Background:

The Second and Glenn Site is in a residential area of Wichita, Kansas, bounded by West Street on the west, Central Avenue on the north, Second Street on the south, and Vine Street on the east. The site is bordered by commercial and industrial properties.

A Phase II investigation at another site located at 1812 West Second Street indicated an unrelated release of tetrachloroethylene (PCE) and its degradation products from an upgradient source. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment’s (KDHE’s) Site Assessment Program began fieldwork to determine the source of the PCE release. A Site Reconnaissance and Evaluation (SRE) initiated in October 2000 confirmed the PCE release.

Solution:

In October and November 2001, the Site Assessment Program completed an integrated Preliminary Assessment/Screening Site Inspection (PA/SSI) at the site to determine the threat posed to human health and the environment and to identify a source for the release of PCE.

During the PA/SSI ground water samples were collected from domestic wells, lawn and garden wells, and direct-push sample locations. Analytical results indicated that four residences within the site area were using ground water that exceeded the EPA maximum contaminant level of 5 μg/L. Three of the households were drinking the contaminated water; one household was drinking the water after treatment which removed the PCE, but was using untreated water for cooking and other domestic uses.

Analytical results from the PA/SSI indicated that the former Four Seasons Cleaners located at 646 North Sixth Street was the likely source for the release of PCE to ground water at the site.

KDHE files indicated that the former Four Seasons Cleaners had been accepted into KDHE’s Drycleaner Facility Release Trust Fund in October, 1999. A Phase II Soil and Ground Water Assessment had been performed at the facility in September of 1999, however no fieldwork was performed off site. With the data generated by the PA/SSI in 2001, KDHE’s Drycleaner Facility Release Trust Fund was able to immediately provide drinking water to the four residences that were drinking contaminated ground water.

Benefits:

- Safe drinking water was provided to citizens that had been drinking contaminated ground water.
- An extensive PCE contaminated plume was identified and referred to the Drycleaner Facility Release Trust Fund program to be addressed.
- KDHE’s Voluntary Cleanup and Property Redevelopment Program was able to give the property at 1812 West Second a “No Further Action” status for contamination migrating onto their property.