

Former Ronson Metals Site Fact Sheet

**Manufacturers Place, Newark City, Essex County
June 2016**

The Former Ronson Metals Corporation manufactured cigarette lighters and other related products. In 1989, the company closed its Newark facility on Manufacturers Place. About one dozen areas of soil contamination, as well as ground water contamination, were identified. The contaminants of concern include various volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including trichloroethene (TCE), which is the primary contaminant of concern. For historical site information, please see the [December 2015 Former Ronson Metals Site Fact Sheet \[pdf\]](#).

Starting in 1999, ownership of the property transferred, and eventually 19 homes and 5 commercial/industrial buildings were built on the Former Ronson Metals site.

In late 2012, NJDEP began a vapor intrusion investigation of the site. Vapor intrusion occurs when vapors from chemical compounds in the subsurface soil or ground water seep through openings in building slabs, affecting the quality of the air inside a building.

NJDEP has sampled 64 properties as part of the vapor intrusion investigation. Sub-slab depressurization systems were installed at 28 properties to address elevated TCE concentrations. These systems are working properly by preventing vapors from entering overlying structures. The system, similar to a radon system, creates a vacuum beneath the slabs of buildings and ventilates the TCE vapors to the outdoor air at the roof line, making these buildings safe to occupy.

NJDEP hired H2M Architects and Engineers (H2M) to conduct a Remedial Investigation (RI) of the ground water contamination. In August 2015, H2M initiated the field investigation. H2M started the installation of ground water monitoring wells and began collecting soil gas borings (please see the [H2M PowerPoint presentation Former Ronson Metals Site May 24, 2016 Public Meeting Presentation \[pdf\]](#) for more information on the field investigation). The soil and ground water data were evaluated and it was determined that the concentrations of VOCs in ground water do not appear to be the source of the contaminated soil gas. *It is possible that soils on the former Ronson building site may be the source of the soil gas vapors.*

As such, NJDEP will evaluate the soil at the residential properties that are in the footprint of the former Ronson building site. NJDEP is requesting owners of property within Manufacturers Place and 2 properties on Vincent Street to provide outside access of their property for NJDEP to conduct this sampling.

NJDEP will use small drills to go through the concrete or asphalt on properties. Once the soil samples have been collected, the hole will be refilled with existing materials such as concrete, asphalt and soil. The sampling is expected to begin in mid to late July 2016.

For help with translating this fact sheet, please contact the Office of Assemblywoman Eliana Pintor Marin at (973) 589-0713.

For more information on this investigation, please contact Suzanne Shannon at (609) 292-1156.