

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

POSITION DESCRIPTION #330293

TITLE: VAPOR INTRUSION SPECIALIST

CLASSIFICATION: Hydrogeologist Advanced

Work Location: Milwaukee Service Center

PURPOSE OF THIS POSITION: This advanced technical position serves as the Remediation and Redevelopment (RR) Program Southeast Region coordinator for assessment of vapor intrusion of volatile compounds, mitigation to address vapor exposure pathways, and development of statewide policy related to all aspects of vapor intrusion. This person develops and interprets administrative rules, guidance documents, and technical documents related to the assessment, mitigation and remediation of vapor phase contamination, evaluation and implementation of remedial technologies to address chlorinated solvent and emerging contaminant impacts. This person serves as a technical resource for hydrogeologists and engineers who serve as Project Managers for contamination cleanup projects in Southeast Region. This covers all response action sites including: dry cleaner sites, Superfund sites, Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) sites, RCRA Corrective Action sites, Hazardous Waste remediation cases, state funded cleanups, and hazardous substance spill situations.

This person is responsible for providing training to agency staff as well as interested external parties on: assessment of the potential for vapor intrusion, mitigation of vapor contamination in structures, investigation and remediation of emerging contaminants, and general interpretation of geology and hydrogeology. This person serves on the dry cleaner and vapor intrusion team, member of one or more additional standing or ad hoc teams, and has responsibility for NR 700 implementation issues.

This is a technical position in which the candidate must have detailed knowledge of geology and hydrogeology, chemistry, soil science, remedial system design, and biology for the Remediation and Redevelopment Program specifically. This position has a very high level of responsibility requiring statewide expertise and program coordination that affects other Department programs, State agencies, local communities, and the public. In this capacity, the position provides technical advice and recommendations to management and regional staff. Job duties include using EPA procedures, methodologies and guidelines to gather data on potentially contaminated sites, analyzing and interpreting site data, recommending actions, overseeing complex assessment efforts, and ensuring that proper documentation is completed for all stages of a project. Proper coordination by this person between other Department programs and government agencies is critical to successfully completing these duties.

Geographic Scope and Travel Requirements: This position is stationed in Milwaukee. This position participates in a number of regional and statewide work groups. Occasional travel, including overnight, to sites and meetings throughout the region and state will be expected in order to attend to the responsibilities required of this position.

Scope of Authority: This position functions as a member of the Remediation and Redevelopment Program and reports to the Complex Projects and Technical Resources Section Chief. This position has authority for making decisions having significant regulatory and program-wide impact. Responsibilities cross program lines and include interaction with other DNR programs, other agencies, and county and local governments. This position provides guidance on and interpretation of statutes, administrative codes and policies pertaining to state programs.

Responsibilities and Duties:

80% A. Serve as a Technical Expert for Vapor Intrusion for the RR Program, focusing on project management in the Southeast Region.

- A1. Coordinate and provide direction to Southeast Region members of the dry cleaner and vapor intrusion team related to assessment of vapor intrusion of volatile compounds and mitigation to address vapor exposure pathways.
- A2. Coordinate DNR review and response for vapor intrusion cases in the Southeast Region.
- A3. Provide technical assistance to RR staff and others including developers, utilities and property owners, related to the requirements for assessment of vapor intrusion of volatile compounds, mitigation to address vapor exposure pathways.
- A4. Work with regional VI DVIT members to provide training to RR southeast region staff via appropriate methods (e.g., calls, meetings) to communicate developments and concerns related to vapor intrusion assessment and mitigation.
- A5. Work to identify staff issues related to vapor intrusion assessment and mitigation and to disseminate technical and procedural information to DNR staff and to interested external parties.
- A6. Coordinate with the Waste and Materials Management Program on issues related to vapor intrusion from licensed and unlicensed waste facilities to ensure the RR and WMM programs are handling vapor intrusion concerns in a similar manner.
- A7. Develop directives for acceptable testing methods, standard acceptability factors and placement approaches, to ensure statewide consistency with respect to assessment of vapor intrusion, mitigation and system commissioning.
- A8. Attend conferences and technical meetings related to chemical vapor intrusion. Disseminate the information to program staff on a routine basis.
- A9. Provide guidance, oversight, and training to DNR staff and external parties including consultants, environmental attorneys, representatives of local governments, etc. through presentations at technical conferences, meetings, and by written means using the RR Programs Listserv and RR Report.

10% B. Develop Guidance and Templates to Assist in Consistent Requirements for Vapor Mitigation

- B1. Review and evaluate existing Wisconsin and other state and Federal guidance documents related to vapor mitigation, system commissioning and long-term stewardship for development of guidance applicable to Wisconsin.
- B2. Review and evaluate technical information and current research on vapor mitigation and long-term stewardship for incorporation into Department guidance and administrative rules.
- B3. Serve as a technical lead on implementation of research projects related to vapor intrusion assessment and mitigation, plus source remediation.

- B4. Prepare and update technical guidance documents on the methods of evaluation to assess appropriate vapor intrusion assessment and mitigation options and long-term stewardship requirements to ensure protectiveness of human health, welfare, safety and the environment.
- B5. Develop rule revisions to clarify inconsistent or unclear areas and to ensure the proper implementation of RR requirements.
- B6. Develop policy and guidance for notifying off site affected property owners of the possible long-term risks and property value impacts associated with vapor intrusion.
- B7. Work with the Database Team to develop and implement documentation and tracking process for vapor intrusion management.
- B8. Develop and maintain technical references, case studies, and related information on vapor intrusion approaches being used in Wisconsin and nationwide.
- B9. Promote the vapor intrusion guidance and templates to developers, municipalities and other property owners to improve the approval request submittals and expedite approval process.
- B10. Conduct audits and monitoring of compliance with continuing obligations.

10% D. Perform Other Technical Related Activities.

- D1. Assist in the implementation of any Technical Studies, including development of strategy and related guidance for interpreting and using study findings.
- D2. Participate on the Drycleaner and Vapor Intrusion Team.
- D3. Be a primary technical person on NR 700 implementation issues.
- D4. Provide direct project management of sites with vapor intrusion concerns on a limited basis, as needed.
- D5. Complete all other duties as assigned.

Knowledge - Technical Competencies

Upon Appointment

- Knowledge of vapor intrusion assessment and mitigation procedures.
- Knowledge of basic chemical properties and environmental assessment response techniques.
- Knowledge of geology, hydrology and soil science, including soil morphology, mechanics, chemistry and classification.
- Ability to interpret state and federal rules and statutes related to the Remediation and Redevelopment Program.
- Skill in development of program policies and guidance documents.
- Ability to effectively communicate with public and private interests through oral and written methods.

- Knowledge of environmental sampling techniques and QA/QC requirements.
- Knowledge of cleanup requirements in NR 700 WAC series and groundwater quality standards.
- Knowledge of solid and hazardous waste management regulations and management practices and their applicability to spill situations, unauthorized disposal of waste and/or property liability.
- Skill in managing a priority segment of a department program.
- Skill in writing and editing reports and documents with little or no required editing by others.
- Skill in using Microsoft Office Suite (in particular, Word, Excel and PowerPoint)

Full Performance

- Skill in interpreting state and federal rules, statutes and policies related to the Remediation and Redevelopment Program.
- Knowledge of rules, guidelines, sampling protocols, and other related requirements.
- Ability to draft Remediation and Redevelopment Program guidance, policies and procedures.
- Skill in instructing RR Program staff on techniques and policy for addressing vapor intrusion concerns.

Physical Requirements and Environmental Factors:

Strength Requirements: Medium work-exerting 20-50 pounds of force occasionally- less than 10% over a year's time.

Physically, this position will spend a portion of time indoors, doing work on computers and in meetings and working with other program staff. Periodically the position will travel to give presentations and assist staff with compliance and sampling inspections. This will require driving and may require occasional lifting/carrying of materials. This position may also require outdoor work, and that may require the need to address extreme cold/heat and can require kneeling, crouching, carrying and lifting.

Environmental Factors: Indoors with a large amount of time on computers. Outdoors at sites that may contain hazardous substances.

Equipment Used: Office equipment, hand tools, electronic equipment/radios, monitoring and sampling devices for soil and groundwater.

Telework Evaluation: Limited telework may be available for this position, as the responsibilities of the position include frequent public contacts and frequent interaction with other Department staff.