HEALTH CONSULTATION: Evaluation of Indoor Air, Soil Gas and Groundwater Data Sampling Phases 2, 3 and 4 (2001, 2002, 2003)

Abstract

The Stratford Health Department and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requested that the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CT DPH) evaluate public health impacts of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) moving from contaminated groundwater and entering indoor air in some homes and businesses in a Stratford neighborhood located near the former Raymark facility. From 2000 to 2003, EPA conducted soil gas and indoor air sampling in the neighborhood between Ferry Boulevard and Housatonic Avenue in order to determine whether VOCs are moving from groundwater into indoor air. EPA tested 30 homes and businesses, of which 14 were found to have trichloroethylene (TCE) and 5 were found to have 1,1-dichloroethylene (1,1-DCE) at levels above indoor air health guidelines. Although levels were not high enough to be associated with immediate adverse health effects, the CT DPH concluded that long periods of exposure could increase such risk. The CT DPH recommended that ventilation systems have been offered to all homes within the neighborhood that has the potential to be impacted by VOCs in the indoor air.