Chemical Release Investigation Kit & Template (CRIKT)
For Local Health Departments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHEMICAL</th>
<th>TRADE NAME(S)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trichloroethylene</td>
<td>TCE, Ethylene trichloride, Trichloroethene, Trilene</td>
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PREPARING FOR THE INVESTIGATION

Know the Agent

- Trichloroethylene is a nonflammable, colorless liquid with a sweet odor and sweet, burning taste.
  - Read about trichloroethylene in the Trichloroethylene Fact Sheet.
  - For additional information, visit: www.atstdr.cdc.gov/substances/toxs_substance.asp?toxid=30
- Contact:
  - Public Health Preparedness & Response Branch (PHP&R): 888.820.0520.

- Print and review form:
  - Chemically Exposed Persons Line Listing.

CONDUCTING THE INVESTIGATION

Evaluate Release/Exposure

- Define scale/scope of release/exposure (work with N.C. Emergency Management, HazMat, an Environmental Health Specialist at the local or state level, N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources [N.C. DENR], and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [U.S. EPA] if applicable).

Identify Route of Human Chemical Exposure

- Identify route of exposure:
  - Inhalation
  - Ingestion
<table>
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<th>Dermal (Skin) Injection</th>
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<td>Interview responders and/or exposed individuals to obtain additional information about the trichloroethylene exposure within 24-hours.</td>
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**Describe Exposed Population**

- Determine the following:
  - Geographic area affected.
  - Population affected (general population, employees, and residents).
  - How population exposed (in vicinity, inhalation, or direct contact).
  - Define cases within the exposed population.
  - Contact OEEB (919.707.5900) to assist in developing a risk assessment to be shared with officials.
  - Once completed, provide OEEB with the Chemically Exposed Persons Line Listing.

**Implement Control Measures to Prevent Additional Exposures**

- Decide on measures to protect citizens and the surrounding communities.
- The environmental health specialist will consult with OEEB to discuss next steps to ensure no additional individuals are exposed.
- Inform residents/businesses of the trichloroethylene exposure through local emergency notification system, local TV and radio. Important points to include:
  - Location of release/exposure.
  - Geographic area affected.
  - Shelter-in-place instructions, if applicable.
  - Where to evacuate if needed.
  - Where to find shelter.
  - Where to seek medical care.
  - For more information, please listen to your local radio station or watch your local news channel.
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<tr>
<th><strong>INVESTIGATION RESULTS</strong></th>
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| **Case Finding** | • During the course of the investigation, interview other exposed individuals for symptoms related to the trichloroethylene exposure.  
  o Work with your local medical facilities, local incident management team and/or the first responders to compile the exposed persons’ information.  
  o Contact local hospitals to determine total number injured, hospitalized, ED visits, and deceased.  
  o Contact N.C. DETECT, North Carolina’s state syndromic surveillance system for additional information: 919.843.2361.  
  • Advise symptomatic individuals, especially children, to see their healthcare provider immediately for evaluation.  |
| **Routine Precautions** | • Communicate the following control measures with residents/business owners.  
  o Open all windows once residences/businesses are re-entered.  |

- Work with your local incident management team and local health director to determine steps to be taken to re-enter residences/businesses.  
  - The local incident management team will determine when residences/businesses are acceptable for re-entry and alert the local health director, who will then participate in the final decision.  
  - Your local health director will then communicate with the on-scene coordinator.  
  - The on-scene coordinator will then communicate to the community when they are permitted to return home or to their place of employment.
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<th>Wash skin thoroughly with soap and water if come into direct skin contact.</th>
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<td><strong>SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS</strong></td>
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**Risk Communication**
- N.C. DHHS Communications Office 919. 855.4840 is available to assist local health departments as needed.

| **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** |

**Glossary of Terms**
- **ATSDR**: Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry
- **DENR**: Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- **ED**: Emergency Department
- **EHS**: Environmental Health Specialist
- **EPA**: Environmental Protection Agency
- **OEEB**: Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch
- **PHP&R**: Public Health Preparedness & Response