



# Vapor Intrusion Pathway: Immediate Environmental Concern

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# Vapor Intrusion (VI) Pathway

Commercial/Industrial Worker

Resident Living over Plume

Working over Plume

Basement or  
Crawl Space

Without Basement



Migration of subsurface vapors to indoor air

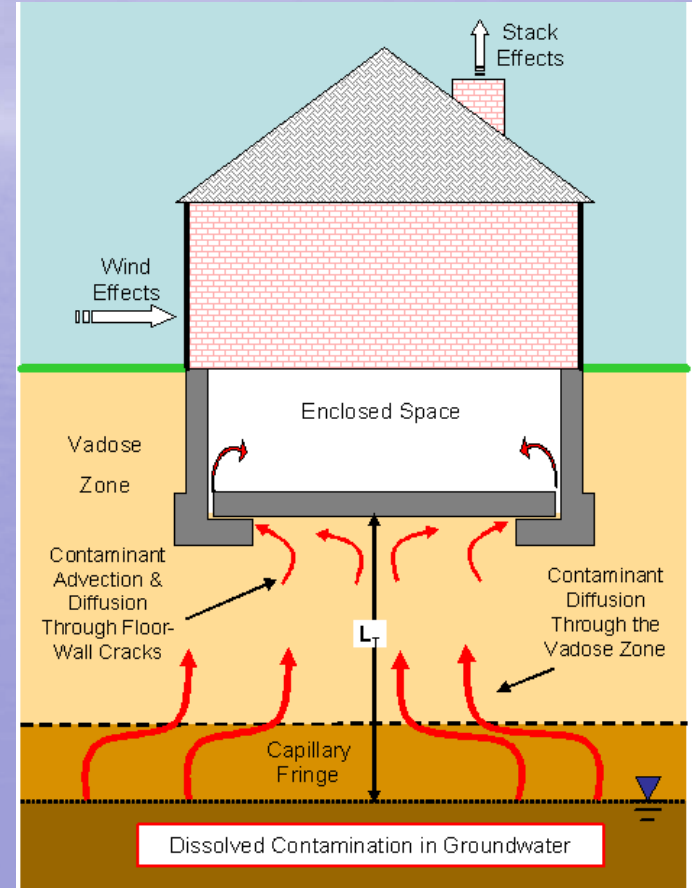
Courtesy: ITRC





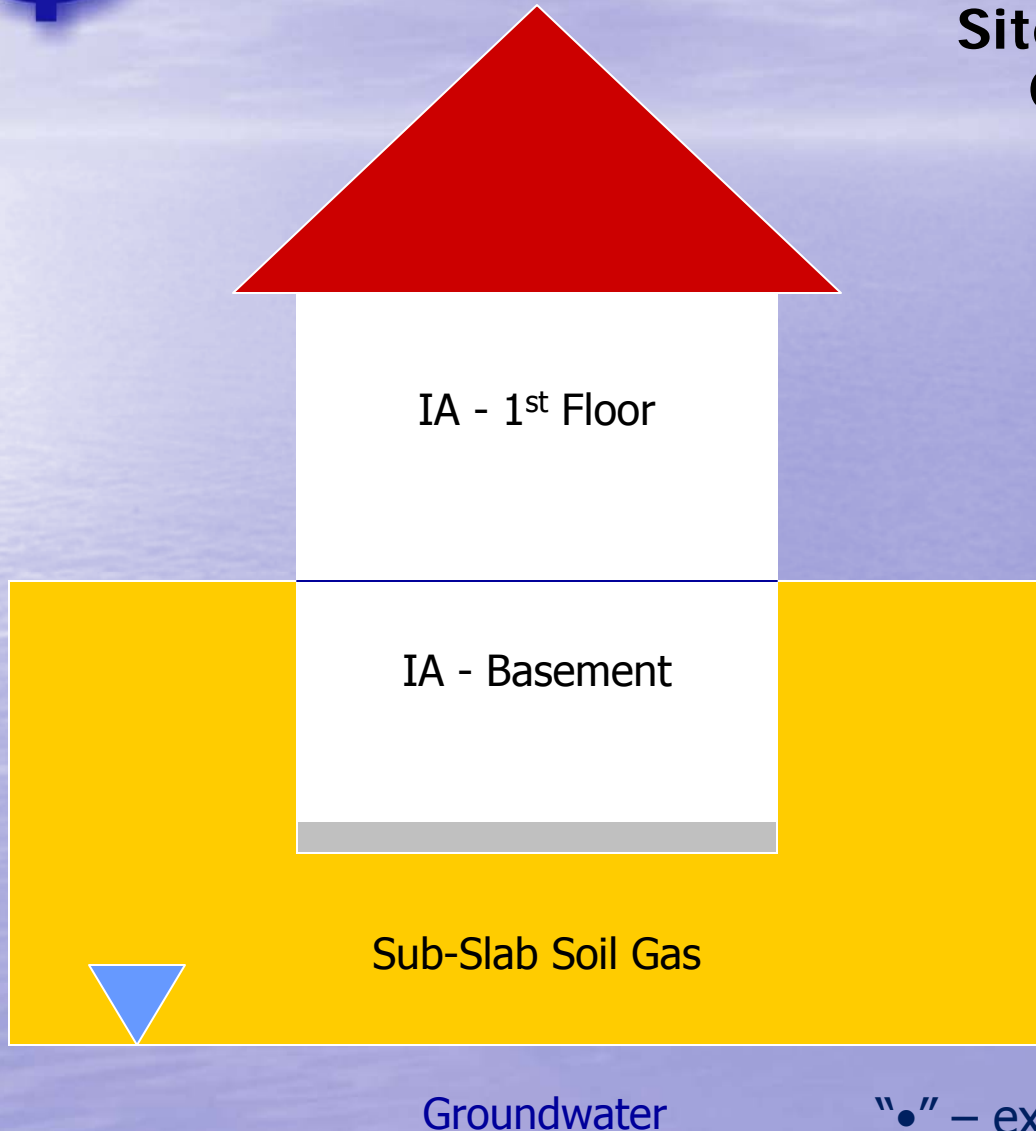
# When is the VI Pathway Complete?

- 1) There is an identified source related to a discharge;
- 2) There is a migration pathway; and,
- 3) A receptor (current or future) is adversely impacted by a subsurface vapor contaminant migrating into a structure.





# Vapor Intrusion IEC Scenarios



## Site-related Contaminants of Concern (COC)

### ☐ Tetrachloroethene (PCE)

- GWSL – 1 µg/L
- SGSL – 34 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- IASL – 3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- RAL – 30 µg/m<sup>3</sup>

### ☐ Trichloroethene (TCE)

- GWSL – 1 µg/L
- SGSL – 27 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- IASL – 3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- RAL – 20 µg/m<sup>3</sup>

## Non-COC

### ☐ Benzene

- GWSL – 15 µg/L
- SGSL – 16 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- IASL – 2 µg/m<sup>3</sup>
- RAL – 14 µg/m<sup>3</sup>

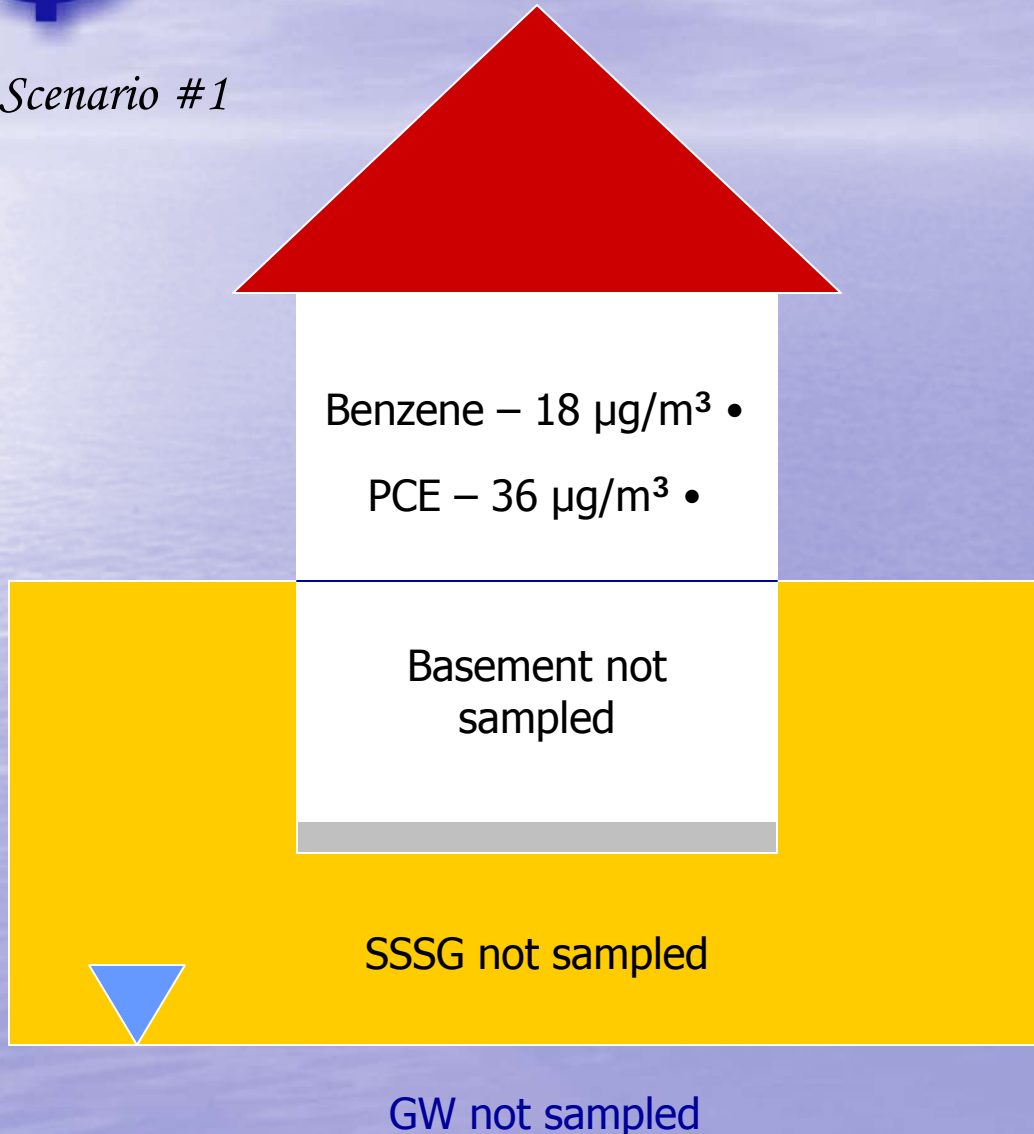
“•” – exceeds VI Screening Level





# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

Scenario #1



## ISSUES:

- IA COC > RAL
- IA non-COC > RAL
- SG & GW not sampled
- Status of VI Pathway unknown
- Additional VI investigation warranted to assess IEC

## ANSWER:

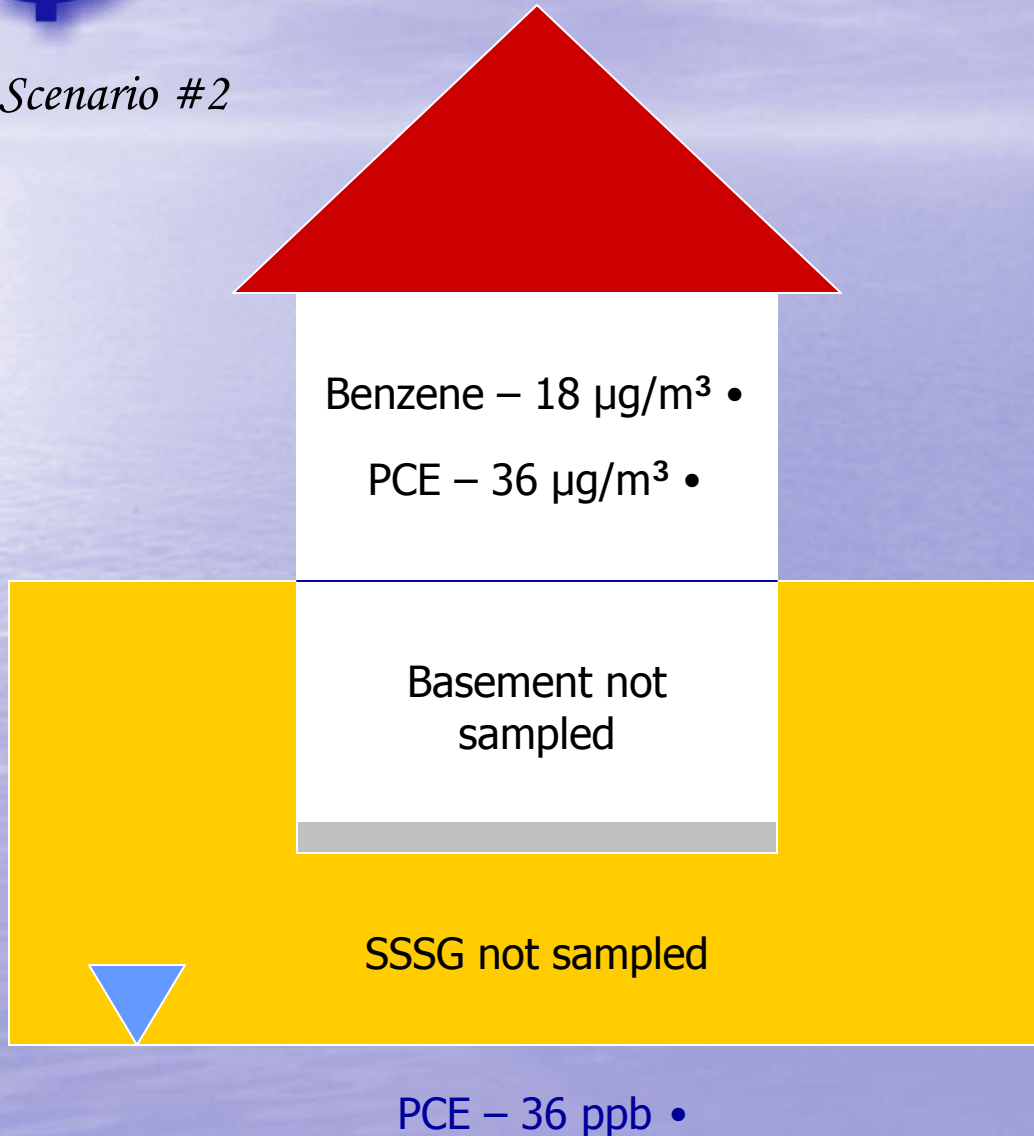
**NO**





# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

Scenario #2



## ISSUES:

- IA COC > RAL
- IA non-COC > RAL
- GW COC > GWSL
- Status of VI Pathway still unknown
- Additional VI investigation warranted to assess IEC

## ANSWER:

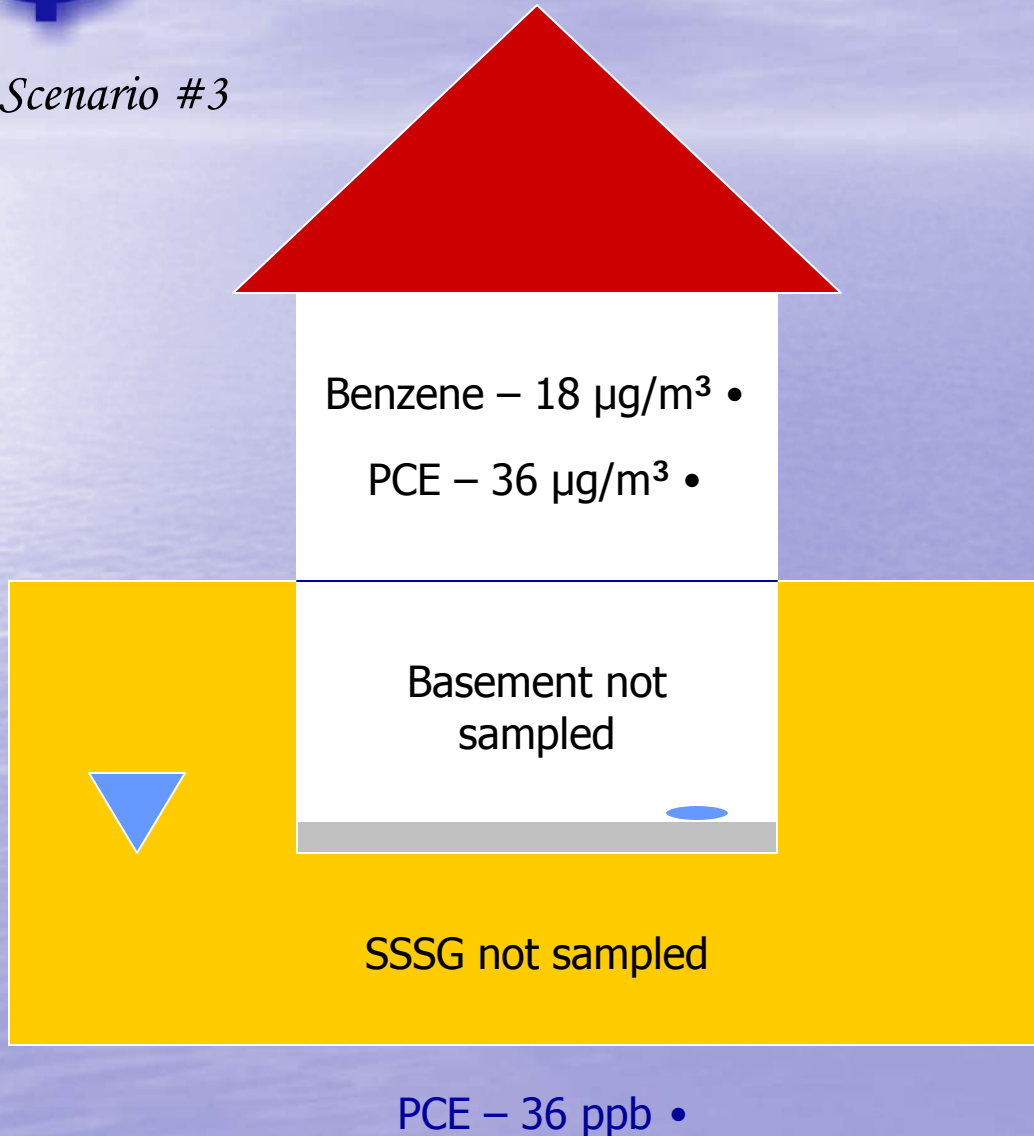
**NO**





# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

Scenario #3



## ISSUES:

- IA COC > RAL
- IA non-COC > RAL
- GW COC > GWSL
- High GWT
- Status of VI Pathway unknown
- Use Multiple Lines of Evidence (MLE)
- Additional VI investigation may be warranted

## ANSWER:

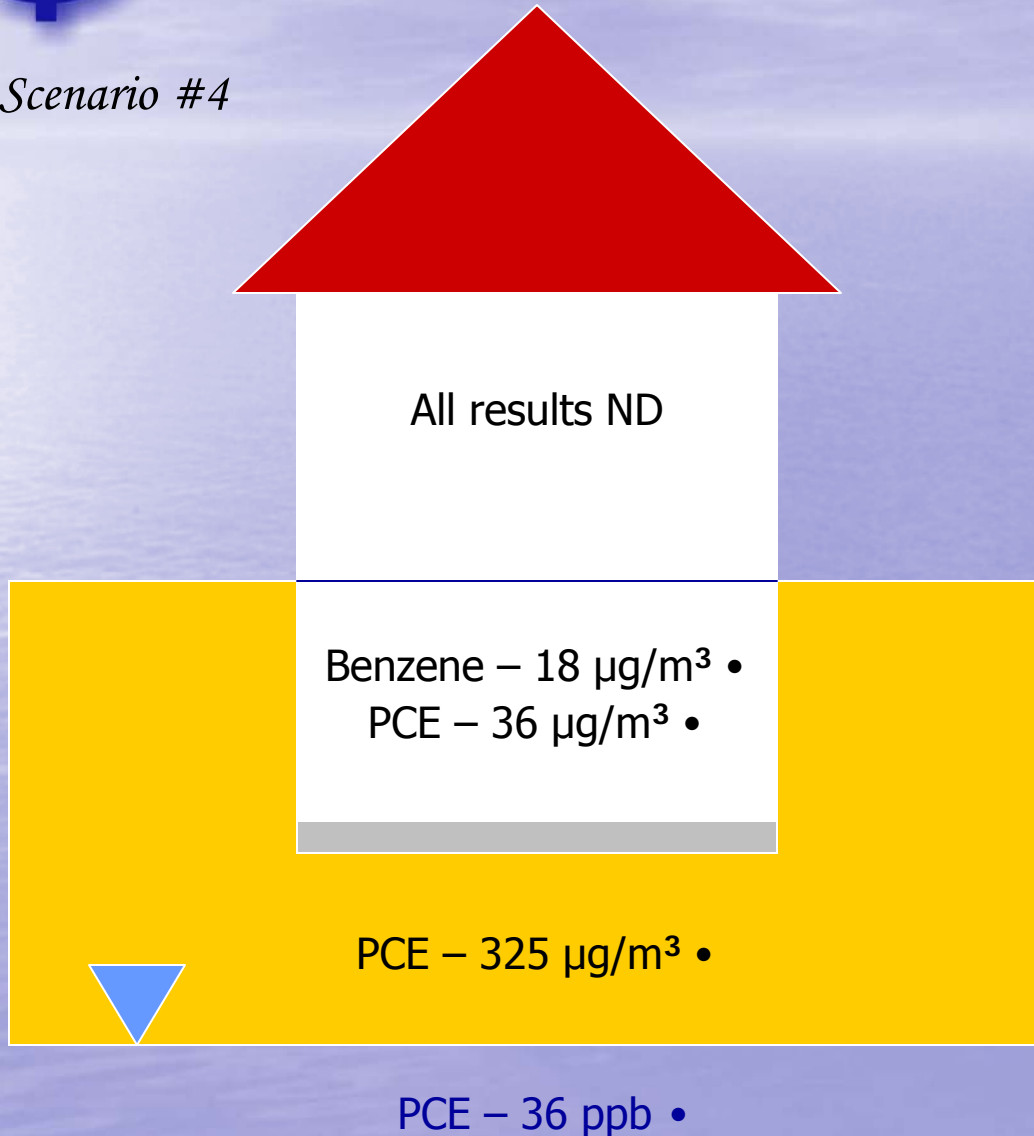
# MAYBE





# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

Scenario #4



## ISSUES:

- IA COC > RAL
- IA non-COC > RAL
- 1<sup>st</sup> Floor IA results ND
- SSSG COC > SGSL
- GW COC > GWSL
- VI Pathway complete

## ANSWER:

**YES**

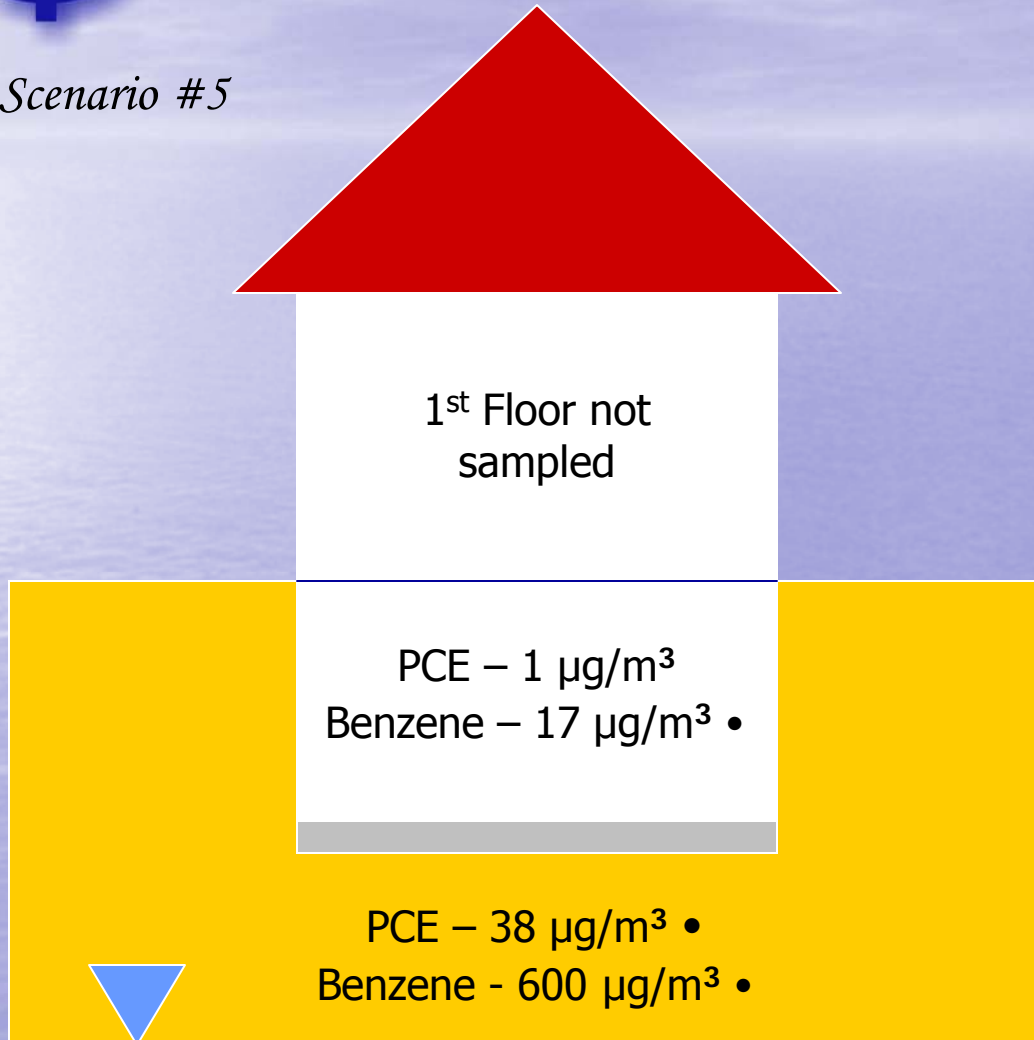






# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

Scenario #5



PCE – 4  $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$  •  
Benzene – 45  $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$  •

## ISSUES:

- IA COC < RAL
- IA non-COC > RAL
- SSSG (both) > SGSL
- GW (both) > GWSL
- COCs well documented
- VI Pathway complete

## ANSWER:

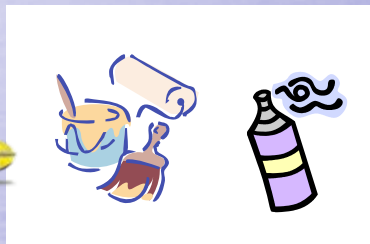
**YES,** but . . .





# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

Scenario #6



PCE – 32  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  •  
TCE – 0.5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

PCE – 0.5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$   
TCE – 1  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

PCE – 25  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$   
TCE - 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  •

PCE – 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$  •  
TCE – 15  $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$  •

## ISSUES:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Floor IA COC > RAL
- SSSG COC > SGSL
- GW COC > GWSL
- VI Pathway complete??
- Background sources
- Multiple lines of evidence
- Additional VI investigation may be warranted

## ANSWER:

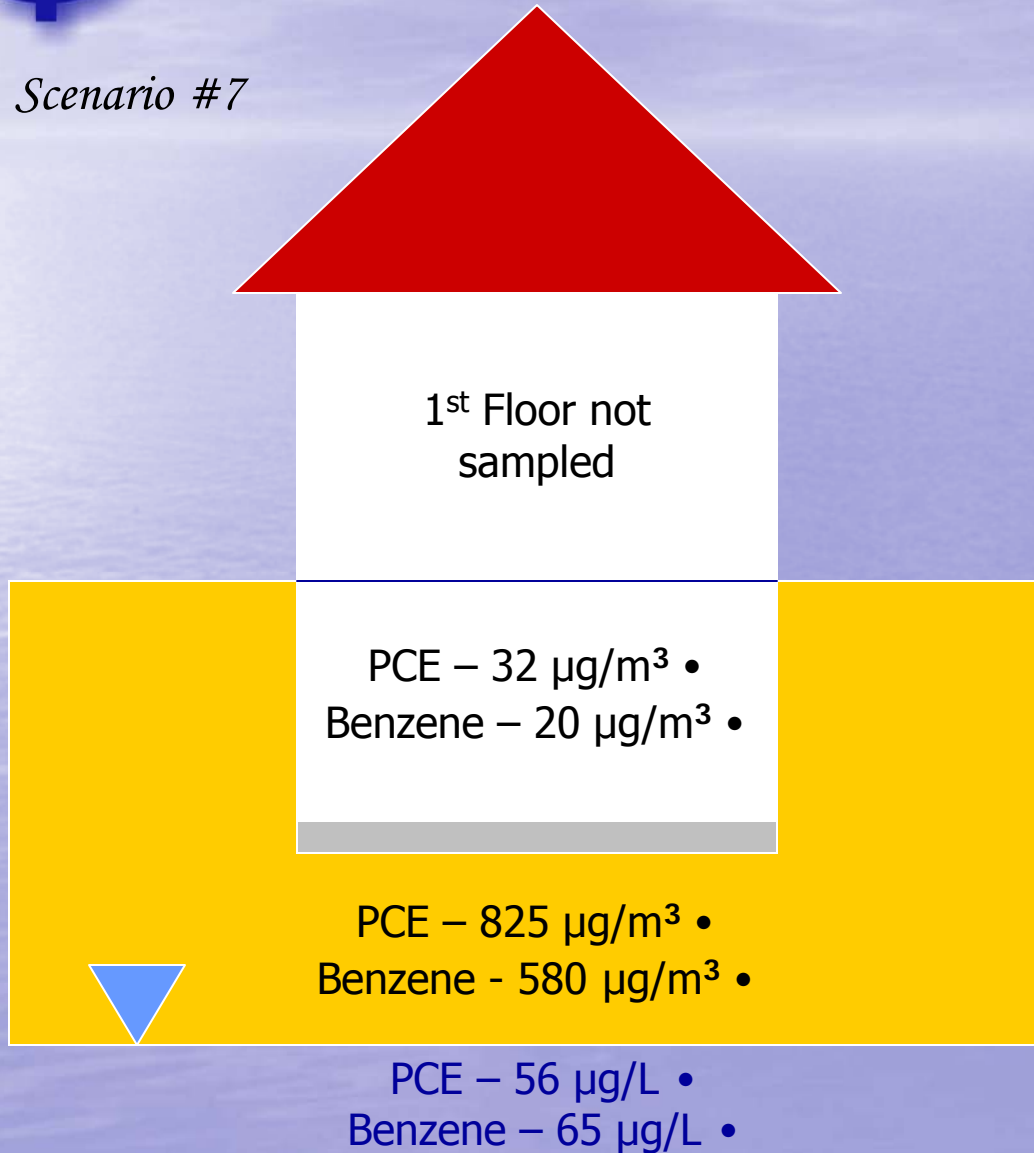
# NO





# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

Scenario #7



## ISSUES:

- IA COC > RAL
- IA non-COC > RAL
- SSSG & GW COC > SLs
- SSSG & GW Non-COC > SLs
- VI Pathway complete

## ANSWER:

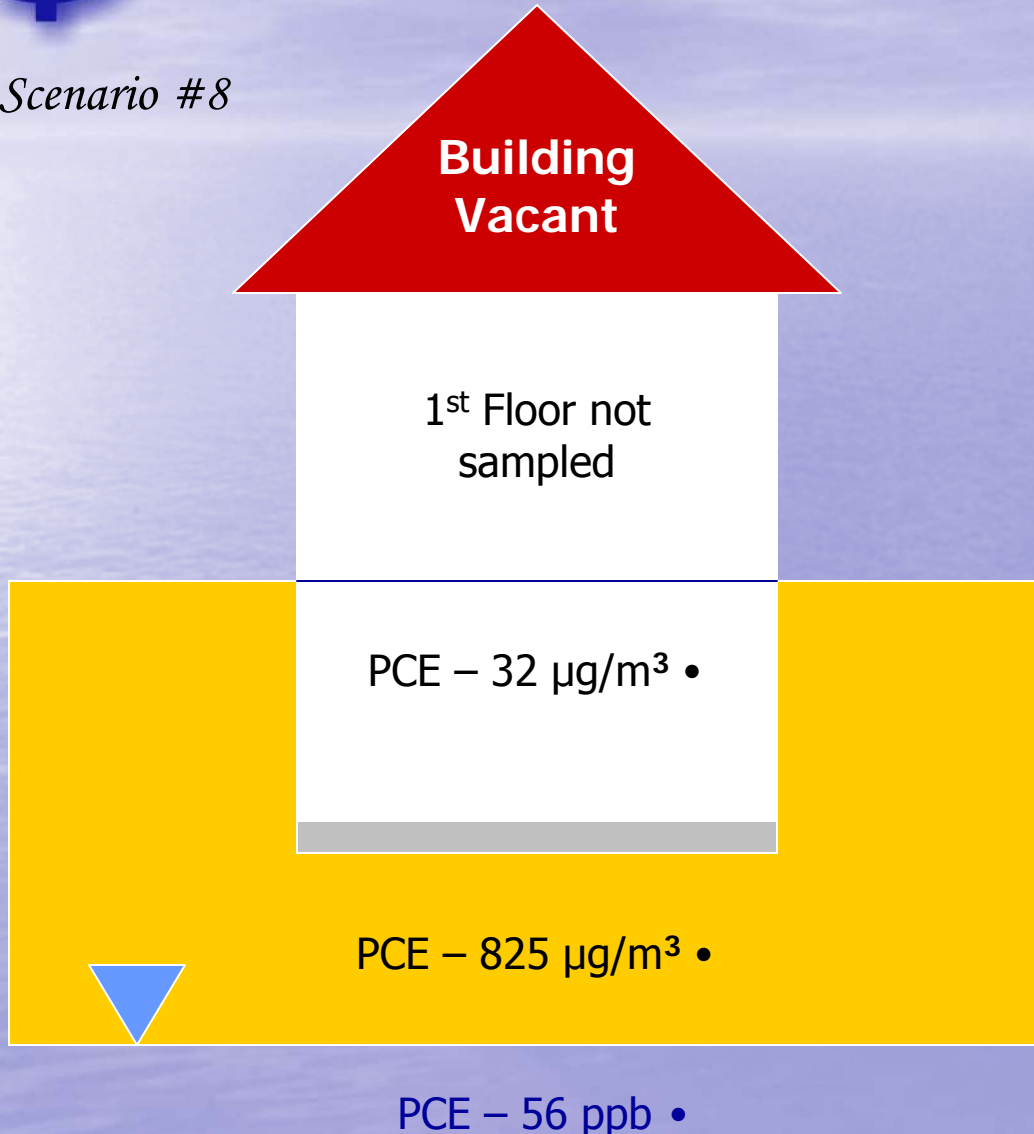
**YES**





# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

Scenario #8



## ISSUES:

- IA COC > RAL
- SSSG & GW COC > SLs
- Building vacant
- VI Pathway complete
- How to monitor future use?
- Off-site vs. onsite
- Mitigation warranted in the future if occupied

## ANSWER:

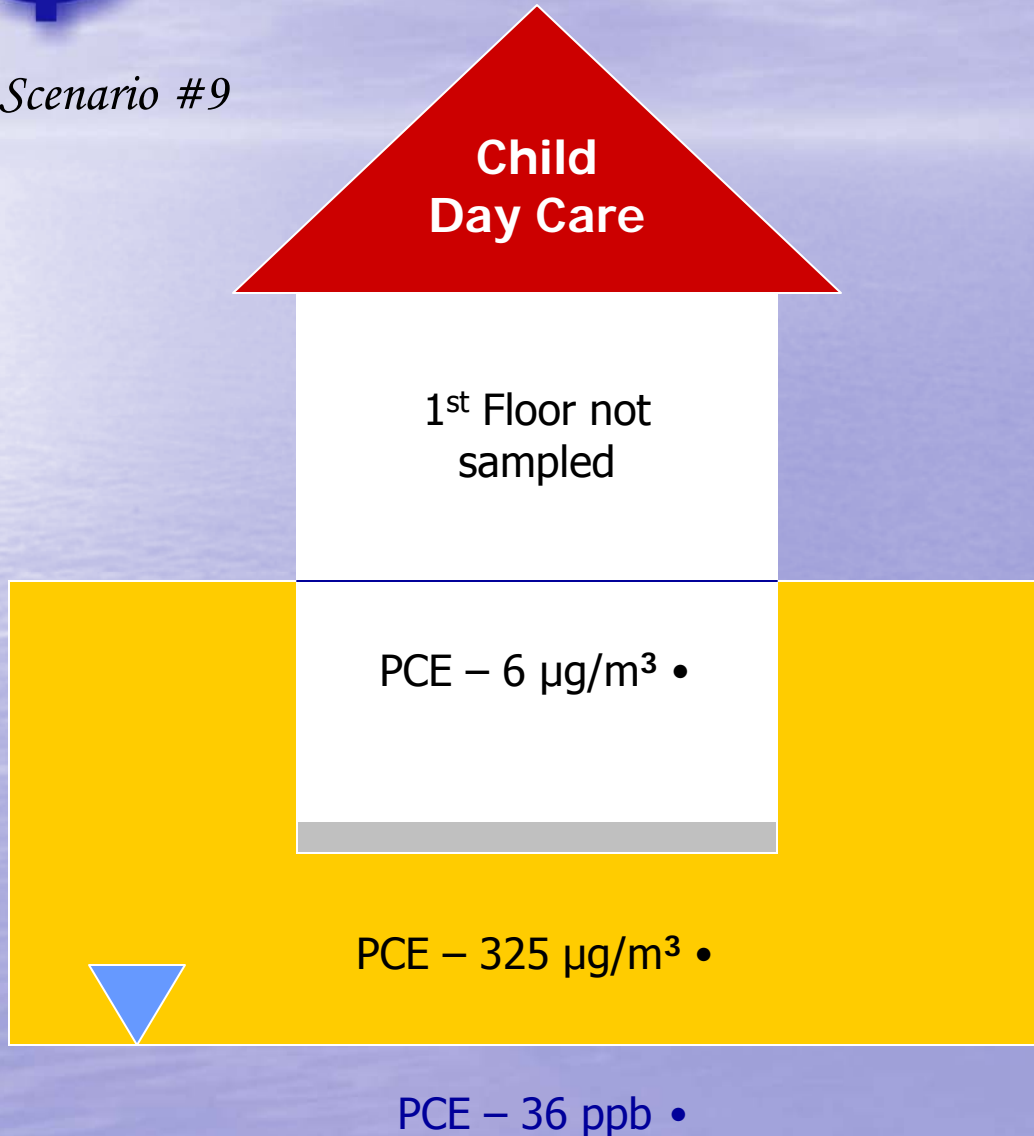
**YES**





# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

Scenario #9



## ISSUES:

- IA COC > IASL
- SSSG & GW COC > SLs
- Child Day Care Facility
- VI Pathway complete
- VC condition, not IEC
- Mitigation warranted using different timeline

## ANSWER:

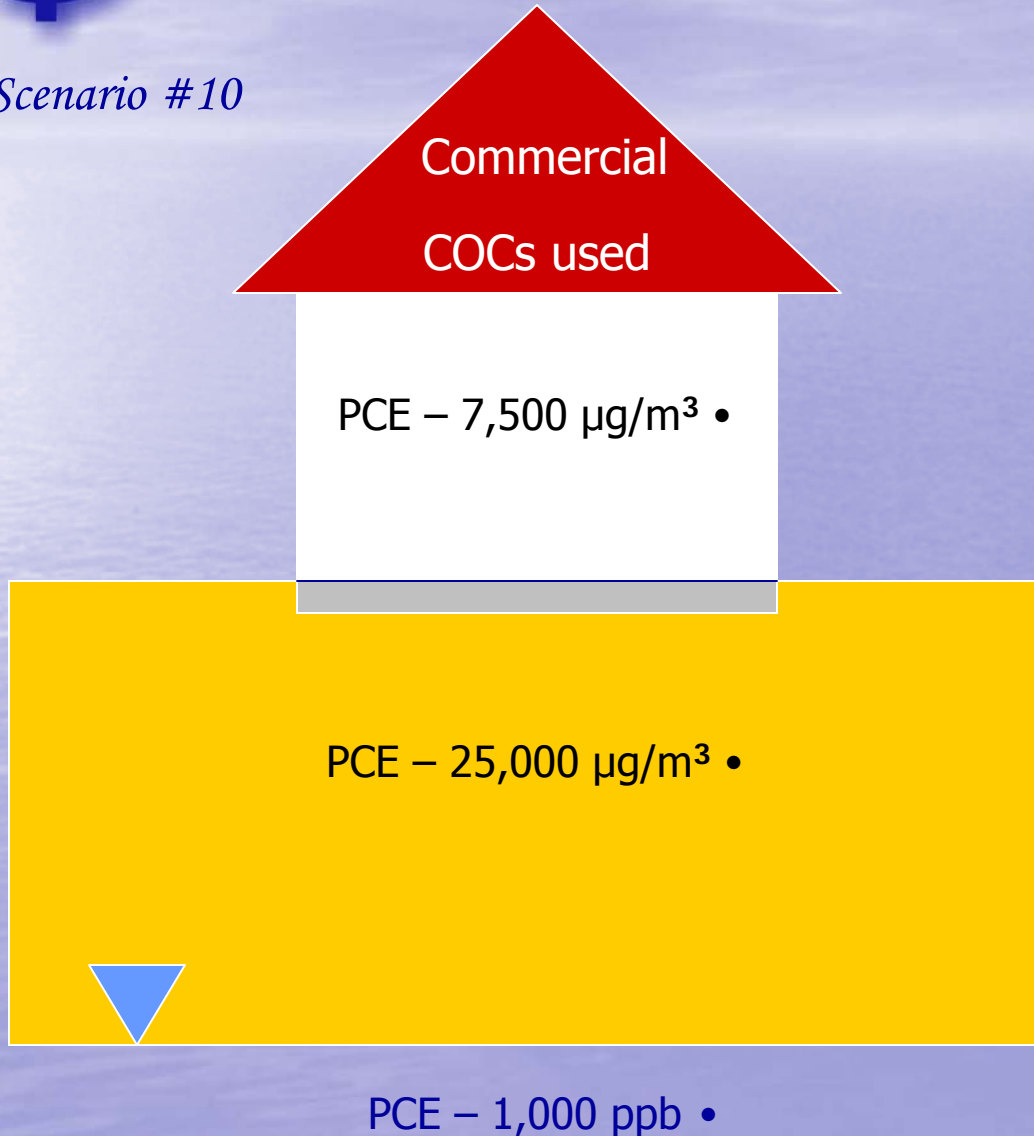
**NO**





# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

Scenario #10



## ISSUES:

- IA COC > RAL
- Commercial Building
- Status of VI Pathway unknown
- Utilize COC in current operations
- Future use?
- Additional VI investigation warranted if use or chemicals change

## ANSWER:

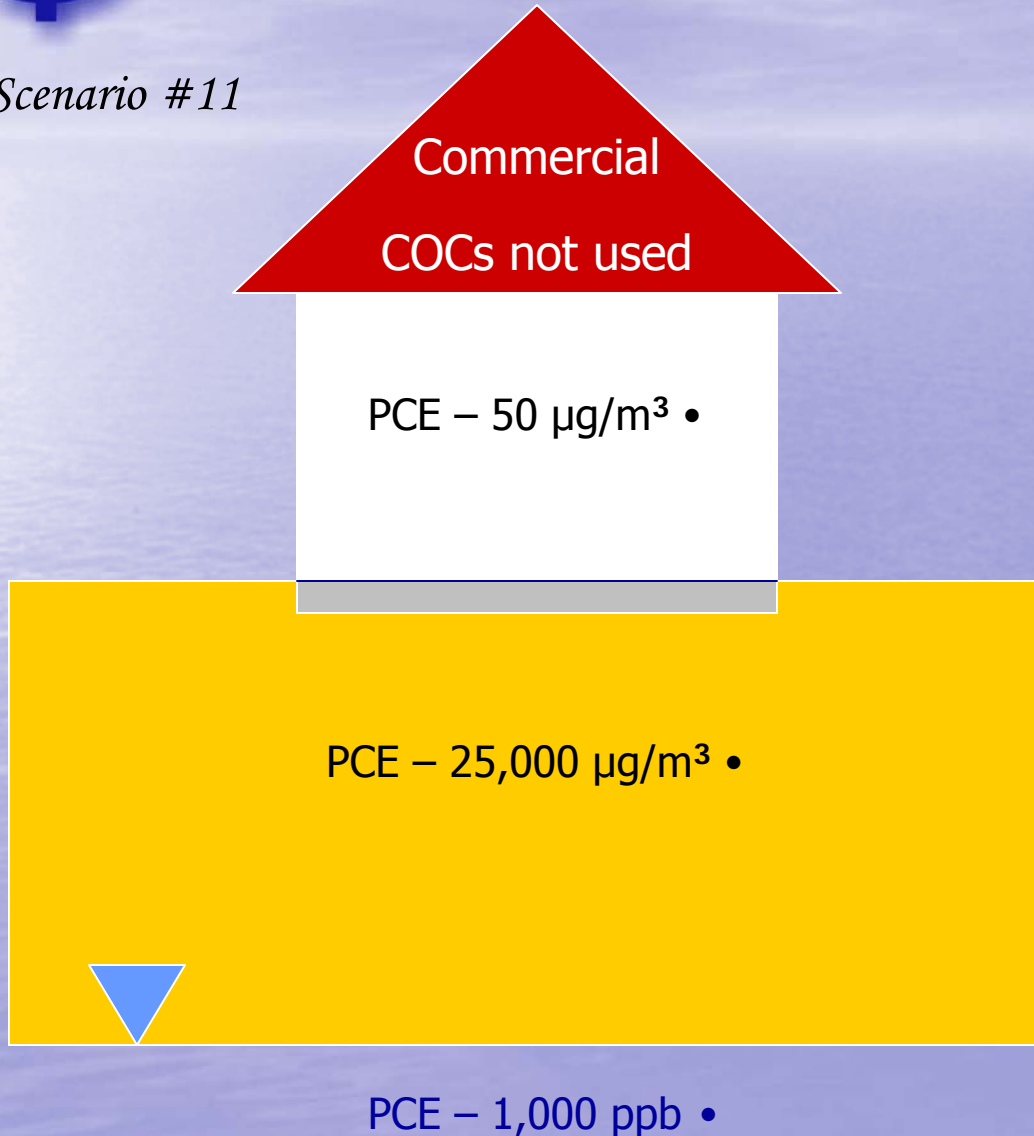
**NO**





# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

*Scenario #11*



## ISSUES:

- IA COC > RAL
- Commercial Building
- Don't utilize COC in current operations
- VI Pathway complete

## ANSWER:

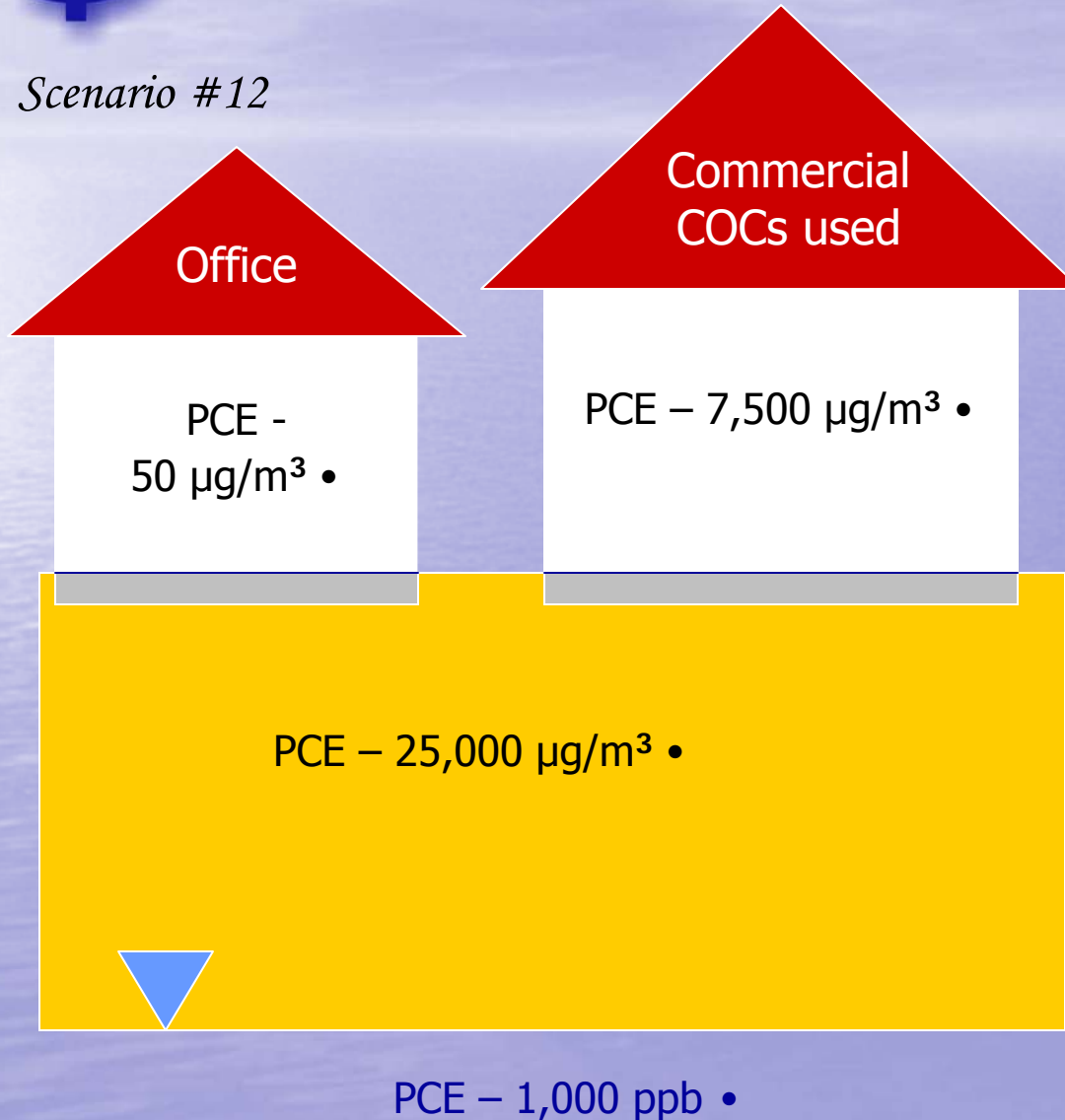
# YES





# Is this a Vapor Intrusion IEC?

*Scenario #12*



## ISSUES:

- IA COC > RAL
- Commercial & Office Buildings on site
- Utilize COC in current factory operations
- Don't utilize COC in office
- VI Pathway complete?
- Future use?
- Additional VI investigation warranted if use changes

## ANSWER:

# YES & NO





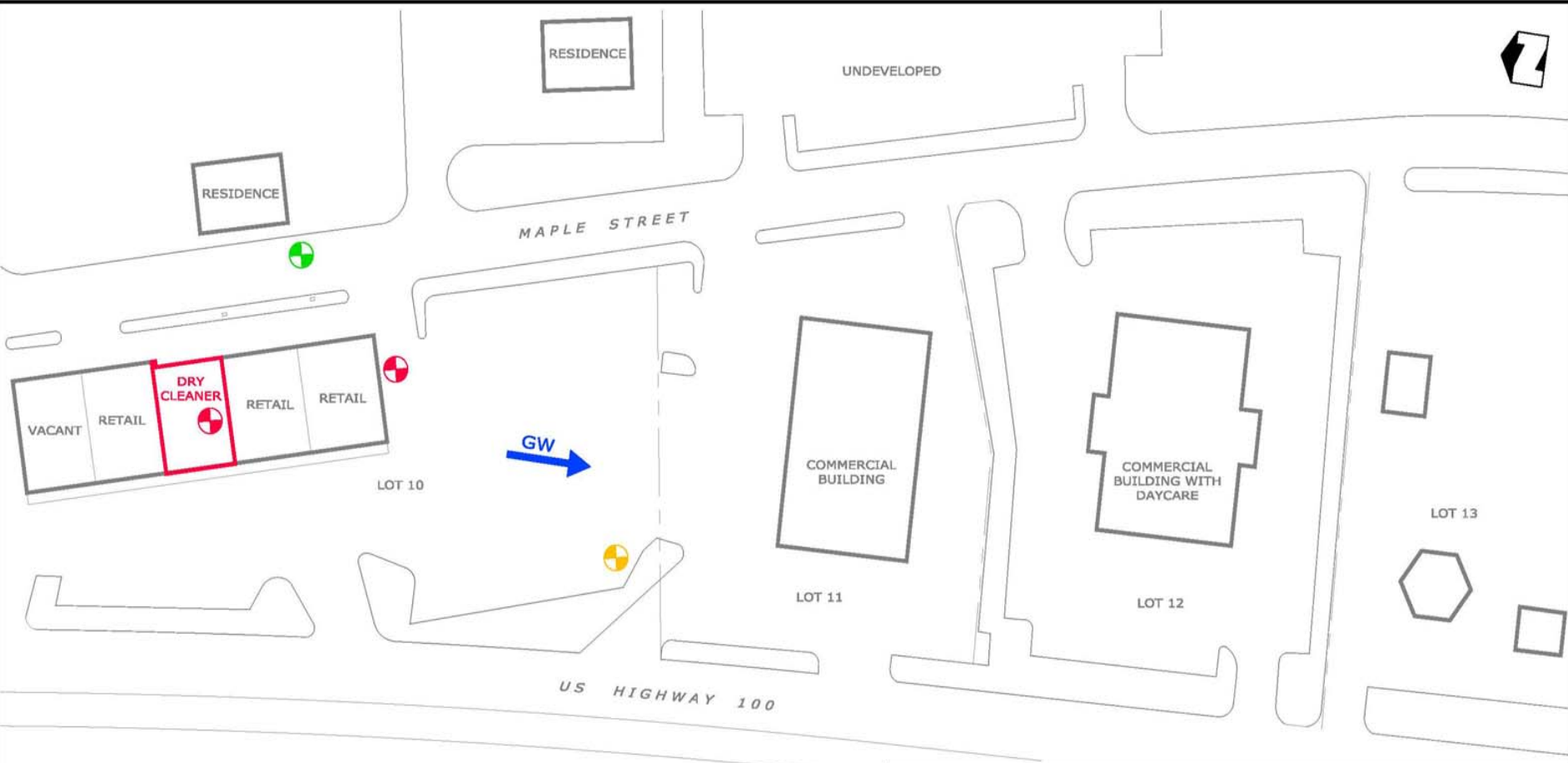
# IEC CASE STUDY

PRESENTED BY:

**Mark D. Fisher, CHMM, LSRP**  
**Principal – The ELM Group, Inc.**

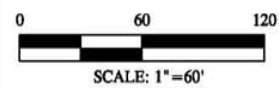
# Site Background

- Operating dry cleaner in strip mall
- Confirmed release with soil and ground water impacts
- Site related contaminants of concern (COCS)
  - PCE and degradation compounds
- Remedial investigation initiated, but not completed
- Initial Receptor Evaluation completed

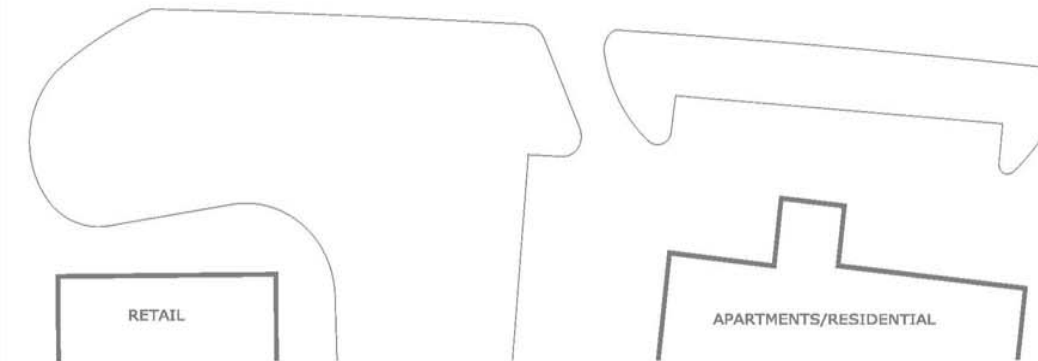


**LEGEND**

- + SITE-RELATED COCs BELOW GWQS
- + SITE-RELATED COCs ABOVE GWQS; BELOW GWSL
- + SITE-RELATED COCs ABOVE GWSL

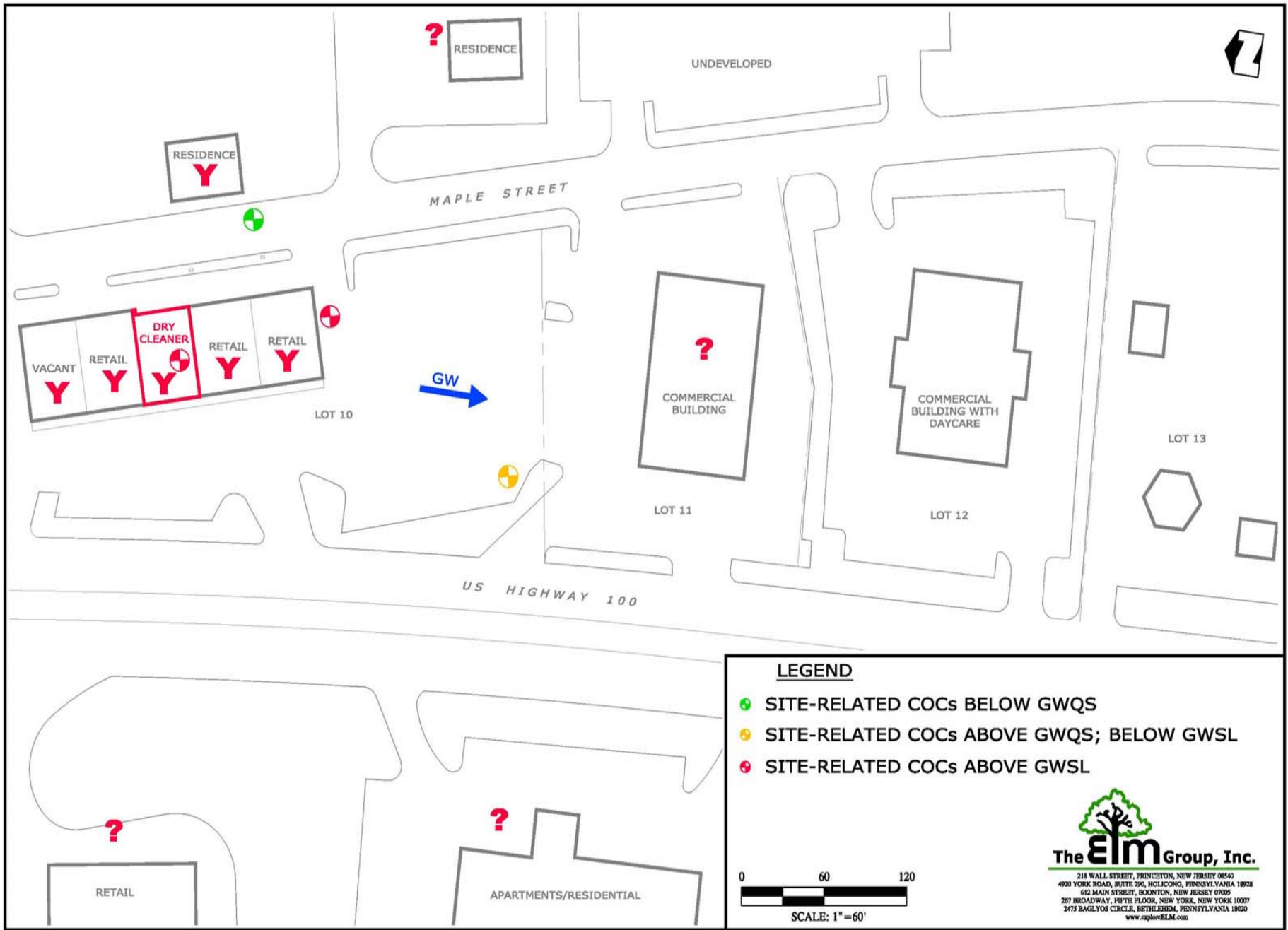


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# Initial Phase of VI Investigation

- Receptor Evaluation information
- Soil and ground water data
- Determination of structures to be included in VI sampling
- VI sampling – subslab (SS) with contingent indoor air (IA)



**LEGEND**

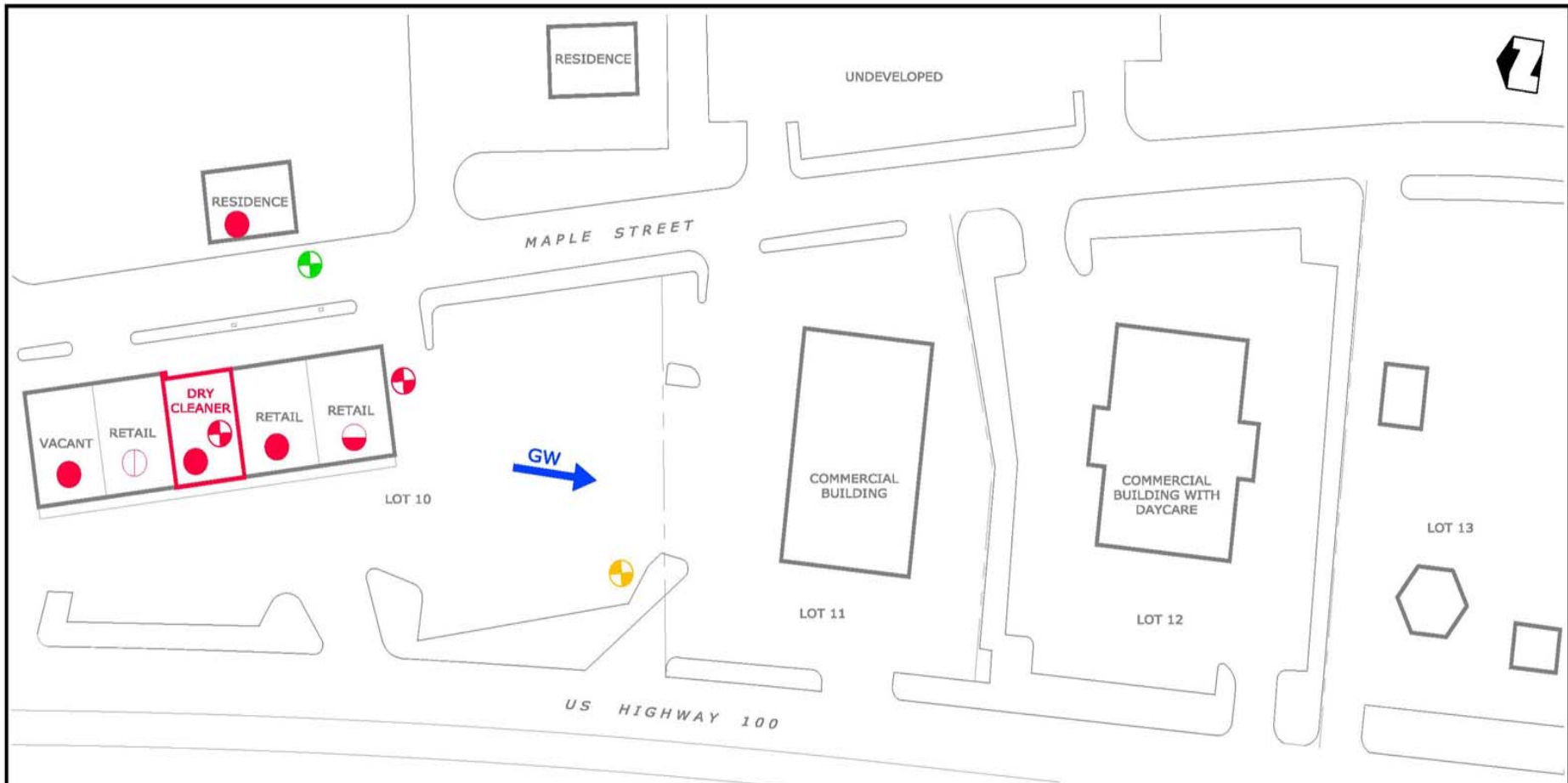
- ⊕ SITE-RELATED COCs BELOW GWQS
- ⊙ SITE-RELATED COCs ABOVE GWQS; BELOW GWSL
- ⊕ SITE-RELATED COCs ABOVE GWSL

0 60 120  
SCALE: 1" = 60'

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# IEC Confirmed

- PCE above Rapid Action Levels (RALs) in several retail and at residence
- Operational considerations for active dry cleaner leasehold
- IEC regulatory/mandatory time frame (RTF/MTF) clock starts at confirmation of VI IEC
- Immediate notification to DEP Hotline and Case Manager (if any) – (IEC RTF)



KEY	
	IA COC ND
	IA COC BELOW IASL
	IA COC BELOW RAL, ABOVE IASL (VC)
	IA COC ABOVE RAL (IEC)

RETAIL

APARTMENTS/RESIDENTIAL

**LEGEND**

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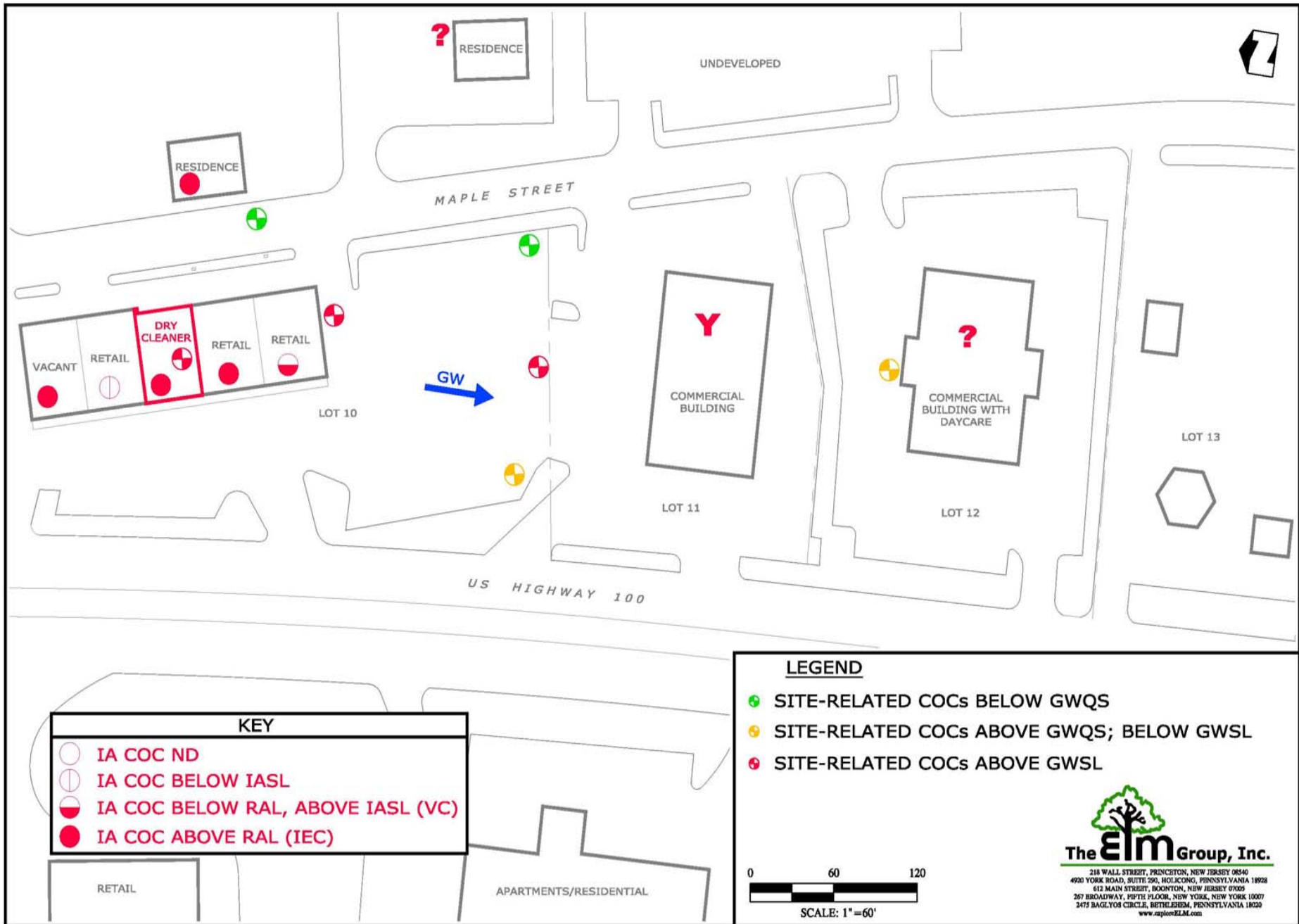
# Interim Response Actions – 14 Days

- Evaluate interim response actions – dry cleaner, retail leaseholds, residence
- Options – air purifier, seal cracks/obvious subsurface pathways, ventilation/HVAC mod.
- Implement interim response actions
- Submit IEC form, info & notifications within 14 days of VI IEC confirmation (IEC RTF)



# Interim Response Actions – 14 Days

- Communicate with DEP IEC Case Manager
- Begin planning of engineered system response action (next IEC RTF)
- Begin planning of additional receptor/site characterization
- Protection of receptors is the primary concern



KEY	
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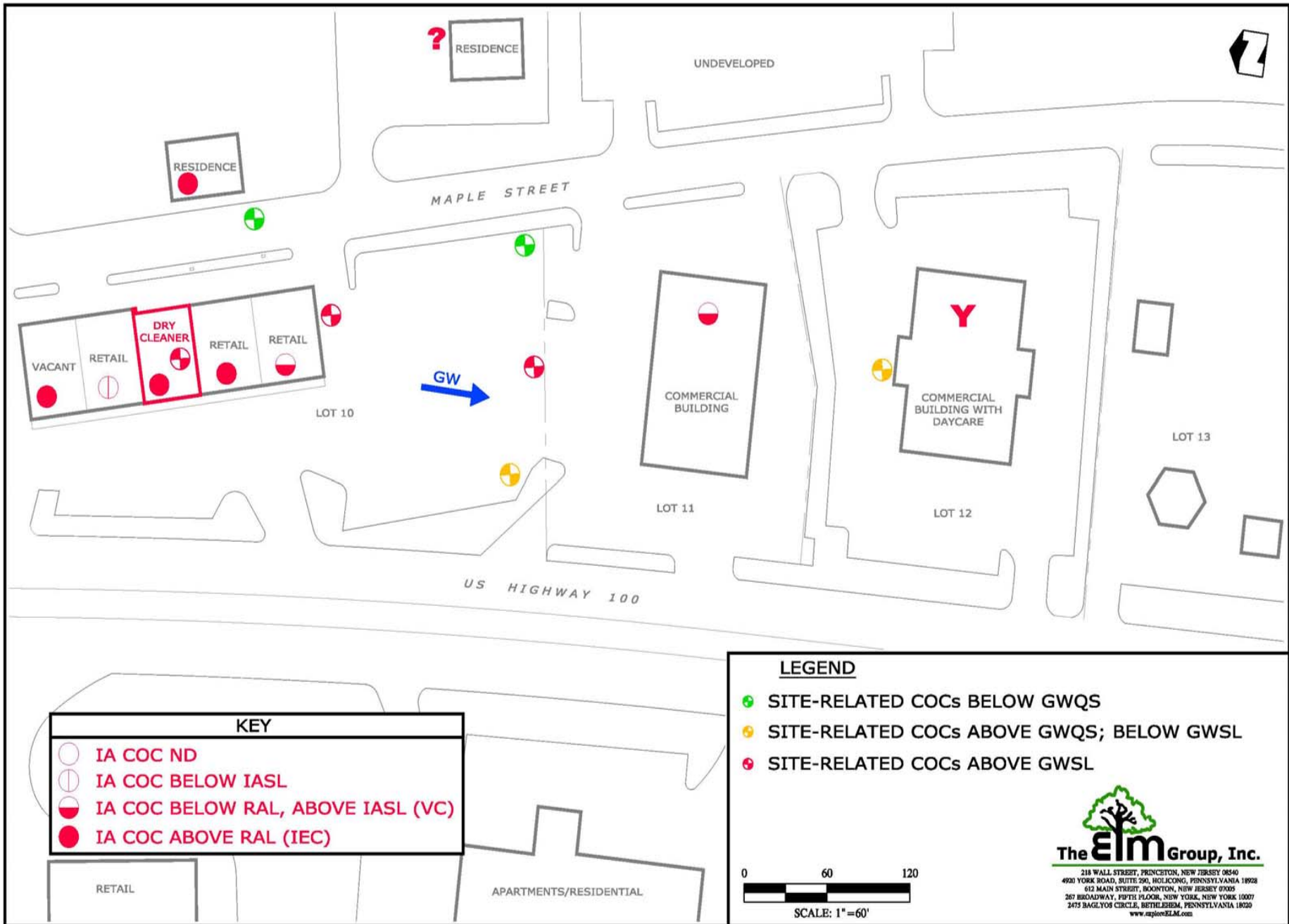
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# Subsequent Phase of VI Investigation – 60 Days

- Additional step out sampling based upon existing data (SS, IA, GW) within 60 days (IEC/Receptor Evaluation RTF)
- Continue with iterative process as needed based upon data & professional judgment
- Goal is to complete VI investigation & relevant components of remedial investigation ASAP

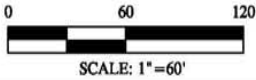
# Subsequent Phase of VI Investigation – 60 Days

- Communicate with DEP IEC Case Manager to eliminate potential non-compliance situation
- Evaluate need for extension requests



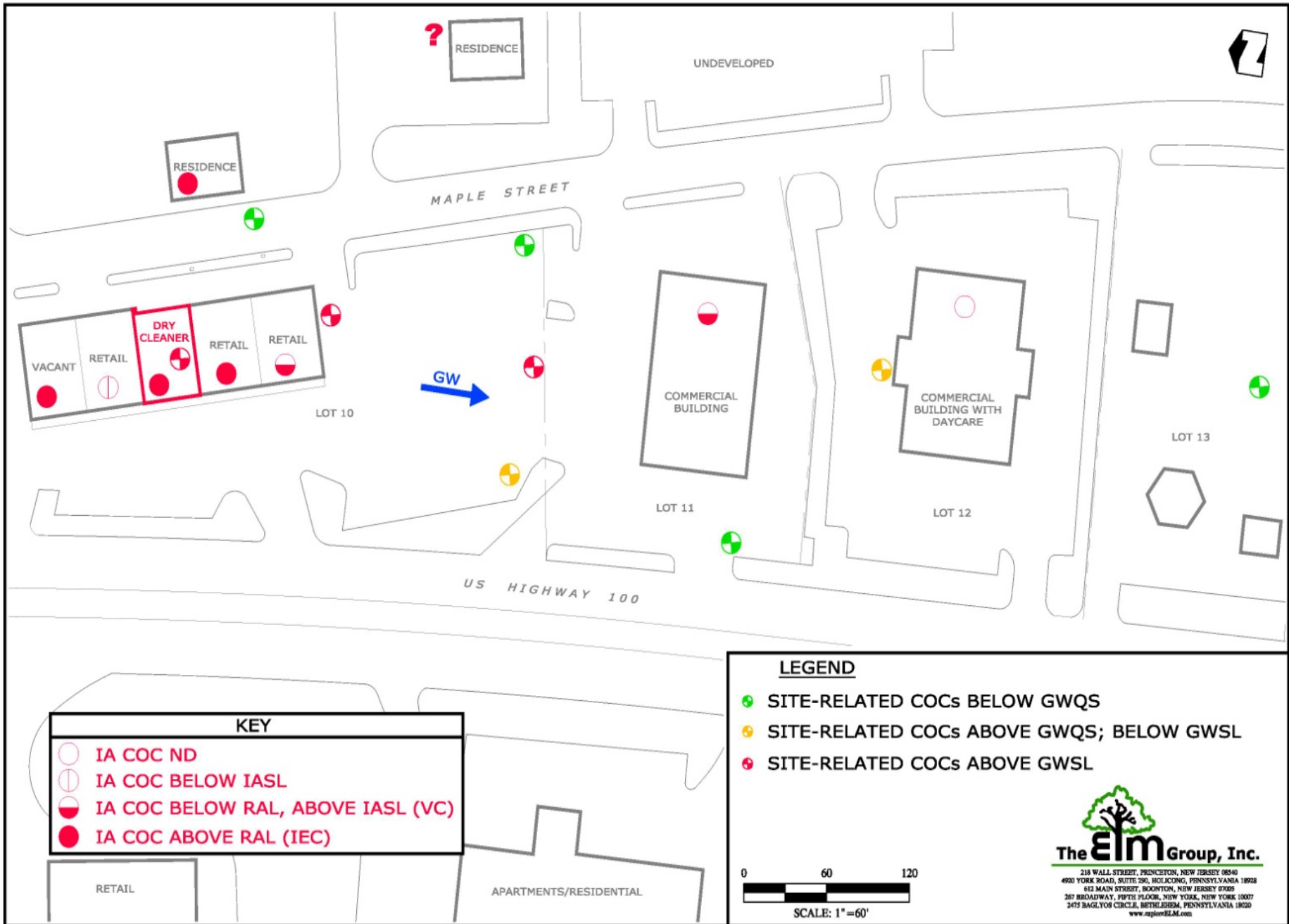
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? RESIDENCE

UNDEVELOPED

RESIDENCE

MAPLE STREET

VACANT  
 RETAIL  
**DRY CLEANER**  
 RETAIL  
 RETAIL

LOT 10

GW

COMMERCIAL BUILDING

LOT 11

COMMERCIAL BUILDING WITH DAYCARE

LOT 12

LOT 13

US HIGHWAY 100

**KEY**

○ IA COC ND  
 ◐ IA COC BELOW IASL  
 ◑ IA COC BELOW RAL, ABOVE IASL (VC)  
 ● IA COC ABOVE RAL (IEC)

RETAIL

APARTMENTS/RESIDENTIAL

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# Engineered System Response Action – 60 Days

- Engineered System Response Action needs to be initiated and form submitted within 60 days of VI IEC confirmation (IEC RTF)
- Multiple IECs and/or VCs will have separate clocks/time frames
- Typically requires prioritization of actions based upon sensitivity of receptors – work with DEP IEC Case Manager to establish extensions to time frames

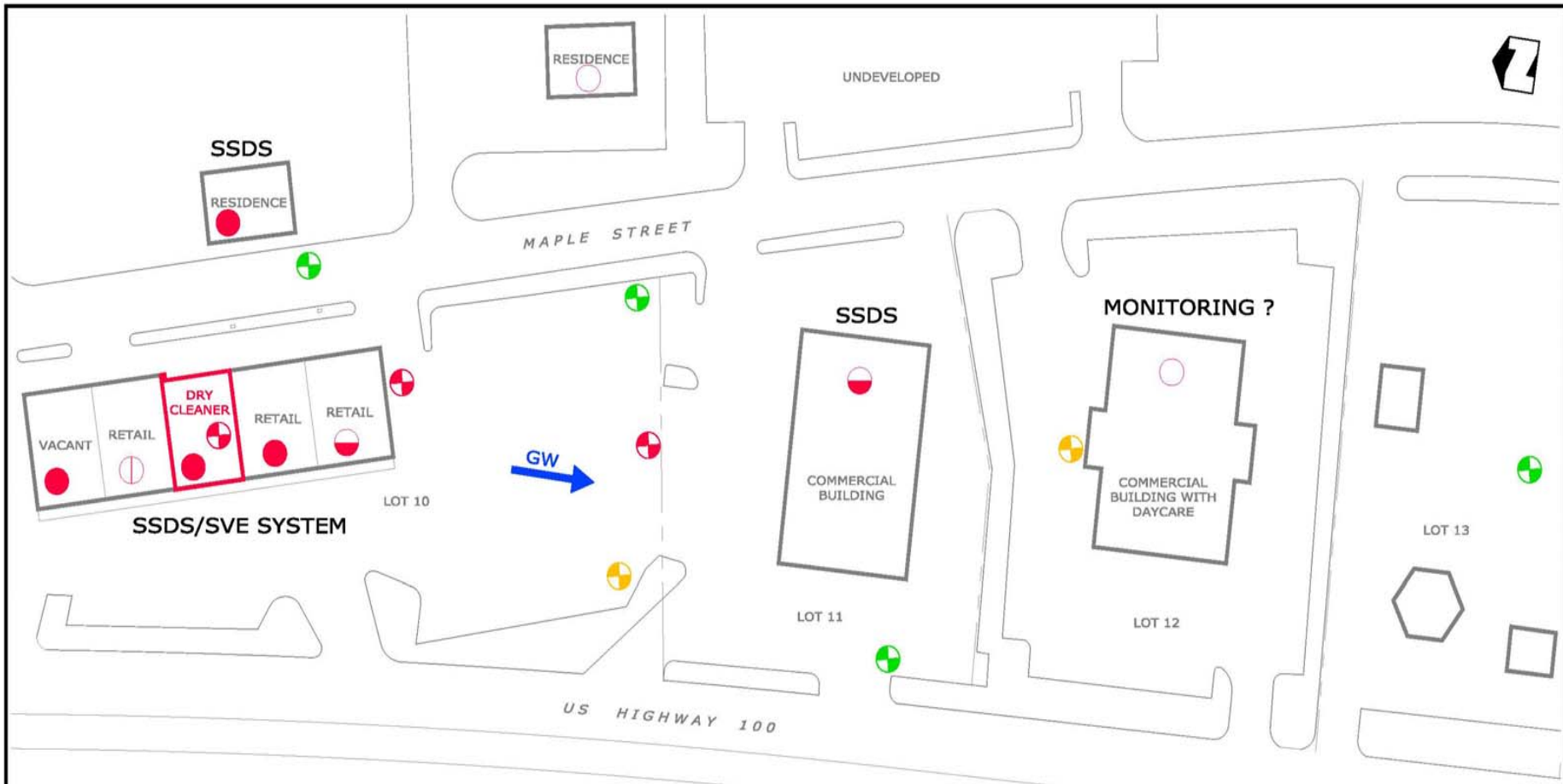
# Engineered System Response Action Report – 120 days

- Updated report, forms, tables and maps must be submitted within 120 days of VI IEC confirmation (IEC RTF)
- If multiple IECs/structures, include all available info/data with initial report, and then provide updates as needed



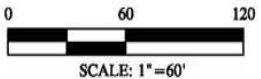
# Engineered System Response Action Report – 120 days

- DEP does not want formal work plans for Engineered System Response Action Reports – **keep it simple**
  - Verbal and email communication
  - Presumption is subsurface depressurization for IEC structures
  - Other “engineered systems” will likely require more detailed DEP IEC Case Manager review/approval



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# Initiation of IEC Source Control – 1 Year

- Initiate control of the IEC contaminant source and submit report and form within 1 year of VI IEC confirmation (IEC RTF with associated mandatory time frame)
- “Source control” not specifically defined
  - Focus/DEP expectation is removal or initiate remediation of gross mass/source material
  - Dissolved phase GW contamination is not part of “source control”
  - Communicate DEP IEC Case Manager to reduce potential for non-compliance
- Establish monitoring and maintenance plan for systems and affected structures

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# QUESTIONS?



# IEC Program Status

Andrew Sites, NJDEP





# IEC Program Status

- 72 LSRP IECs & VCs
- 70 Publicly Funded IECs
- 85% of LSRP cases are VI





# Problems & Misconceptions

- IECs become VCs when levels decrease
- Reporting IEC or VC with no pathway
- Sampling when COC is used in building
- IEC complete after receptor control
- No information submitted with IEC form
- No Receptor Delineation for IECs





# Future Changes

- New Technical Rules for May 2012
- IEC Guidance will be revised for May 2012
- Revised VIG: Expanded Operation, Maintenance & Monitoring







Questions?

