



February 24, 2020

**FACT SHEET ON INITIAL SCREENING,
McCLYMONDS HIGH SCHOOL**
2607 Myrtle Street, Oakland, CA, Alameda County

Summary

This fact sheet has been prepared by Alameda County Department of Environmental Health (ACDEH) to inform community members and other interested stakeholders of the preliminary results of initial screening of indoor air, outdoor air, groundwater, and drinking water conducted at McClymonds High School on February 22 and 23, 2020, and additional sampling activities that will be conducted on February 26 through 28, 2020.

Background

Indoor air, outdoor air, soil vapor, groundwater, and drinking water samples are being collected on the school grounds by the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) under the oversight of the California Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) and ACDEH to evaluate risk to students and teachers from trichloroethylene (TCE) that has been detected in groundwater beneath the campus. The source of the TCE in groundwater is unknown, however is believed to be from an offsite source.

Initial Indoor Air and Outdoor Air Screening

Initial air screening activities were conducted on February 22 and 23, 2020. Approximately 200 samples were collected throughout the campus in places where students and teachers spend time including classrooms, hallways, bathrooms and locker rooms, gymnasium, cafeteria, auditorium, Plaza of Peace, and the football field. Additional vapor samples were collected in areas where TCE in groundwater and soil vapor could move and collect including sumps, sewers, and storm drains.

Initial Groundwater Screening

On February 23, 2020, initial groundwater screening samples were collected from a sump in the basement boiler room. One sample was screened for TCE vapor. A second sample was submitted to an offsite laboratory for analysis of TCE in groundwater.

Initial Drinking Water Screening

On February 23, 2020, an initial screening of TCE in drinking water was conducted by screening vapor above a sample collected from a drinking fountain at the school.

Preliminary Screening Results

No TCE was identified in indoor air in the rooms on campus.

No TCE was detected in outdoor air on the football field or the Plaza of Peace.

No TCE was detected in the vapor from the drinking water sample.

TCE was detected at low concentrations in vapor above groundwater in one sump in the basement boiler room and in vapor in one outside storm drain. No TCE was detected in air in the breathing zone in these areas.

Next Steps

On February 26 through 28, 2020, OUSD will be conducting additional sampling activities under the oversight of the DTSC and ACDEH to confirm the preliminary results of the initial screening of TCE in indoor air, outdoor air, and vapor from the sump, storm drain vapor, and drinking water. Sampling activities will include collection and analysis of:

- Additional indoor and outdoor air samples to confirm the results of the preliminary screening of no TCE in indoor and outdoor air.
- Additional drinking water samples to confirm the results of the preliminary screening of no TCE in drinking water at the school.
- Additional groundwater and soil vapor samples to help define the extent and concentrations of the TCE beneath the school and provide information to help identify the source.

The additional samples will be submitted to a laboratory for analysis on an expedited turnaround time and results are expected to be reported to the DTSC the week of March 2, 2020.

ACDEH and the DTSC will be collecting additional information on sites where chemical releases are known to have historically occurred to try to identify the source of the TCE beneath the school and the extent of TCE in groundwater in the vicinity of the school.

Additional information

For additional information, please contact:

Dilan Roe, PE
Chief – Land & Water Division
Alameda County Department of Environmental Health
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway
Alameda, CA 94502
510-567-6767
dilan.roe@acgov.org

Cheryl Prowell, PE
Unit Chief
Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710
510-540-3983
Cheryl.Prowell@DTSC.ca.gov