

November 2009

Dear Clients,

As previously stated, the NJDEP is currently preparing a revised Vapor Intrusion Guidance document that will modify many procedures for investigating and mitigating the vapor intrusion (VI) pathway. A draft copy should be available soon for comment.

In August 2009, the Department implemented a procedural change that dealt with the concurrent collection of sub-slab soil gas and indoor air samples at buildings with sensitive populations. While the intention was to expedite VI investigations for people at potentially greater risk, the procedure created unseen technical problems that warranted further evaluation prior to implementation. Therefore, the policy has been modified.

As it relates to all building interior investigations of the VI pathway, the investigator has three options:

Option 1)

Following the current NJDEP Vapor Intrusion Guidance recommendations – Exceedance of the *Ground Water Screening Levels* triggers only the collection of *sub-slab soil gas samples*. If the *Soil Gas Screening Levels* are exceeded, *indoor air samples* shall be collected. The Investigator may continue to follow this approach.

Option 2)

Both sub-slab soil gas and indoor air can be collected concurrently upon the initial trigger of a VI investigation (as stipulated in N.J.A.C. 7:26E-1.18). The sub-slab soil gas and indoor air samples will be submitted to the certified lab for analysis.

Option 3)

Both sub-slab soil gas and indoor air can be collected concurrently upon the initial trigger of a VI investigation (as stipulated in N.J.A.C. 7:26E-1.18). The sub-slab soil gas and indoor air samples will be submitted to the certified lab for analysis. However, only the sub-slab soil gas samples are initially analyzed. Assuming that holding times are met (30 days after receipt at laboratory), the indoor air samples would only be analyzed if the sub-slab soil gas results exceed the Soil Gas Screening Levels.

For either option 2 or 3, the indoor air sample shall be collected first at the structure undergoing investigation. This provision is designed to avoid the potential for cross-contamination between the soil gas and indoor air. Once the indoor air sampling is completed, the investigator shall immediately collect the sub-slab soil gas sample. Using the typical 24-hour sampling timeframe, the indoor air sample shall be sampled on Day 1.



Twenty four (24) hours later (Day 2), the indoor air sample canister is closed and the investigator shall drill the sample port and collect the sub-slab soil gas sample (usually 5-30 minutes – IAL provides 5 minutes, 10 minutes or 30 minutes controllers to meet your needs)

This policy change should be implemented immediately. Please make sure to reference the website below for all the necessary details. The NJDEP may change these guidelines at any time.

Keep updated on NJDEP's Vapor Intrusion Guidance at:
What's New: Vapor Intrusion Updates from the NJDEP -
<http://www.state.nj.us/dep/srp/guidance/vaporintrusion/whatsnew.htm>

If you have any questions pertaining to the change the guidance document, please feel free to contact IAL's Air Laboratory at (973) 361-4252 x273.

Thank you for your continued use of IAL's services!!