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## **Informed Consent Statement – Adult and Child Study Participants Rico, Colorado Blood Lead and Environmental Monitoring Study**

You and your family are invited to participate in a blood lead and environmental monitoring study that will evaluate lead exposure in Rico, Colorado. The study is being conducted by Integral Consulting Inc. (Integral), an independent scientific consulting firm, in partnership with the Town of Rico, and is funded by Atlantic Richfield.

### Introduction

Before you agree to participate in this study, which will examine correlations between blood lead data and possible sources of lead in the community, it is important that the following explanation of the proposed procedure be read and understood. It describes the purpose, benefits, risks, and precautions of the study. It also describes the right to withdraw from the study at any time.

Analysis of blood lead samples provides a means of measuring lead exposure; however, it does not indicate the source of exposure nor the potential for health effects. Lead is found naturally in the environment and occasionally in items you come into contact with (e.g., paint, ceramics). Therefore, measurement of blood lead levels of single individuals is considered a screening to determine whether levels exceed normal ranges. Identifying the possible sources of exposure requires a detailed investigation of one's diet, habits and conditions that might be associated with that exposure.

### Purpose of the Study

The objectives of this study are to:

- 1) further characterize current blood lead levels for Rico and collect appropriate environmental samples to identify factors influencing exposures; and
- 2) understand seasonal fluctuations in blood lead levels in order to characterize the potential contribution of the soil contact exposure pathway to blood lead levels.

## AGREEMENT

### Procedures and Risks

If my family and I agree to participate in this study, my child(ren) (if applicable) and I will be asked to do the following:

1. Provide blood samples in the spring (May) and fall (September) of this year.
2. Answer questions designed to help researchers understand my potential lead exposures (e.g., occupational information, recreational habits, etc.)
3. Allow a field researcher to collect samples of house dust and drinking water from my residence
4. Allow a field researcher to analyze the level of lead in my interior and exterior house paint (there will be no damage whatsoever to my paint from this analysis)
5. Allow a field researcher to analyze the level of lead in yard soils outside my residence

I have been told that the blood sample will be measured for lead. A small amount of blood, about 2 mL, will be collected venously from most participants in order to permit measurements of lead and related compounds, such as iron. I know that my child may cry for a moment when blood is drawn from his/her arm. The risk of simple venipuncture include: commonly, the occurrence of discomfort and/or bruise at the site of puncture; and less commonly, the formation of a small blood clot or swelling of the vein and surrounding tissue, and bleeding from the puncture site. For some children, a capillary sample may be

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taken instead of a venous sample. Risks from a capillary sample typically include minor discomfort. If I am a woman and I am or should become pregnant, there is no risk to me or my fetus by participating in the study. Blood samples from me and, if applicable, my child(ren) will be collected once in the spring (May) and again in the fall (September), at my convenience.

Benefits

Two primary benefits arise as a result of my participation in this study. First, I will be notified of the blood lead and environmental sampling results. Second, my participation will also help the researchers better understand the process by which my community is potentially exposed to lead.

Confidentiality

Information regarding my and my child(ren)'s blood lead levels will be kept private and confidential (my and my child's record will be identified by a unique sample code number which will be available only to the study investigators). This personal information will not be made available to anyone not connected with the study without my permission. In the study report prepared by Integral Consulting, the environmental sample results from my home will be associated with a unique sample code number. My address will not be included in the report. My address or other identifiers will not be released to any third party unless compelled by law, and I will be notified if any such release is required. I consent to the inclusion of blood lead and other sample results for my house and yard in the Integral report in association with unique sample code numbers rather than my address. I understand the results from testing of my family members may be utilized in further statistical analysis.

Voluntary Nature of the Study

I am under no obligation to participate in this study. It is my decision as to whether or not my child(ren) and I participate. I am free to withdraw from this study at any time.

Contacts and Questions

I may ask any questions I have now. If I have questions later, I can contact Alma Cardenas, the project manager from Integral Consulting at 206.957.0326.

Statement of Consent

I have read the above information. I have asked or had an opportunity to ask questions and have received answers to my questions. I will be given a copy of this form to keep for my records.

- I own / rent my house in which my family lives at \_\_\_\_\_. (circle one)  
I consent to participate in the study.
- I consent for my child/children to participate in the study.  
Children's Names: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Adult Participant                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature as Parent/Guardian for Child(ren)                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Study Representative                      Date