DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Subject: Vapor Intrusion Pathway Investigation and Management | Number: 09-017

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A Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Policy and Procedure cannot establish regulatory requirements for parties outside of the DEQ. This document provides direction to DEQ staff regarding the implementation of rules and laws administered by the DEQ. It is merely explanatory; does not affect the rights of, or procedures and practices available to, the public; and does not have the force and effect of law.

PURPOSE:

Vapor intrusion of environmental contaminants into indoor air is widely recognized as an important and complex issue that poses many challenges. Achieving sufficient certainty in the identification and assessment of the vapor intrusion pathway is critical for ensuring health-protective cleanups that can be relied upon now and into the future.

In an effort to provide direction on this issue to staff, the DEQ has developed a document entitled "*Guidance Document for the Vapor Intrusion Pathway*," May 2013 (Guidance Document).

The DEQ's purpose in developing the Guidance Document is to provide clear, practical, and public health protective guidance on vapor intrusion assessment and mitigation approaches that are consistent with Part 201, Environmental Remediation, and Part 213, Leaking Underground Storage Tanks, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended. The Guidance Document is available as a technical reference for external parties seeking information about vapor intrusion.

Several DEQ divisions/offices implement response activity or corrective actions relying upon the Part 201 cleanup criteria and process. The Guidance Document includes internal policy and procedures developed for DEQ's Remediation and Redevelopment Division (RRD) staff and State-funded subcontractors. For DEQ staff, other than RRD, implementing Part 201 should either be implemented by these procedures or through the development of procedures specific to their staff. The evaluation of the vapor intrusion pathway also may be applicable to other environmental statutes, and the Guidance Document may be informative to programs other than Part 201 and Part 213. If there are questions about the Guidance Document's applicability to facilities subject to other environmental statutes, a person should consult with the appropriate DEQ staff.

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT:

Development of the Guidance Document included considerable stakeholder involvement that was most prevalent in the early stages of the May 2012 draft document. This is evidenced by

the incorporation of written comments received on the DEQ 2008 Vapor Intrusion Peer Review Draft and the assistance of numerous stakeholders during the development of the draft guidance to identify ways to more efficiently assess, mitigate, and close sites with vapor intrusion issues. The draft document was also reviewed and discussed as part of the Collaborative Stakeholders Initiative (CSI) Vapor Intrusion Team, and comments from the CSI group were incorporated prior to its release.

Following the release of the draft Guidance Document in May 2012, a 90-day public comment period resulted in 229 comments from various stakeholders. A majority of those comments directly resulted in modifications being made to the document.

Approved: _____
Dan Wyant, Director