

TEXTRON ROCHESTER UPDATE

A NEWSLETTER TO INFORM THE PUBLIC ABOUT TEXTRON'S ACTIVITIES

Textron Responds with Groundwater, Soil Vapor Testing



Technicians working for Textron use a "direct push" Geoprobe® grout machine to seal a borehole that was used to evaluate the subsurface groundwater near the Acument Global Technologies plant in Rochester, IN, a plant formerly owned by Textron. A work plan Textron submitted to state environmental authorities calls for a network of permanent groundwater monitoring wells at 27 nearby locations.

Textron responded on several fronts late in 2008 and continues to respond in the New Year, after the company and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) identified certain wells affected by groundwater chemicals possibly associated with the Acument Global Technologies facility, formerly operated by Textron, at 4366 U.S. 31 North, Rochester.

By year's end, wells at 24 private homes south and southeast of the plant and a well at nearby AIRVAC, Inc., had been tested. Chemicals were detected in a total of eight residential wells. Well water tests at the other 16 homes and at AIRVAC showed no traces of the chemicals.

Textron is supplying bottled water to affected area homeowners, and by year's end, a Textron contractor had installed granular activated carbon (GAC) water treatment systems with ultra violet filtration at several homes.

Additionally, 12 permanent vapor-monitoring wells were installed by MACTEC at eight homes in December and at the Acument Global plant. Results of initial soil vapor tests conducted at those wells indicated no detections for the chemicals believed to be associated with the former Textron plant.

Textron Director of Site Remediation Jamieson M. Schiff, MACTEC Principal Geologist Paul Stork and MACTEC Senior Principal Scientist Michael J. Murphy have met with various homeowners to respond to their concerns and answer questions. ♦

Textron Cleanup and Testing Over the Years...

While Textron is currently implementing an extensive Rochester testing and monitoring program, actions have also taken place over the years to address chemicals now affecting some of the community's groundwater. In the early 1990s, Textron performed an extensive cleanup of the area at the Torx plant, an area believed to be the source of the chemicals. That cleanup involved excavating many tons of impacted soil and disposing of that soil at a licensed off-site facility. Since that time, Textron has been

Textron Promises More Testing, Better Communication

Textron is working in the New Year with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to further investigate area groundwater quality, looking for chemicals associated with the former Torx (now Acument) plant. Based upon the results of its investigation, Textron will then undertake appropriate corrective action in conjunction with, and under the supervision of, IDEM.

Textron Director of Site Remediation Jamieson M. Schiff wants area residents to know, "Textron wants to do all the work necessary to resolve this situation. Some of our contractors may need to access your property in order to complete this investigation. If we do, we will do our best to minimize any disturbance. We'll also do our best in the coming weeks to keep the community well informed and to be as responsive to their questions and concerns as we can. We'll continue to report to homeowners the results of our tests and to meet in person with those affected to explain test results. We'll also continue to offer bottled water and/or treatment systems to affected homeowners."

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Textron Director of Site Remediation Jamieson M. Schiff

Textron developed and submitted a work plan to IDEM in early January to install a network of permanent groundwater monitoring wells at 23 locations south and southeast of the plant, following the general direction of groundwater flow and at four other locations north and east of the plant to confirm there has been no additional movement of chemicals. The monitoring wells will measure the presence of chemicals and their levels of concentration in the groundwater at varying depths in the aquifer and in the bedrock below the aquifer. ♦

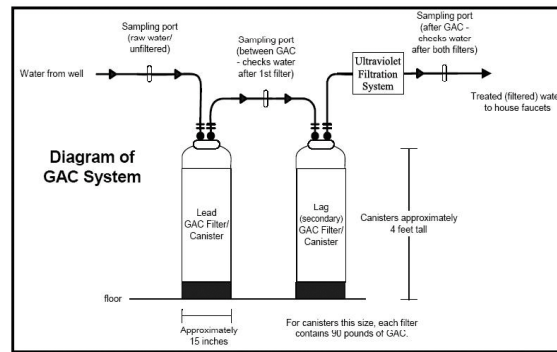
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Brief Site History

The Acument Global Technologies plant was owned by Textron for many years and formerly operated under the name, Torx Products. Textron sold the plant in 2006.

Common and accepted liquid waste disposal practices long ago at the plant resulted in chlorinated solvents from equipment and machinery degreasing agents to seep into the ground and eventually into the groundwater aquifer deep beneath the ground surface. Those chemicals include trichloroethylene (TCE), and related breakdown chemicals, vinyl chloride and dichloroethylene (DCE). They have now migrated and have reached some private wells south and southeast of the Acument plant.

Once detected, this class of chemicals, also known as volatile organic compounds (VOCs), can be removed from water using VOCs-attracting granular activated carbon (GAC) beads. Following the GAC treatment, the water is further cleansed with ultra violet (UV) light. A diagram of a typical GAC/UV system is shown. ♦



TEXTRON CLEANUP CONTINUED

monitoring groundwater beneath the plant and had seen declining chemical levels indicating that the groundwater quality at the plant was improving. Textron also conducted annual tests of groundwater from nearby off-site wells, and those results were always "non-detect" for these chemicals.

When the Torx plant was sold to Acument in August 2006, Textron agreed to continue to be responsible for necessary environmental investigation and cleanup. More recently, after Textron had installed several monitoring wells near the plant, it found that the chemicals had now spread within the groundwater and were now affecting some private residential wells. Late last year, the residential well testing effort was expanded.

All residents with impacted wells have been notified and now have water treatment systems in place. ♦

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Comments
Questions?

PLEASE
FEEL
FREE TO
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Comments
Questions