

Direct Technical Mentoring
Environmental Justice League of Rhode Island
(Gorham Site)
Rhode Island

The Environmental Justice League of Rhode Island (EJLRI) raised concerns about the environmental conditions at properties, including a school near the Former Gorham Site in Providence, Rhode Island (Site). At the request of EJLRI, NJIT TAB conducted an independent and impartial analysis of the work that had been conducted at the site, including the site assessment and proposed remediation plans. NJIT TAB participated in meetings with community members, public meetings, and provided a technical review and assessment of air monitoring results collected at the Former Gorham Site.

NJIT TAB reviewed sampling reports of indoor air at the Alvarez High School to determine if contaminants from the Gorham site were impacting the air quality at the school. NJIT TAB concluded that at least one compound (perchloroethylene) was detected in a soil gas sample collected from beneath the school, and that concentrations were increasing over time suggesting that the groundwater contamination



Gorham Site, Providence, RI



from the Gorham site was having an increasing effect on the soil vapor and could affect the indoor air quality at the school if the subslab depressurization systems did not perform optimally. NJIT TAB recommended additional sampling annually. NJIT TAB recommended that all subslab depressurization system problems be identified and remedied as soon as possible, and that the tenants, including school administrators, and regulators should be notified promptly of the conditions.