

# RAB NEWSLETTER

Your official community voice for the clean-up of the former Titan 1-A missile site

## Over, under: no TCE near SCLH & an update on two soil probe



**S**hortly after

officials announced that no trace of the toxic chemical trichloroethylene (TCE) has been detected by new vapor wells installed near the Sun City Lincoln Hills property line, there was some more good news

about TCE in the air there.

The results of these first tests, which dealt with groundwater, were announced July 18 at the second quarterly public meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB), a consortium of federal and state officials, along with 11 community members appointed earlier this year by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Working together with the public, a plan will be developed next year for cleaning up the former Titan 1-A missile facility that housed three missiles in underground silos for three years in the 1960s on 46 acres off Oak Tree Lane.

The air quality screening test was independently conducted by an individual RAB member. The member purchased two OSHA-approved chemical badges, which are commonly used to measure contaminants in the air of workspace, though they are branching out into home testing, and had them configured to test for TCE. The badges were placed at a volunteer's home, which is located near the vapor wells, as instructed by the company and for the requisite eight hours. They were then sent to the testing facilities laboratory for analysis. The results: both badges registered less than 0.1 parts per million (ppm) of TCE. To put that into perspective, OSHA's permissible exposure level for workers is 100 ppm for an eight-hour work period. Officials caution that while a work environment is different from a residential scenario, the results help to further substantiate that acute levels of TCE were not present at the location and date screened.

Meanwhile, the Corps of Engineers announced that two soil vapor probes located on the adjoining Hidden Hills development site will be temporarily removed. Construction workers need to do grading in the area and once the grading is complete, the testing wells will be replaced. If you happen to see them doing this, please know that it's part of a plan. Officials said this temporary removal will have no impact on the schedule or the test data quality.

For further information about this project over the years: <https://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Military-Projects/FUDS/Titan-1-A-Missile-Site/>

## Q&A

*I read a post claiming there are other dangerous contaminants in the now-flooded underground facility. Is that true?*

We took this to the expert, Tim Crummett, site project manager for the Army Corps of Engineers. "We have tested the standing water that has infiltrated the former silos and did not detect hazardous levels of contaminants," he told us. "As for abandoned underground storage tanks, it is possible that there are some there. However, the USACE did do a study some years back and found no evidence of them."

### About us

RAB community members are here to liaison with the public and give informed feedback on reports and other business. Questions? Want us to speak to your group? We are here to help. Email us at the address below.

[RABTitan1A@sclhca.com](mailto:RABTitan1A@sclhca.com)

**The next public quarterly meeting:**

**4-6 p.m. Oct. 24**

**(Watch this space for location and details.)**