0153 Ground Water Site Investigation and Cleanup Project

Ryan Groves
Senior Project Manager
State Cleanup Program
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
What is the 0153 Site?

- An area of the near northwest side of Indianapolis where low levels of chemicals are found in underground water

- An area of IDEM investigation to determine the source of chemicals impacting underground water – [www.idem.IN.gov/cleanups/pages/site0153/map.html](http://www.idem.IN.gov/cleanups/pages/site0153/map.html)
History of Site 0153

• 2013 – IDEM receives notice from Citizens Energy Group of low levels of chemicals impacting raw, underground water

• IDEM sampling confirmed 5 of 19 production wells with chemical impact
What chemicals were found?

• Man-made chemicals used in manufacturing and dry cleaning as cleaning solvent – often used from 1960s through 1980s

• Chemicals of concern found are Tetrachloroethylene, Trichloroethylene, cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Vinyl Chloride, and 1,1,1-Trichloroethane (chlorinated solvents)

• Fact sheets with health concerns can be found on the 0153 Site webpage – www.idem.IN.gov/site0153
History of Site 0153

• June 2017 – IDEM signs Agreement with U.S. EPA to take over role as lead agency

• July 2017 – IDEM sends letter to community notifying of investigation into chemicals in underground water
Drinking Water Safety

• These chemicals are not detected in the “water served to customers” (finished water)

• Finished water meets all Safe Drinking Water Act standards and has been and remains safe to consume
Why are we here if water is safe to drink?

- IDEM wants to continue to ensure safe drinking water for many years to come
- IDEM wants to investigate the sources of the chemicals in the underground water
- IDEM will oversee or implement cleanup of sources of the chemicals to continue to ensure safe drinking water for all
IDEM’s Role

• Monitor drinking water to ensure continued safety
• Lead the investigation, find sources, and implement a cleanup plan
• Communicate with stakeholders and the community
Ensuring Safety of Drinking Water

• Citizens Energy Group to sample underground water and finished water quarterly under IDEM permit

• IDEM review of Citizens water sample data
  – IDEM Drinking Water Program Review
  – IDEM State Cleanup Program Review
Recent Drinking Water Monitoring

• Citizens Energy Group collected latest sampling of underground water and finished water on February 27, 2018

• IDEM also collected its own samples on February 27, 2018

• Results will be available in April 2018
Drinking Water Monitoring
Ensuring Safety of Drinking Water

- Citizens Energy Group has shut down one production well based on underground water monitoring results.

- Along with Citizens Energy, IDEM will evaluate the need for future actions on specific wells as data dictates.
Investigation Process

1. Historical research on every property that could have been a source of chemicals
   - IDEM Records
   - City Directories/Sanborn Fire Maps
   - Aerial Photographs
   - Property ownership records
   - Marion County Health Dept. Records

   – Send Information Request Letters to property owners
Investigation Process

2. Send Notice of Liability Letters

- Must confirm potential for release or spill of chemicals
- Triggers liability of property owner or responsible person
- Requires completion of testing and cleanup
Investigation Process

3. Sample soil, underground water, and vapor for chemicals

- Determine how deep into soil and underground water chemicals migrated
- Determine how far from property chemicals migrated
- Determine contribution to chemicals found in municipal wells
Investigation Status

• 106 potential sources to contamination identified (started with 89)
• Historical research on 58 properties
• 40 Information Request Letters sent
• 6 Notice of Liability Letters sent
Where is IDEM investigating?
Investigation Timeline

- Historic Investigation of all potential chemical sources will take 2-3 years

- Chemical Investigation to determine extent of contamination will take 2-3 years

- Determination of contribution to chemical contamination in wellfield could take up to 5 years
Community Involvement Plan (CIP)

• Public comment period ended on February 14, 2018

• IDEM received about 10-12 comments

• IDEM is developing responses to comments

• Responses and a final CIP will be posted by April 1, 2018
Project Partners

• Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM)
• Citizens Energy Group
• City of Indianapolis
• Marion County Health Department
Frequently Asked Questions
Is My Water Safe To Drink?

• Yes. Water served to homes and businesses meets all Safe Drinking Water Act standards set by U.S. EPA and is safe to drink

• Water served to customers does not contain the chemicals of concern and is being monitored by IDEM and Citizens Energy
Has IDEM sampled the municipal water to verify quality?

• Yes. IDEM collected samples of the raw water from the municipal wells on February 27, 2018

• IDEM collected a sample of the finished water as well
Can I use the water for bathing and watering of lawns and gardens?

• Yes. Water served to customers does not contain the chemicals of concern.
Can I get my soil or water tested?

- Citizens Energy Group will test your home’s drinking water upon request: (317) 677-2845

- Marion County Health Department will inspect property environmental concerns and test surface soil: (317) 221-2266
Drinking Water Well Locations

• Exact locations cannot be disclosed by IDEM
• Indiana Code (IC) 5-14-3-4:
  – 19) A record or a part of a record, the public disclosure of which would have a reasonable likelihood of threatening public safety by exposing a vulnerability to terrorist attack. A record described under this subdivision includes the following:
    • (H) The location of community drinking water wells and surface water intakes.
How do I receive information updates?

• Sign up for IDEM email list via website: www.idem.IN.gov/site0153

• Email IDEM at site0153@idem.IN.gov

• Call IDEM at (800) 451-6027

• Signup sheets for mailing list
Next IDEM Information Session

• IDEM has committed to holding quarterly public meetings

• Next public meeting will be announced via email, mailing list, and website

• Next public meeting will likely be held in June 2018