media and analyze the gas for the presence of VOCs. Typically, a low volume air pump is used to pull a sample through the sampling train.

1. Connect proper tubing to your sampling point and to your low volume air pump.
2. Purge for 3 to 5 minutes to ensure that you are collecting a representative sample.
3. After purging, connect your Tedlar® bag to your air pump and collect your sample (Note: Tedlar® bags should be filled at a rate of approximately 5 liters per minute).
4. A PID is typically used in conjunction with sample collection in a Tedlar® bag.
  - a. Connect the PID probe to the sample container using a section of tubing
  - b. Use the PID to read the organic vapor level present in the sample.

Soil Vapor samples are typically collected into 1-liter Tedlar® bags and have a short (typically less than 72-hours) holding time. Samples collected into Tedlar® bags should be transported to the laboratory immediately under chain-of-custody protocol and stored in a dark container at ambient temperature during transport out of direct UV-light. Do not ship Tedlar® bags to the laboratory using an air transportation method as the pressure could compromise the sample or the bag. If air transport is necessary, do not completely fill the Tedlar® to avoid bursting. Soil vapor grab samples can also be collected into 1-liter SUMMA® canisters to provide additional holding time, lower laboratory method detection limits for some analytes, or sample delivery alternatives.

### 3.4 SOIL VAPOR AND SUB-SLAB SAMPLING WITH SUMMA® CANISTERS

Prior to soil vapor sampling, check all soil vapor sampling supplies to ensure the right sampling equipment arrived from the lab including duplicate Tees, if duplicate sample collection is necessary, and purging canisters. Conduct the following:

- Confirm that all SUMMA® canisters have at least 27 to 30 inches of mercury (in. Hg) prior to going out in the field to sample.
- Check and record all manifold and SUMMA® canister tags and numbers.
- Make sure all connections on the SUMMA® canisters and manifolds are tight.
- Order Helium (or other tracer gas) if needed and rent a helium detector.

Once the sub-slab or soil vapor probes are installed and the concrete well seal at each vapor point has fully cured, vapor sampling activities may commence (ideally a minimum of 2 hours is necessary for probe equilibration, depending on surface seal cure time). Alternatively, existing monitoring wells that are appropriately screened for a vapor intrusion assessment may be used. If indoor air samples will be collected, they may be collected simultaneously during the sub-slab sampling activities (details found in Section 3.6) if required by the work plan. If feasible, vapor sampling should not be conducted during or immediately after a significant rain event (i.e., greater than an inch of rainfall) due to the reduced effective diffusion coefficient and decrease in relative vapor saturation in the unsaturated zone. For sub-slab or soil vapor probe sampling, 1-liter lab certified SUMMA® canisters should be used in order to minimize the volume of soil vapor collected.

A closed-valve test should be conducted prior to soil vapor sample collection to check for leaks in the sampling train. A closed-valve test is conducted by capping the ends with proper Swagelok caps and/or closing any valves at the sampling point and purge canister. Once all ends are closed tight, turn the sampling canister valve on for 5 minutes. If the sampling train maintains its original vacuum for 5 minutes, the equipment will be assumed to be functional and there are no leaks. If the vacuum reading starts to drop, turn off the valves right away, check all connections, tighten if necessary, and re-test. If this passes, the only location that a leak can occur is from the soil ground seal around the vapor probe, which will be tested using helium or another tracer gas during sampling (See Section 3.4.1).

After the close-valve test, a minimum of three tubing volumes should be purged. Purging can be completed using a non-certified 6-Liter SUMMA® canister or a vacuum pump. The maximum flow rate during purging will not exceed the flow rate limit used for subsequent sampling and care will be taken not to over purge. An excel spreadsheet to help calculate tubing volume and purging time can be found at the end of this document.

After the sampling train has been purged, sub-slab soil vapor samples will be collected over a 10 minute period at a flow rate of less than 167 milliliters per minute (mL/min). The flow rate will be controlled by a flow regulator, which is set by the lab. Sub-slab soil vapor samples will be collected in laboratory-certified and pre-evacuated 1-liter SUMMA® canisters. Each SUMMA®

canister will be supplied with an analytical test report certifying that the canister is “clean” to concentrations less than the respective method detection limits (MDLs). Each canister will be equipped with a pre-calibrated flow controller sampling train to allow collection of the desired sample. Prior to collecting the samples, the SUMMA® canister ID numbers will be recorded in the field notebook along with the initial canister vacuums, prior to sampling.

Soil vapor samples will be collected per the following steps:

1. Opening the valve on the top of the SUMMA® canister and recording the time in the log book;
2. Observing the vacuum gauge on the sampling train to ensure that the vacuum in the canister is decreasing over time;
3. Shutting off the valve once the vacuum gage reads between 4.0 and 5.0 inches of mercury (in. Hg).

### 3.4.1 Leak Testing

In addition to soil gas sampling activities, leak testing may be required at sampling locations and should be conducted using the following soil gas sampling set-up procedures:

When helium is being used as a tracer gas:

- Place a large plastic bag (or other acceptable shroud) around the SUMMA® canister, sampling apparatus, and vapor probe.
- Cut a small hole in the bag to allow tubing to be inserted to introduce tracer gas, such as helium, and to subsequently fill the plastic bag.
- Keep the tracer gas (i.e., helium) concentration in the bag at 10 percent by volume or higher.

When isopropyl alcohol is being used as a tracer gas:

- Soak towels in isopropyl alcohol.
- Place soaked towels over the sampling probe and wrap around all connections.

Detections of the tracer gas in the soil gas samples would indicate that the canister, valves, or ground surface seal to the sample probe have potentially leaked ambient air into the sample. Small amounts of sample train leakage is permissible; however, the leak percentage should not exceed 10 percent of the soil gas results. If the leak percentage exceeds 10 percent, the sampling point may have to be resampled. The integrity of the soil vapor samples can be assessed by estimating the percent leakage as shown here in micrograms per square meter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ):

$$\% \text{ leakage} = 100 \times \frac{\text{helium concentration in soil vapor sample } [\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3]}{\text{average helium concentration measured inside the shroud } [\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3]}$$



The above equation for helium can be used because the known average helium concentration can be determined via field screening with a helium detector. Tracer gas leaks should not occur if the sampling train passes a properly performed closed-valve test and given the low flow rate of 167 mL/min.

### 3.4.2 Final Readings

Once the sampling is completed and the final vacuum is recorded, the sampling train will be removed from the canister and a Swagelok® cap will be tightly fitted to the inlet port of the canister. A PID can be used to record vapor readings from the manifold connection and logged in the notebook and/or soil vapor sampling sheet (enclosed). In addition, the initial canister vacuums, vacuum testing times, purging times, purged volumes, helium readings, sampling starts and times, final vacuum readings, and PID readings should be recorded on a vapor sampling sheet. Some of this information will also be required on the chain-of-custody.

### 3.4.3 Equipment Blank

Occasionally, the work plan requires an equipment blank to be collected. An equipment blank can be conducted by collecting a sample of clean air or nitrogen through the probe materials before installation in the ground. Analysis of the equipment blank can provide information on the cleanliness of new materials. Clean stainless steel, Nylon or Teflon® tubing and a certified regulator should be used. Lab-certified canisters (the sample canister and the source canister/cylinder, if applicable) or Tedlar® bags can be used to collect an equipment blank.

## 3.5 USE OF MONITORING WELLS FOR SOIL GAS SAMPLING

While dedicated soil gas probes are typically used to collect soil gas samples, existing monitoring wells that are appropriately located and screened can also be used for this purpose, with limitations. This is an advantage when evaluating the risk of vapor intrusion solely from contaminated aquifers (as compared to contaminated vadose zone soil) as the soil gas that will be sampled can reflect a soil gas sample that lies close to the zone of saturation and represents a worse case condition for equilibrium partitioning of contamination in groundwater to the gas phase. Also, monitoring wells are typically constructed at a deeper depth than soil vapor probes and are less influenced by changes in barometric pressure. They are also inherently constructed to be well sealed against breakthrough from atmospheric air (while purging and sampling). For an existing well to be used for soil gas sampling, it must have at least 2 to 3 feet of open screen above the water table during sample collection.

The main disadvantage of using existing monitoring wells is that the required purge volume would be much greater because of the significantly larger diameter of the well screen as compared to probes. This requires the use of a larger air pump or small blower instead of the SKC hand pump or peristaltic pump. While purging, care must be taken to minimize the vacuum in the well casing which may be large enough to raise the water column high enough to cover the exposed well screen and invalidate the use of the well for sampling soil gas. Appropriate

temporary fittings will need to be installed to allow the reduction of the well casing sufficient to allow connection to the collection tubing.

### 3.6 INDOOR AIR AND OUTDOOR AMBIENT AIR SAMPLE COLLECTION

Indoor air sampling should be conducted in an environment that is representative of normal building use. Indoor air and outdoor ambient air samples are typically collected into 6-liter SUMMA<sup>®</sup> canisters and can either be a grab (not often recommended) or time weighted samples. For time weighted samples, the laboratory will provide preprogrammed flow controllers for the samples for your desired sample duration. An 8-hour flow controller is the most common to assess typical working conditions or to provide a time-weighted average (TWA) to assess residential risk (a 24-hour flow controller may also be used for residential assessments). SUMMA<sup>®</sup> canisters should be placed in an area that is close to the breathing zone (i.e., 3 to 5 feet above the floor level), a sampling cane can be connected to the SUMMA<sup>®</sup> canister to sample indoor air at breathing zone height.

As a basic guideline and starting point, indoor air samples should at a minimum be collected from the basement (if applicable), first floor living or work area, and from outdoors (ambient/upwind). For a typical-size, one-floor residential building or a commercial building less than 1,500 square feet, USEPA recommends the collection of one time-integrated sample within the occupied area (USEPA 2015b). Other site-specific factors will influence the specific placement location of the SUMMA<sup>®</sup> canisters, such as proximity to subsurface source area(s) or penetrations through the slab or foundation.

Ambient air samples should be collected from a location protected from the elements (wind, rain, snow, or ice) and vehicle traffic on the upwind side of the building (5 to 15 feet away) during the same sampling event the indoor air samples are collected in order to provide information about the outside influences on indoor air quality (i.e., vapors from automotive fuels and exhaust). USEPA recommends that ambient air sampling begin at least 1 hour prior to indoor air sampling and should continue at least 30 minutes before indoor monitoring is complete (USEPA 2015b).

#### 3.6.1 Connection Guidelines

Refer to specific guidelines provided by the laboratory, as equipment can be slightly different from lab to lab. It is important to note the initial vacuum reading on the gauge as well as the post-sampling vacuum. For reference, initial vacuum should be between 27 and 30 inches of mercury, while post-sample vacuum should be between 4 and 5 inches of mercury. Sample collection start and finish times should also be recorded. After sample collection, the SUMMA<sup>®</sup> canister valve should be shut and the flow controllers should be disconnected from the SUMMA<sup>®</sup> canisters. Both the controller and the canister ID (unique laboratory tracking ID) should be recorded on the chain-of-custody and the samples should be packed appropriately for delivery to the laboratory following chain-of-custody protocol.

### 3.6.2 Testing Method and Reporting Limit Considerations

Indoor air samples can be analyzed using various methods, such as TO-15, TO-15 SIM, and TO-17. When considering which analytical method to use, always consider current and future site use and analytical reporting limits to ensure that reporting limits for the selected methods can meet the cleanup levels applicable for the site.

### 3.7 REMEDIATION SYSTEM VAPOR SAMPLE COLLECTION

Remediation systems that have a soil vapor extraction (SVE) component often require compliance monitoring to evaluate mass removal and effluent discharge limits. Both screening (with a PID) and sampling are routinely conducted during active operation. Tedlar® bags are often used to simplify SVE system screening. Fill a bag following the procedures described in this section and use a PID to measure the VOCs in the sample. Record the maximum observed concentration. Vapor samples for laboratory analysis are most often collected in 1-liter Tedlar® bags, but SUMMA® canisters can also be used. It is a good idea to fill out the label on the Tedlar® bag prior to sample collection.

If the sample port is under vacuum (i.e., SVE manifold or wellhead), it is often necessary to reduce the flow somewhat and to use a hand or mechanical pump to extract the vapor from the line. If the sample port is under a high vacuum, it may be necessary to step down the flow (i.e., close the flow valve) in order to collect a sample. Follow steps in Section 3.3 for sample collection and delivery.

If the sample port is under pressure (i.e., SVE system discharge), the sample can be collected without the use of a pump. Simply attach a clean piece of tubing securely to the sample port, connect the Tedlar® bag to the tubing, open the Tedlar® bag, slowly open the sample port valve, and be careful not to overfill the bag. Remove the Tedlar® bag when full, close the Tedlar® bag (do not over-tighten), and close the sample port valve. Follow steps in Section 3.3 for sample delivery.

## 4.0 Field Documentation

Soil vapor probe and monitoring point installation field activities should be documented in field notebooks and completion diagrams or boring logs should be completed to document construction. Information recorded will include personnel present, total depth, type and length of implant or screen, screen and filter pack intervals, bentonite seal intervals and surface completion details. Photographs of construction activities should be taken. After probe and monitoring point installation is complete, location coordinates should be recorded with a global positioning system (GPS). If GPS cannot be used (i.e., location within a building), it is important to document the location by recording representative measurements to fixed points.

All sampling activities must be documented in a field notebook and/or on field forms appropriate for the sampling activity. Information recorded will include at a minimum personnel present,

date, and time of sample collection, length of sample purge time, and any deviations from the project's work plan or sampling and analysis plan.

Weather conditions should also be recorded and should include temperature, barometric pressure, wind direction and speed, humidity, and degree of cloud cover. Additional site-specific details should also be noted including surface soil conditions, presence of standing water, wet soil, irrigation activities, and if possible, groundwater elevations.

## 5.0 References

Interstate Technology Regulatory Council (ITRC). 2014. Petroleum Vapor Intrusion: Fundamentals of Screening, Investigation, and Management. <<http://www.itrcweb.org/PetroleumVI-Guidance/>>. October.

Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology). 2015. Vapor Intrusion Table Update. (Replaces Table B-1 of Ecology's Guidance for Evaluating Soil Vapor Intrusion in Washington State). <<https://ecology.wa.gov/Asset-Collections/Doc-Assets/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technicalassistance/Vapor-Intrusion/2015VaporIntrusionUpdates>>. 6 April.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2016. *Updated Process for Initially Assessing the Potential for Petroleum Vapor Intrusion: Implementation Memorandum No. 14*. Publication No. 16-09-046. 31 March.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2018a. *Guidance for Evaluating Soil Vapor Intrusion in Washington State: Investigation and Remedial Action*. Review Draft. Prepared by the Toxics Cleanup Program. Publication No. 09-09-047. Originally published October 2009; revised April.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2018b. *Petroleum Vapor Intrusion (PVI): Updated Screening Levels, Cleanup Levels, and Assessing PVI Threats to Future Buildings: Implementation Memorandum No. 18*. Prepared by the Toxics Cleanup Program. Publication No. 17-09-043. January.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). 2015a. *Technical Guidance for Addressing Petroleum Vapor Intrusion at Leaking Underground Storage Tank Sites*. Prepared by the Office of Underground Storage Tanks. EPA 510-R-15-001. June.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2015b. *OSWER Technical Guide for Assessing and Mitigating the Vapor Intrusion Pathway from Subsurface Vapor Sources to Indoor Air*. Prepared by the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response. OSWER Publication 9200.2-154. June.

**Enclosures:** Indoor Air Building Survey Form  
Purge Volume Calculations during Soil Vapor Sampling  
Soil Vapor Sampling Sheet

**INDOOR AIR BUILDING SURVEY FORM**

**Date:**

**Site Name:**

**Title:**

**Building Use:**

Occupants: \_\_\_\_\_

Building Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Occupants: \_\_\_\_\_

Business or Residential: \_\_\_\_\_

**Building Characteristics**

Building Type:             Residential     Multifamily     Office  
                                  Commercial     Industrial        Mall

Describe Building: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Floors Below     Basement             Slab-On-Grade        Crawl Space

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Bldg Dimensions:            Width: \_\_\_\_\_       Length: \_\_\_\_\_       Height: \_\_\_\_\_

Basement Floor: Dirt / Concrete / Painted?    Foundation Walls: Concrete / Cinder Blocks / Stone

**INDOOR AIR BUILDING SURVEY FORM**

**VENTILATION SYSTEM**

- Central Air Conditioning       Mechanical Fans       Bathroom Vans  
 Conditioning Units       Kitchen Range Hood       Outside Air Intake

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**HEATING SYSTEM**

- Hot Air Circulation     Hot Air Radiation     Wood     Steam Radiation  
 Heat Pump     Hot Water Radiation     Kerosene Heater     Electric Baseboard

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Outside Contaminant Sources**

Nearby surrounding property sources: Gas Stations / Emission Stacks

Soil Contamination: Petroleum Hydrocarbons / Solvents

Heavy Vehicle Traffic: Yes / No

**Indoor Contaminant Sources**

Identify all potential sources found in the building (including attached garages), the location of the source (floor and room), and whether the item was removed from the building 48 hrs prior to indoor sampling event. Any ventilation implemented after removal of the items should be completed at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of the indoor air sampling event.

Potential Sources	Location(s)	Removed (Yes / No / NA)
Gasoline storage cans		
Gas powered equipment		
Kerosene storage cans		
Paints / Thinners / Strippers		
Cleaning solvents / Dry cleaners		
Oven cleaners		
Carpet / upholstery cleaners		

**INDOOR AIR BUILDING SURVEY FORM**

Other house cleaning products		
Moth Balls		
<b>Potential Sources</b>	<b>Location(s)</b>	<b>Removed (Yes / No / NA)</b>
Polishes / waxes		
Insecticides		
Furniture / floor polish		
Nail polish / polish remover		
Hairspray		
Cologne / perfume		
Air fresheners		
Fuel tank (inside building)		
Wood stove or fireplace		
New furniture		
New carpeting / New flooring		
Hobbies – glues, paints		
Other: _____		
Other: _____		
Other: _____		

**SAMPLING INFORMATION**

Sampler(s) \_\_\_\_\_

- Indoor Air / Outdoor Air   
  Sub-slab   
  Soil Vapor Point   
  Exterior Soil Gas  
 Tedlar® Bag   
  Sorbent   
  SUMMA®   
  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Analytical Method: TO-15 / TO-17 / Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**WEATHER CONDITIONS**

Was there a significant rain event in the last 24 hours? Yes / No

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_ Atmospheric Pressure: \_\_\_\_\_ Pressure: Rising or Falling?

Describe the general weather conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Wind Speed and Direction: \_\_\_\_\_

## PURGE VOLUME CALCULATIONS DURING SOIL VAPOR SAMPLING

Sample Tubing Purge												
Tubing Length (feet)	Pi	Casing Radius (inches)	Area of Casing Radius (Pi(R <sup>2</sup> )) (inches)	Length of casing (feet)	Conversion of feet to inches	Number of Casing Volumes to Purge	Conversion of cubic inches to mL	Purge Volume (mL)	Purge Volume (L)	Purge rate (mL/min)	Purge Time (min)	
5	3.141593	0.125	0.049087	5	60	1	16.387064	48.263888	0.048264	167	0.29	
5	3.141593	0.125	0.049087	5	60	3	16.387064	144.79166	0.144792	167	0.87	
5	3.141593	0.125	0.049087	5	60	7	16.387064	337.84721	0.337847	167	2.02	

Annular Space Purge													
Annular Space Length (inches)	Pi	Boring Radius (inches)	Area of Boring Radius (radius <sup>2</sup> )	Volume of Annular Space (inches)	Assumed Porosity of Sand Pack*	Air Filled Volume of Annular Space (cubic inches)	Number of Casing Volumes to Purge	Conversion of cubic inches to mL	Purge Volume (mL)	Purge Volume (L)	Purge rate (mL/min)	Purge Time (min)	
12	3.141593	2	12.56637	150.7964	0.3	45.23893	1	16.387064	741.3333	0.741333	167	4.44	
12	3.141593	2	12.56637	150.7964	0.3	45.23893	3	16.387064	2224	2.224	167	13.32	
12	3.141593	2	12.56637	150.7964	0.3	45.23893	7	16.387064	5189.333	5.189333	167	31.07	

Summary of Purge Durations	
One Purge Volume	4.73
Three Purge Volumes	14.18
Seven Volumes	33.10



# SOIL VAPOR SAMPLING SHEET

Site Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel: \_\_\_\_\_

Soil Vapor Sampling Point ID	Vacuum Test		Purging				Helium		Sampling				PID		Notes
	Time Start Vacuum Testing	Time Stop Vacuum Testing	Time Start Purging	Time Stop Purging	Purging Rate (mL/min )	Total Volume Purged (mL)	Time of Helium Reading	Helium Reading (%)	Time Start Sampling	Time Stop Sampling	Canister Vacuum Before Sampling (in Hg)	Canister Vacuum After Sampling (in Hg)	Time of PID Reading	PID Reading	
					167										
					167										

Notes:

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