

FACT SHEET



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

ESI Environmental, Inc. Investigation

Office of Land Quality – Federal Programs Section – Site Investigation Program

(317) 234-9536 • (800) 451-6027

www.idem.IN.gov

100 N. Senate Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46204

Background Information:

- Past investigations by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) revealed concentrations of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), various metals and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) in residential yards on the northwest side of Indianapolis, IN. Some of these concentrations exceeded the IDEM Risk Integrated System of Closure (RISC) Residential Soil Default Closure Levels or the U.S. EPA Residential Soil Regional Screening Levels.
- These contaminants are utilized in various industries and products such as electrical devices, transformers, piping, steel products and plating, and wood preservation.
- Some metals and SVOCs detected include arsenic, chromium, lead, phenanthrene, 2-methylnaphthalene, and bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate.

Next Steps:

- In August or September 2017, IDEM's Site Investigation Program will be collecting soil and sediment samples from various locations surrounding the ESI Environmental, Inc. site located at 4910 W 86th Street, Indianapolis.
- Soil samples will be collected from yards at various residences and properties south of the site area. These samples will be collected directly from the yards/properties within the top six (6) inches of soil. Sediment samples will be collected from various parts of Oil Creek and further downstream in Crooked Creek.
- IDEM staff will contact businesses and residents to request permission to collect soil and/or sediment samples from their private property.
 - Property owners asked to aid in this investigation will be asked to sign a property access agreement.
 - The sampling will be conducted at no cost to the property owner.
 - IDEM will provide the property owners with their sampling results after analysis (approximately 60-120 days).

Environmental and Health Impacts:

- Some of the common metals and SVOCs are considered by the U.S. EPA to be human carcinogens or probable cancer-causing substances.
- PCBs are considered probable carcinogens to humans and do not readily break down in the environment.
- Most metals easily settle or bind to soils once they enter the environment and can change forms depending on the conditions.
- Exposure to these contaminants of concern can cause stomach or lung irritation, liver or kidney damage, nervous system damage, and numerous other negative health effects.

Additional Information:

- The public may direct questions and concerns regarding IDEM's environmental investigation at the ESI Environmental, Inc. site, including information on sampling results to date and environmental impacts of PCBs, metals and SVOCs, to Abbey Neff, IDEM Project Manager, at (317) 234-9536; toll free at (800) 451-6027; or by e-mail at aneff@idem.IN.gov.
- Questions and concerns about health-related impacts should be directed to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) at (800) 232-4636 or the Marion County Public Health Department at (317) 221-2000.
- For a copy of ToxFAQs™ for PCBs and to search for various metals and SVOCs, visit the ATSDR website at www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts17.pdf and www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp.
- The news media may contact Barry Sneed, IDEM Public Information Officer, at (317) 232-8596; toll free at (800) 451-6027, ext. 2-8596; or by e-mail at bsneed@idem.IN.gov.