

EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc.

Airport Professional Park 2350 Post Road Warwick, Rhode Island 02886 Telephone: 401-736-3440 Fax: 401-736-3423 www.eaest.com

31 January 2008

Mr. Joseph T. Martella II, Senior Engineer RIDEM - Office of Waste Management Site Remediation Program 235 Promenade Street Providence, Rhode Island 02908

RE: January 2008 Air Sampling Event Letter

Adelaide Avenue School, 333 Adelaide Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island

Case No. 2005-029 EA Project No. 61965.01

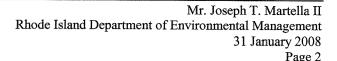
Dear Mr. Martella:

On behalf of the Providence Department of Public Property (City), EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc. (EA) is providing this summary of the data collected at the referenced Adelaide Avenue School site (the Site) during January 2008.

On 25 January 2008 and in accordance with the Order of Approval and amendments (Amended OA) for this Site, your Office was notified via telephone that Tetrachloroethylene was detected within one of the indoor air samples (Media Center/Room 145) collected on 8 January 2008 at a concentration (8.9 ug/m³) that is greater than the applicable Indoor Air Action Level (5.0 ug/m³) for this compound. This sample result was inconsistent with historical indoor data for the site (generally less than 0.5 ug/m³) and for the Media Center/Room 145 in particular. Furthermore, much lower concentrations were detected beneath the school slab on the same sampling date, indicating that soil vapor intrusion was not the cause for the elevated concentration within the Media Center/Room 145. EA immediately visited the school to verify that the sub-slab depressurization (SSD) system was operating and interviewed the school librarian to evaluate possible causes of the elevated sampling result. The SSD System was operating effectively and no information suggesting a cause for the elevated sample result was identified.

As a precautionary measure, EA made immediate arrangements to pick-up sampling canisters to collect confirmatory air samples at the site, and to have an expedited turnaround (24-hour) of the analyses from the laboratory (Alpha Woods Hole Labs, Mansfield, MA) on the next business day. EA also requested that the analytical laboratory review their handling and analysis procedures relative to the 8 January 2008 sampling event. Upon researching their records and procedures, Alpha Woods Hole Labs notified EA that there was a strong likelihood that the sample was inadvertently cross-contaminated by equipment used to process a highly contaminated air sample (Tetrachloroethylene concentration of 239,000 ug/m³) processed at their facility prior to receipt of the school samples.

On 28 January 2008, EA re-sampled the indoor air within the Media Center/Room 145, the outdoor ambient air, and the sub-slab air from directly beneath the Media Center/Room 145 (MP-8). The samples were transported to the laboratory and analyzed within 24-hours of receipt. Consistent with historical sampling results, all three samples collected on 28 January indicated Tetrachloroethylene





concentrations at or below the laboratory's reporting limit of 0.14 ug/m³. A copy of the associated laboratory report is attached.

In conclusion, the 8 January 2008 Tetrachloroethylene concentration for Media Center/Room 145 is not accurate as confirmed by the 28 January sampling event and as supported by the attached laboratory correspondence dated 29 January 2008 which explains the likely cross-contamination that occurred.

No SSD System modifications or other actions to address current site conditions are warranted or proposed at this time. The next monthly air sampling event for the school will be conducted in February 2008. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at 401-736-3440, Ext. 216.

Sincerely,

EA ENGINEERING, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY, INC.

Peter M. Grivers, P.E., LSP Project Manager

Attachments

cc: A. Sepe, Providence Dept. of Public Property

J. Boehnert, Partridge, Snow, & Hahn

T. Gray, RIDEM Bureau of Env. Protection

L. Hellested, RIDEM OWM

R. Dorr, Neighborhood Resident

Principal Torchon, Adelaide High School

J. Pichardo, Senator

M. Murphy, MacTec

Knight Memorial Library Repository

T. Deller, Prov. Redevelopment Agency

J. Ryan, Partridge, Snow, & Hahn

J. Langlois, RIDEM Legal Services

K. Owens, RIDEM OWM

S. Fischbach, RI Legal Services

T. Slater, Representative

D. Heislein, MacTec

G. Simpson, Textron

Attachment

Alpha Lab Data Report 28 January 2008 Sampling Event



ANALYTICAL REPORT

Lab Number: L0801231

Client: EA Engineering, Science and Tech

2350 Post Road Warwick, RI 02886

ATTN: Peter Grivers

Project Name: ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Project Number: 6196501.1005

Report Date: 01/29/08

Certifications & Approvals: MA (M-MA030), NY (11627), CT (PH-0141), NH (2206), NJ (MA015), RI (LAO00299), ME (MA0030), PA (Registration #68-02089), LA NELAC (03090), FL NELAC (E87814), US Army Corps of Engineers.

320 Forbes Boulevard, Mansfield, MA 02048-1806 508-822-9300 (Fax) 508-822-3288 800-624-9220 - www.alphalab.com



Project Name: ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL Lab Number: L0801231

Project Number: 6196501.1005 01/29/08 Report Date:

Alpha Sample ID **Client ID** Sample Location PROVIDENCE, RI L0801231-01 **OUTDOOR AMBIENT** L0801231-02 **ROOM 145** PROVIDENCE, RI L0801231-03 MP-8 PROVIDENCE, RI **Project Name:**

ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Project Number:

6196501.1005

Lab Number:

L0801231

Report Date:

01/29/08

Case Narrative

The samples were received in accordance with the chain of custody and no significant deviations were encountered during preparation or analysis unless otherwise noted below.

I, the undersigned, attest under the pains and penalties of perjury that, to the best of my knowledge and belief and based upon my personal inquiry of those responsible for providing the information contained in this analytical report, such information is accurate and complete. This certificate of analysis is not complete unless this page accompanies any and all pages of this report.

Authorized Signature:

Kathelin M. Office

Title: Technical Director/Representative

Date: 01/29/08

AIR



Project Name: ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Project Number: 6196501.1005

Lab Number:

L0801231

Report Date: 01/29/08

SAMPLE RESULTS

Lab ID:

L0801231-01

Client ID:

OUTDOOR AMBIENT PROVIDENCE, RI

Sample Location: Matrix:

Air

Anaytical Method: Analytical Date: 48,TO-15-SIM 01/28/08 17:53

Analyst:

HM

Date Collected:

01/28/08 14:15

Date Received:

01/28/08

Field Prep: Not Specified

	ppb\	<u>/</u>	ug/m	3		Dilution
Parameter	Results	RDL	Results	RDL	Qualifier	Factor
Volatile Organic Compounds in Air by S	SIM				100	
Tetrachloroethene	ND	0.020	ND	0.136		1

Project Name: ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Project Number: 6196501.1005

Lab Number: Report Date:

L0801231 01/29/08

SAMPLE RESULTS

Lab ID:

L0801231-02

Client ID:

ROOM 145

Sample Location:

PROVIDENCE, RI

Matrix:

Air

Anaytical Method: Analytical Date: 48,TO-15-SIM 01/28/08 18:30

Analyst:

HM

Date Collected:

01/28/08 14:20

Date Received:

01/28/08

Field Prep:

Not Specified

	pb\	<u></u>	ug/m	3		Dilution
Parameter	Results	RDL	Results	RDL	Qualifier	Factor
Volatile Organic Compounds i	n Air by SIM					
Tetrachloroethene	ND	0.020	ND	0.136		1



Project Name: ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Project Number: 6196501.1005

Lab Number:

L0801231

Report Date:

01/29/08

SAMPLE RESULTS

Lab ID:

L0801231-03

Client ID:

MP-8

Sample Location:

PROVIDENCE, RI

Matrix:

Soil_Vapor

Anaytical Method: Analytical Date:

48,TO-15-SIM 01/28/08 19:07

Analyst:

НМ

Date Collected:

01/28/08 14:40

Date Received:

01/28/08

Field Prep:

Not Specified

	ppb\	<u></u>	ug/m	3		Dilution
Parameter	Results	RDL	Results	RDL	Qualifier	Factor
Volatile Organic Compounds in	Air by SIM					
Tetrachloroethene	0.021	0.020	0.140	0.136		1

Lab Number:

Project Name: ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

L0801231 **Project Number:** 6196501.1005 **Report Date:** 01/29/08

Method Blank Analysis Batch Quality Control

Analytical Method:

48,TO-15-SIM

Analytical Date:

01/28/08 12:22

	ppbV		ug/m3			Dilution
Parameter	Results	RDL	Results	RDL	Qualifier	Factor
Volatile Organic Compounds in	n Air by SIM for samp	le(s): 01-03	Batch: WG30	9957-3		
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	ND	0.020	ND	0.109		1
1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	ND	0.020	ND	0.137		1
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	ND	0.020	ND	0.137		1
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	ND	0.020	ND	0.109		1
1,1-Dichloroethane	ND	0.020	ND	0.081		1
1,1-Dichloroethene	ND	0.020	ND	0.079		1
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	ND	0.020	ND	0.098		1
1,2-Dibromoethane	ND	0.020	ND	0.154		1
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	ND	0.020	ND	0.120		1
1,2-Dichloroethane	ND	0.020	ND	0.081		1
1,2-Dichloropropane	ND	0.020	ND	0.092		1
1,3,5-Trimethybenzene	ND	0.020	ND	0.098		1
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	ND	0.020	ND	0.120		1
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	ND	0.020	ND	0.120		1
Benzene	ND	0.200	ND	0.638		1
Bromodichloromethane	ND	0.020	ND	0.134		1
Bromoform	ND	0.020	ND	0.206		1
Carbon tetrachloride	ND	0.020	ND	0.126		1
Chlorobenzene	ND	0.020	ND	0.092		1
Chloroethane	ND	0.020	ND	0.053		1
Chloroform	ND	0.020	ND	0.098		1
Chloromethane	ND	0.500	ND	2.44		1
cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	ND	0.020	ND	0.079		1
cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	ND	0.020	ND	0.091		1
Dibromochloromethane	ND	0.020	ND	0.096		1



Project Name:

ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Project Number: 6196501.1005

Lab Number:

L0801231

Report Date:

01/29/08

Method Blank Analysis Batch Quality Control

Analytical Method:

48,TO-15-SIM

Analytical Date:

01/28/08 12:22

	ppbV		ug/m3			Dilution
Parameter	Results	RDL	Results	RDL	Qualifier	Factor
Volatile Organic Compounds in Air by	y SIM for samp	le(s): 01-03	Batch: WG30	9957-3		
Dichlorodifluoromethane	ND	0.050	ND	0.247		1 .
Ethylbenzene	ND	0.020	ND	0.087		1
Methylene chloride	ND	0.800	ND	1.74		1
Methyl tert butyl ether	ND	0.020	ND	0.072		1
p/m-Xylene	ND	0.040	ND	0.174		1
o-Xylene	ND	0.020	ND	0.087		1
Styrene	ND	0.020	ND	0.085		1
Tetrachloroethene	ND	0.020	ND	0.136		1
Toluene	ND	0.020	ND	0.075		1
trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	ND	0.020	ND	0.079		1
trans-1,3-Dichloropropene	ND	0.020	ND	0.091		1
Trichloroethene	ND	0.020	ND	0.107		1
Trichlorofluoromethane	ND	0.050	ND	0.281		1
Vinyl chloride	ND	0.020	ND	0.051		1
Acrylonitrile	ND	0.500	ND	1.08		1
n-Butylbenzene	ND	0.500	ND	2.74		1
sec-Butylbenzene	ND	0.500	ND	2.74		1
Isopropylbenzene	ND	0.500	ND	2.46		1
p-Isopropyltoluene	ND	0.500	ND	2.74		1
Acetone	ND	2.00	ND	4.75		1
2-Butanone	ND	0.500	ND	1.47		1
4-Methyl-2-pentanone	ND	0.500	ND	2.05		1



Lab Control Sample Analysis Batch Quality Control

L0801231 Lab Number:

ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

6196501.1005

Project Number: Project Name:

01/29/08 Report Date:

0

LCS Welecovery % Volatile Organic Compounds in Air by SIM Associated sample(s): 01-03 1.1.1-Trichloroethane 1.22 1.1.1.2-Tetrachloroethane 1.1.2-Trichloroethane 1.1.6 1.1.2-Trichloroethane 94 1.1.6 1.1.2-Trichloroethane 96 1.2-Dichloroethane 97 1.2-Dichloroethane 96 76 97 1.2-Dichloroethane 96 76 97 1.2-Dichloroethane 96 94 94 1.2-Dichloroethane 96 94 94 1.3-Dichloroethane 98 94 1.3-Duthloroenzene 98 94 1.3-Duthlorobenzene 98 94 1.3-Duthlorobenzene 98 94 1.3-Dichlorobenzene 103 97 Bromodichloromethane 104 97 Bromodorum 104 97 Bromomethane 108 109 Bromotothane 108 109



Lab Control Sample Analysis Batch Quality Control

L0801231 Lab Number:

01/29/08 Report Date:

ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL 6196501.1005

Project Number: Project Name:

Parameter	LCS %Recovery	LCSD %Recovery	%Recovery Limits	RPD	RPD Limits
Volatile Organic Compounds in Air by SIM Associated sample(s): 01-03 Batch: WG309957-2	SIM Associated sample(s):	01-03 Batch: WG30	19957-2		
Chloroethane	26	ı	70-130	•	
Chloroform	126	,	70-130	ı	
Chloromethane	88	•	70-130	,	
cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	107	,	70-130	,	
cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	76	•	70-130		
Dibromochloromethane	36	•	70-130		
Dichlorodifluoromethane	139	ı	70-130	F	A manage and a manage of the control
Ethylbenzene	68	•	70-130	ı	
1,1,2-Trichloro-1,2,2-Trifluoroethane	122	,	70-130	t	
1,2-Dichloro-1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethane	121	*	70-130	t	
Methylene chloride	36	•	70-130	ŧ	
Methyl tert butyl ether	103	•	70-130		
Naphthalene	106	,	70-130	,	
p/m-Xylene	26	•	70-130	1	
o-Xylene	16	,	70-130	ı	
Styrene	96		70-130	,	
Tetrachloroethene	26	,	70-130	F	
Toluene	79	ı	70-130	•	
trans-1,2-Dichloroethene		•	70-130	,	
trans-1,3-Dichloropropene	100	8	70-130	,	
Trichloroethene	100	•	70-130	,	



Lab Control Sample Analysis Batch Quality Control

ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

6196501.1005

Project Number: Project Name:

Lab Number:

L0801231

01/29/08 Report Date:

Parameter	LCS %Recoverv	LCSD %Recovery	%Recovery	Can	RDD I
Volatile Organic Compounds in Air by SIM Associated sample(s): 01-03 Batch: WG309957-2	y SIM Associated sample(s):	01-03 Batch: WG30	9957-2		
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	101		70-130	•	
Trichlorofluoromethane	150	,	70-130	•	
Vinyl chloride	86	ı	70-130		
Acrylonitrile	501	ı	70-130		
n-Butylbenzene	88	t.	70-130		The state of the same of the state of the st
sec-Butylbenzene	96		70-130		***************************************
Isopropylbenzene	66		70-130		
p-Isopropyltoluene	88	,	70-130	•	
Acetone	104	•	70-130		
2-Butanone	06		70-130	TO DESIGNATION OF THE STATE OF	COMMITTED IN THE PROPERTY OF T
4-Methyl-2-pentanone	78	1	70-130	•	Comments of the control of the contr



Lab Duplicate Analysis
Batch Quality Control

ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

6196501.1005

Project Number: Project Name:

Lab Number:

L0801231

01/29/08 Report Date:

Parameter	Native Sample	Duplicate Sample	Units	RPD	RPD Limits
Volatile Organic Compounds in Air by SIM Associated sample(s): 01-03		QC Batch ID: WG309957-4	QC Sample:	QC Sample: L0801215-01 Client ID: DUP Sample	t ID: DUP Sample
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	QN	QN	Vdqq	Ŋ	25
1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	QN	QN	Addd) N	25
1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane	QN	QN	Λαdd	NC	25
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	QN	QN	Addd	NC	25
1,1-Dichloroethane	QN	QN	Vdqq	NG	25
1,1-Dichloroethene	QN	QN	∆qdd	O _N	25
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	0.077	0.076	Λqdd	Z	25
1,2-Dibromoethane	QN	QN	Vdqq	N _C	25
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	QN	QN	Vdqq	NC	25
1,2-Dichloroethane	0:030	0.028	Vaqq	10	25
1,2-Dichloropropane	QN	QN	Vdqq	NG	25
1,3,5-Trimethybenzene	0.022	0.022	Vdqq	0	25
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	QN	QN	Vdqq	Ne	25
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	0.369	0.382	Vdqq	e.	25
Benzene	0.367	0.369	Vddd		25
Bromodichloromethane	0.024	0.023	Vdqq		25
Bromoform	QV	QN	Vaqq	NC	25
Carbon tetrachloride	0.096	760.0	Vadq		25
Chlorobenzene	QN	QN	Nadq	NC	25



Lab Duplicate Analysis
Batch Quality Control

Lab Number:

L0801231 01/29/08 Report Date: ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL 6196501.1005

Project Number: Project Name:

Parameter	Native Sample	Duplicate Sample	Units	RPD	RPD Limits
Volatile Organic Compounds in Air by SIM Associated sample(s): 01-03	1000		QC Sample:	QC Sample: L0801215-01 Client ID: DUP Sample	t ID: DUP Sample
Chloroethane	QN	QV	Vadq	O _N	25
Chloroform	0.099	0.101	/qdd	2	25
Chloromethane	QN	QN	∧qdd	2	25
cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	QN	QN	Λqdd	S.	25
cis-1,3-Dichloropropene	QN	QV	Addd	<u>N</u>	25
Dibromochloromethane	Ŋ	QV	Addd	Ů.	25
Dichlorodifluoromethane	0.811	0.842	Vdqq	4	25
Ethylbenzene	0.107	0.099	Λqdd	7	25
Methylene chloride	QV	Q	Λqdd	NC	25
Methyl tert butyl ether	0.047	0.052	Λqdd	10	25
p/m-Xylene	0.283	0.271	Addd	7	25
o-Xylene	0.087	0.084	Addd	4	25
Styrene	0.058	0.046	Addd	22	25
Tetrachloroethene	0.049	0.047	∧qdd	2	25
Toluene	1.43	1.42	∧qdd		25
trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	QN	Q	∧qdd	<u>N</u>	52
trans-1,3-Dichloropropene	QN	QN	∧qdd	<u>N</u>	25
Trichloroethene	260.0	0.094	Λqdd	C	25
Trichlorofluoromethane	2.47	2.54	Vdqq	C	25



Lab Duplicate Analysis
Batch Quality Control

ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Project Name:

Lab Number:

L0801231

22

NC

Λqdd

9

2

Vinyl chloride

Project Number: 6196501.1005	01.1005				Repo	Report Date:	01/29/08
Parameter	Native 5	lative Sample	Duplicate Sample Units	Units	RPD	RPD	RPD Limits
Volatile Organic Compounds in Air by SIM Associated samp	Air by SIM Associated sample(s):	01-03 QC Batc	ple(s): 01-03 QC Batch ID: WG309957-4 QC Sample: L0801215-01 Client ID: DUP Sample	QC Sample: L	.0801215-01	Client ID: DUI	² Sample

Project Name: ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Lab Number: L0801231 **Project Number: 6196501.1005** Report Date: 01/29/08

Sample Receipt and Container Information

Were project specific reporting limits specified?

YES

Cooler Information

Cooler

Custody Seal

N/A

Absent

Container Information

Container ID	Container Type	Cooler	рН	Temp Pre	s Seal	Analysis
L0801231-01A	Canister - 6 Liter	NA	NA	N	A Absent	TO15-SIM
L0801231-02A	Canister - 6 Liter	NA	NA	N/	A Absent	TO15-SIM
L0801231-03A	Canister - 2.7 Liter	NA	NA	N/	A Absent	TO15-SIM



Project Name: Project Number: ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

6196501.1005

Lab Number:

L0801231

Report Date:

01/29/08

GLOSSARY

Acronyms

FPA - Environmental Protection Agency.

LCS - Laboratory Control Sample: A sample matrix, free from the analytes of interest, spiked with verified known amounts of analytes or a material containing known and verified amounts of analytes.

LCSD- Laboratory Control Sample Duplicate: Refer to LCS.

- Matrix Spike Sample: A sample prepared by adding a known mass of target analyte to a specified amount of matrix sample for which an independent estimate of target analyte concentration is available.

MSD - Matrix Spike Sample Duplicate: Refer to MS.

- Not Applicable.

- Not Ignitable. NI

- Not Calculated: Term is utilized when one or more of the results utilized in the calculation are NC non-detect at the parameter's reporting unit.

- Not detected at the reported detection limit for the sample. ND

RDL - Reported Detection Limit: The value at which an instrument can accurately measure an analyte at a specific concentration. The RDL includes any adjustments from dilutions, concentrations or moisture content, where applicable.

RPD - Relative Percent Difference: The results from matrix and/or matrix spike duplicates are primarily designed to assess the precision of analytical results in a given matrix and are expressed as relative percent difference (RPD). Values which are less than five times the reporting limit for any individual parameter are evaluated by utilizing the absolute difference between the values; although the RPD value will be provided in the report.

Terms

Analytical Method: Both the document from which the method originates and the analytical reference method. (Example: EPA 8260B is shown as 1,8260B.) The codes for the reference method documents are provided in the References section of the Addendum.

Data Qualifiers

The following data qualifiers have been identified for use under the CT DEP Reasonable Confidence Protocols.

- A Spectra identified as "Aldol Condensation Product".
- B The analyte was detected above the reporting limit in the associated method blank. Flag only applies to associated field samples that have detectable concentrations of the analyte.
- E Concentration of analyte exceeds the range of the calibration curve and/or linear range of the instrument.
- J Estimated value. The analyte was tentatively identified; the quantitation is an estimation. (Tentatively identified compounds only.)

Standard Qualifiers

H - The analysis of pH was performed beyond the regulatory-required holding time of 15 minutes from the time of sample collection.

Report Format: Data Usability Report

Project Name:

ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Project Number:

6196501.1005

Lab Number:

L0801231

Report Date:

01/29/08

REFERENCES

48 Compendium of Methods for the Determination of Toxic Organic Compounds in Ambient Air. Second Edition. EPA/625/R-96/010b, January 1999.

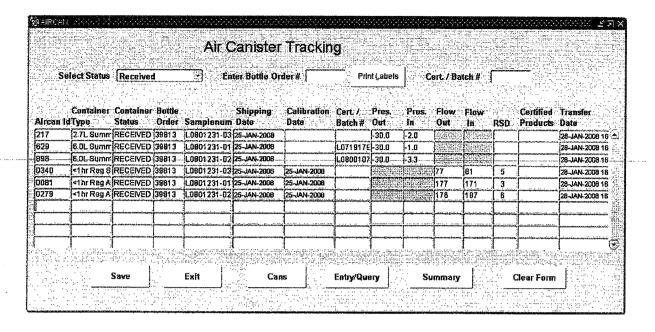
LIMITATION OF LIABILITIES

Alpha Woods Hole Labs performs services with reasonable care and diligence normal to the analytical testing laboratory industry. In the event of an error, the sole and exclusive responsibility of Alpha Woods Hole Labs shall be to re-perform the work at it's own expense. In no event shall Alpha Woods Hole Labs be held liable for any incidental, consequential or special damages, including but not limited to, damages in any way connected with the use of, interpretation of, information or analysis provided by Alpha Woods Hole Labs.

We strongly urge our clients to comply with EPA protocol regarding sample volume, preservation, cooling, containers, sampling procedures, holding time and splitting of samples in the field.



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Attachment

Alpha Woods Hole Lab – Sample Review Letter 25 January 2008



January 25, 2008

Peter Grivers
EA Engineering, Science and Technology
2350 Post Road
Warwick, RI 02886

RE: Review Sample Submission L0800291 for Tetrachloroethene Contamination

Peter;

Per your email request on January 22, 2008, Alpha Analytical, Inc. has investigated the detection of tetrachloroethene on the January sample submission from the Gorham School in Providence, RI. The levels reported were inconsistent from the previous rounds of data collected from March 2007 to December 2007, and were generally a factor of 10 greater than previous levels. Also, the data from ambient, indoor air, and soil vapor samples were not indicative of a vapor intrusion issue; typically elevated levels would be in the soil vapor in comparison to indoor air. The combination of these two inconsistencies prompted Alpha to conduct a further review into the possibility of cross contamination of the Gorham School samples.

It was discovered during the review that a sample from another client and site (Alpha Lab ID L0800206) had significant levels of tetrachloroethene present (239,000 ug/m³). The sample was received by Alpha on January 7, 2008, one day prior to the January samples for the Gorham School. It is likely that the elevated levels in the L0800206 sample caused the tubing and gauge used to conduct the initial pressure check of canisters to be contaminated beyond that which our standard decontamination procedures could prevent.

Alpha has recommended re-collecting samples to confirm that this may indeed be an issue of cross-contamination, and will expedite the analyses of the re-sampling event. We are also re-examining our procedures and availability of additional analytical equipment to prevent this cross contamination from reoccurring.

Andy Rezendes

Product Line Manager-Air Testing