



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 9 LABORATORY  
1337 S. 46<sup>TH</sup> STREET BLDG 201  
RICHMOND, CA 94804-4698**

**MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Field Report for Ambient Air Sampling  
AMCO Superfund Site, West Oakland, CA

**FROM:** Greg Nagle, Environmental Scientist  
EPA Region 9 Laboratory (MTS-2)

**THROUGH:** Duane James, Acting Director  
EPA Region 9 Laboratory (MTS-2)

**TO:** Caleb Schaffer, Section Chief  
CA Site Clean-up Section, SFD-7-1

Attached is a field report for ambient air samples collected in October 2014. The report details sampling activities for indoor and outdoor ambient air samples collected on the AMCO Superfund Site, West Oakland, California.

The EPA Region 9 Laboratory Field and Biology Team submitted seven samples for analysis of volatile organic compounds by EPA Method TO-15. Final laboratory results are provided separately.

If there are further questions concerning this report, please contact me at (510) 412-2334.

ATTACHMENT: Field Report

## **Field Report for Ambient Air Sampling AMCO Superfund Site, West Oakland, CA**

### **Introduction**

On October 23<sup>rd</sup> of 2014, Greg Nagle of the USEPA Region 9 Laboratory Field and Biology (FAB) Team, collected seven indoor and ambient air samples on the AMCO Superfund Site, West Oakland, California. A description of the location and type of sample collected is presented in Table 1. Photographs of sampling locations are provided as Exhibit A.

### **Participants**

Caleb Schaffer, Section Chief – USEPA Region 9, Superfund Division  
Melanie Morash, Remedial Project Manager – USEPA Region 9, Superfund Division  
Greg Nagle, Environmental Scientist – USEPA Region 9 FAB Team

### **Procedures**

The sampling team collected 24-hour composite samples in accordance with “*SAP for Residential Indoor and Outdoor Air, West Oakland, California*”, using pre-cleaned, silicon-coated, stainless steel canisters. EPA submitted samples for analysis of volatile organic compound (VOCs) by EPA Method TO-15 in selective ion monitoring (SIM) mode to achieve lower reporting limits.

### **Sample Collection**

Both the office and the warehouse were under construction immediately prior to, but not during sampling. Areas of the warehouse were recently painted, and there was a strong odor emanating from the sewer. The team located a total of seven samples; two in the breathing zone, three preferential pathway, one co-located (field duplicate), and one outdoor.

The outdoor air sample (OA-01) was placed in the investigation derived waste (groundwater monitoring purge water) storage area. Outdoor air and breathing zone (BZ) samples were placed 3-5 feet above ground surface. The breathing zone samples in the office area (IA-02-BZ and IA-03-BZ) were co-located in an open utility closet just above the crawlspace sample (CS-07-PATH). The breathing zone sample collected in the warehouse (IA-04-BZ) was placed where the odor from the sewer was strongest. The pathway sample collected in the warehouse (IA-05-PATH) was placed just above a four-inch coring through the concrete. The second pathway sample collected in the office area (IA-06-PATH) was placed where electrical conduits penetrate the crawlspace and the subfloor.

Final vacuum readings recorded directly from the gauge attached to the canister were outside of the -2 to -4 inches of mercury control limit (see Table 1). EPA Project Management was informed of this discrepancy prior to sample analysis. The final vacuum readings recorded in the laboratory immediately prior to analysis are considered more accurate as field gauges can be damaged in transit.

### **Sample Receipt**

Samples were hand-delivered to the EPA Region 9 Laboratory, Richmond California on October 24<sup>th</sup> 2014 without incident. A copy of the chain-of-custody record is provided as Attachment 1. Samples are referenced under Laboratory Project Number RS15S14, and Laboratory Work Order Number 1410061.

Exhibit A – Photographs



OA-01



IA-02-BZ & IA-03-BZ



IA-04-BZ



IA-06-PATH

**Exhibit A – Photographs**



IA-05-PATH



IA-05-PATH (close-up)



CS-07-PATH

**Table 1**  
**USEPA Region 9 Laboratory**  
**AMCO Air Sample Log**  
**October 23, 2014**

Description	EPA ID	Sample Type	Canister ID	Restrictor ID	Date/Time Started	Initial Pressure ("Hg)	Date/Time Stopped	Final Pressure ("Hg)
1414 3rd St (IDW Storage)	OA-01	Outdoor	0131	5023	102314/ 1015	-30	102414/ 1010	-3
1414 3rd St (Office)	IA-02-BZ	Breathing Zone	0361	5022	102314/ 1030	-30	102414/ 1015	-10
1414 3rd St (Office)	IA-03-BZ	Breathing Zone-D	5714	5212	102314/ 1030	-30	102414/ 1015	-2
1414 3rd St (Warehouse)	IA-04-BZ	Breathing Zone	0121	5216	102314/ 1035	-30	102414/ 1020	-6
1414 3rd St (Warehouse)	IA-05-PATH	Pathway	0110	5034	102314/ 1035	-30	102414/ 1020	-8
1414 3rd St (Office)	IA-06-PATH	Pathway	0116	5210	102314/ 1040	-30	102414/ 1025	-5
1414 3rd (Crawl Space/Office)	CS-07-PATH	Pathway	1193	5033	102314/ 1030	-30	102414/ 1020	0

Weather/Temp Start      X Clear     Overcast     Rain    Temp °F \_\_\_\_\_      68  
Weather/Temp Stop      X Clear     Overcast     Rain    Temp °F \_\_\_\_\_      66

Sampler  
Greg Nagle \_\_\_\_\_ 10/24/2014

Print \_\_\_\_\_ Date

*Greg Nagle* \_\_\_\_\_ 10/24/2014

Sign \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Comments:

# Attachment A – Chain-of-Custody Records

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
Region 9 Laboratory

## CHAIN OF CUSTODY RECORD

1337 S. 46th St., Bldg. 201  
Richmond, CA 94804-4698

PROJ. NO.		PROJECT NAME		NO. OF CONTAINERS	REMARKS					
R15514		AMCO INDOOR AIR SAMPLING								
SAMPLERS: (Signature)				NO. OF CONTAINERS	REMARKS					
[Signature], GREEN NAGLE										
DATE	TIME	MATRIX	CONFR.	GRAB	SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION	CAN#				
10/23/14	1015	AIR	24		OA-01	1	X		ONE WEEK TAT	0131
	1030				IA-02-BZ	1	X			0361
	1030				IA-03-BZ	1	X			5714
	1035				IA-04-BZ	1	X			0121
	1035				IA-05-PATH	1	X			0110
	1040				IA-06-PATH	1	X			0116
	1030				CS-07-PATH	1	X			1193
[Large diagonal scribble]										
Relinquished by: (Signature)		Date / Time		Received by: (Signature)		Relinquished by: (Signature)		Date / Time		Received by: (Signature)
[Signature]		10/24/14 1230		HAND DELIVERED						
Relinquished by: (Signature)		Date / Time		Received by: (Signature)		Relinquished by: (Signature)		Date / Time		Received by: (Signature)
Received by Laboratory by: (Signature)		Date / Time		Temp.	Seals Intact (Y/N)	Conditions / Remarks				
[Signature]		10/24/14 1315		22°C	N/A	ONE WEEK TAT!				

Distribution: Original Accompanies Shipment; Copy to Coordinator Field Files