



# Vapor Mitigation System Operation and Maintenance in the Keystone Corridor

Office of Land Quality

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idem.IN.gov

100 N. Senate Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46204

**Description:**

The Keystone Corridor Groundwater Contamination Superfund Site in Indianapolis is presently defined by the boundaries of 45th Street to the north, Eastern Avenue on the east, 38th Street on the south, and Norwaldo Avenue on the west.

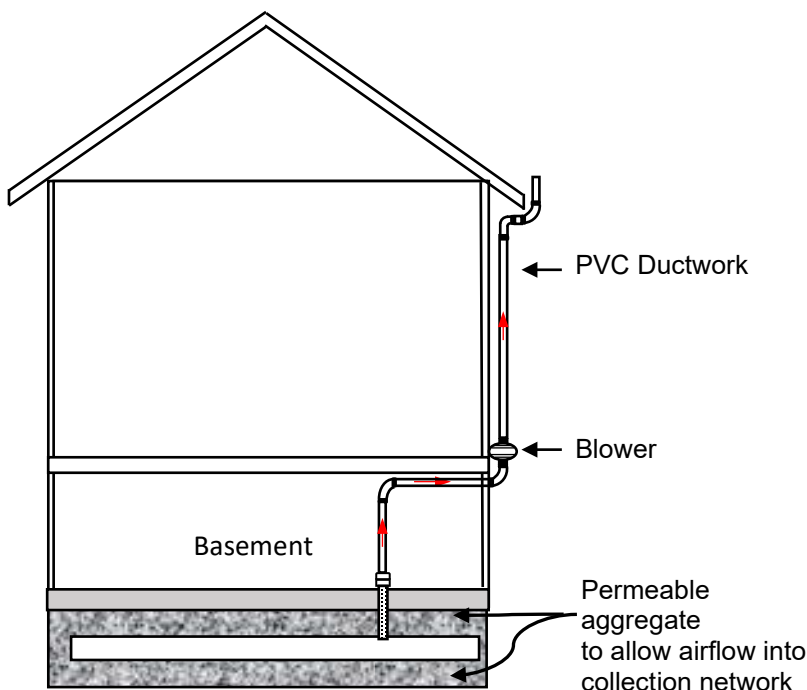
From 2012 through 2017, the U.S. EPA conducted groundwater, soil, vapor, sub-slab vapor and indoor air sampling within the extent of the Keystone Corridor Superfund Site. Multiple properties were identified as needing a vapor intrusion mitigation system (VIMS) to reduce contaminated vapors inside the structure. A VIMS is similar to a radon remediation system where contaminant vapors, located in the soil under the foundation or basement, are vented to the outside before they can enter the building. Systems must be inspected annually to ensure they are operating correctly. The U.S. EPA has transferred the inspection and maintenance of the installed systems to IDEM.

**What is Vapor Intrusion?**

- Vapor intrusion occurs when vapors from contaminated groundwater travel through the soil and into a structure.

**Example of an active vapor intrusion mitigation system:**

A VIMS sub-slab depressurization system, which is similar to a radon system, uses electric fans.



ITRC (Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council). 2007. *Vapor Intrusion Pathway: A Practical Guideline*. VI-1. Washington, D.C.: Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council, Vapor Intrusion Team.

## **What is expected from you:**

- **IDEM will reach out to you:**  
IDEM and/or its contractor may reach out to you in the future to plan and schedule an annual inspection of the VIMS on your property.
- **Unexpected system shutdown:**  
If you or your tenant discover that your system is not running properly, reach out to IDEM (email below) and or the assigned contractor, so they can coordinate a time to evaluate and repair the defective VIMS system.
- **System Inspection:**  
A VIMS inspection will consist of inspecting the piping and fans for general condition and monitoring the correct pressure reading on the VIMS. Access to inside the property will be needed to confirm system pressures and access outside the property will be needed to assess the fans.
- **VIMS visual inspection between annual inspections:**  
Property owners can check to make sure their systems are running by visually inspecting the hydraulic pressure gauge, visually inspecting the warning device or indicator, and documenting excessive fan noise (if present). Owners may also review their copy of the operation and maintenance (O&M) manual. If the owner does not have a copy of the O&M manual, IDEM will provide a new one.
- **Contact information:**  
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