



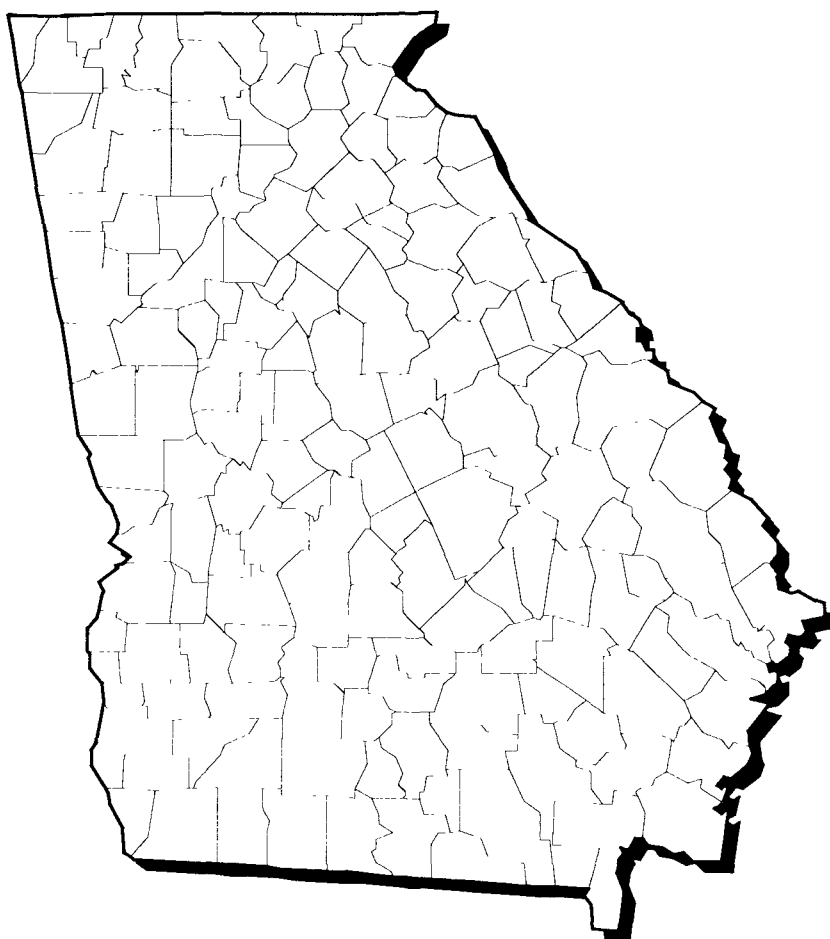
United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Solid Waste And
Emergency Response
(5102 G)

EPA/540/R-93/010
December 1992
PB93-963211

SUPERFUND:

**Progress at
National
Priority
List Sites**



GEORGIA 1992 UPDATE



Printed on Recycled Paper

NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST SITES:
Georgia

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The complete set of the 49 State reports may be ordered as PB93-963250.

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INTRODUCTION

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF SUPERFUND

During the second half of the Twentieth Century, the environmental consequences of more than 100 years of industrialization in the United States became increasingly clear. Authors such as Rachel Carson wrote passionately about the often-hidden environmental effects of our modern society's widespread use of chemicals and other hazardous materials. Their audience was small at first, but gradually their message spread. Growing concern turned to action, as people learned more about the environment and began to act on their knowledge.

The 1970s saw environmental issues burst onto the national scene and take hold in the national consciousness. The first Earth Day was observed in 1970, the year that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was founded. By the end of the 1970s, Love Canal in New York and the Valley of the Drums in



Kentucky had entered the popular lexicon as synonyms for pollution and environmental degradation.

Superfund Is Established

The industrialization that gave Americans the world's highest standard of living also created problems that only a national program could address. By 1980, the U.S. Congress had passed numerous environmental laws, implemented by the EPA, but many serious hazardous waste problems were slipping through the cracks.

Responding to growing concern about public health and environmental threats from uncontrolled releases of hazardous materials, the U.S. Congress passed the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Popularly known as Superfund, CERCLA had one seemingly simple job—to uncover and clean up hazardous materials spills and contaminated sites.

A Big Job

Few in Congress, the EPA, the environmental community, or the general public knew in 1980 just how big the nation's hazardous materials problem is. Almost everyone thought that Superfund would be a short-lived program requiring relatively few resources to clean up at most a few hundred sites. They were quite mistaken.

As the EPA set to work finding sites and gauging their potential to harm people and the environment, the number of sites grew. Each discovery seemed to lead to another, and today almost 36,000 hazardous waste sites have been investigated as potential hazardous waste sites. They are catalogued in the EPA's computerized database, CERCLIS (for the Comprehensive Environmental Re-

INTRODUCTION

sponse, Compensation, and Liability Information System).

The damage to public health and the environment that each site in CERCLIS might cause is evaluated; many sites have been referred to State and local governments for cleanup. The EPA lists the nation's most serious hazardous waste sites on the National Priorities List, or NPL. (These Superfund sites are eligible for federally-funded cleanup, but whenever possible the EPA makes polluters pay for the contamination they helped create.) The NPL now numbers 1,275 sites, with 50 to 100 added each year. By the end of the century, the NPL may reach as many as 2,100 sites.

Superfund faces some of the most complex pollution problems ever encountered by an environmental program. Improperly stored or disposed chemicals and the soil they contaminate are one concern. More difficult to correct are the wetlands and bays, and the groundwater, lakes, and rivers often used for drinking water that are contaminated by chemicals spreading through the soil or mixing with

storm water runoff. Toxic vapors contaminate the air at some sites, threatening the health of people living and working near by.

Superfund aims to control immediate public health and environmental threats by tackling the worst problems at the worst sites first. Wherever possible, Superfund officials use innovative treatment techniques—many developed or refined by the EPA—to correct hazardous materials problems once and for all. Many of the treatment techniques they use did not exist when the program was created.

The EPA Administrator had challenged Superfund to complete construction necessary for cleanup work at 130 NPL sites by the end of the 1992 federal fiscal year. By September 30, 1992, the end of fiscal year 1992, construction had been completed at a total of 149 NPL sites. Superfund is well on its way of meeting the Administrator's goal of completing construction at 200 NPL sites by the end of fiscal year 1993, and 650 sites by the end of fiscal year 2000.

Quick Cleanup at Non-NPL Sites

Long-standing hazardous waste sites are not Superfund's only concern. The EPA also responds to hazardous spills and other emergencies, hauling away chemicals for proper treatment or disposal. Superfund teams perform or supervise responses at rail and motor vehicle accidents, fires, and other emergencies involving hazardous substances. They also evacuate people living and working near by, if necessary, and provide clean drinking water to people whose own water is contaminated. Removal crews also post warning signs and take other precautions to keep people and animals away from hazardous substances.



Superfund employee prepares equipment for groundwater treatment.

INTRODUCTION

Quick Cleanups, or Removals, are not limited to emergencies. When cleanup crews at contaminated sites find hazardous substances that immediately threaten people or the environment, they act right away to reduce the threat or to remove the chemicals outright. As the EPA implements the Superfund Accelerated Cleanup Model (SACM), more and more sites will undergo quick cleanups, and many of these will be cleaned up completely without ever being included on the NPL. (See "Streamlining Superfund: The Superfund Accelerated Cleanup Model.")

Some of Superfund's most significant gains in public health and environmental protection have been won by the removal program. As of March 31, 1992, the Emergency Response



Superfund employee removing drums from a Superfund site.

Program had logged more than 2,300 removal completions since Superfund was established.

The Public's Role

Superfund is unique among federal programs in its commitment to citizen participation. Although the EPA is responsible for determining how dangerous a site is and how best to clean it up, the Agency relies on citizen input as it makes these decisions.

Community residents are often invaluable sources of information about a hazardous waste site, its current and previous owners, and the activities that took place there. Such information can be crucial to experts evaluating a site and its potential dangers.

Residents also comment on EPA cleanup plans by stating their concerns and preferences at public meetings and other forums and in formal, written comments to Agency proposals. The EPA takes these comments and concerns seriously, and has modified many proposals in response to local concerns. For, ultimately, it is the community and its citizens that will live with the results of the EPA's decisions and actions; it is only fair that citizens participate in the process.

A Commitment to Communication

The Superfund program is very serious about public outreach and communication. Community relations coordinators are assigned to each NPL site to help the public understand the potential hazards present, as well as the cleanup alternatives. Local information repositories, such as libraries or other public buildings, have been established near each NPL site to ensure that the public has an opportunity to review all relevant information and the proposed cleanup plans.

The individual State volumes contain summary fact sheets on NPL sites in each State and territory. Together, the fact sheets provide a concise report on site conditions and the progress made toward site cleanups as of March 1992. The EPA revises these volumes periodically to provide an up-to-date record of program activities. A glossary of key terms relating to hazardous waste management and Superfund site cleanup is provided at the back of this book.

INTRODUCTION

Superfund is, of course, a public program, and as such it belongs to everyone of us. This volume, along with other State volumes, comprises the EPA's report on Superfund progress to the program's owners for the year 1992.

STREAMLINING SUPERFUND: THE SUPERFUND ACCELERATED CLEANUP MODEL

Historically, critics and supporters alike have measured Superfund's progress by the number of hazardous waste sites deleted from the NPL. Although easy enough to tally, this approach is too narrow. It misses the major gains Superfund makes by reducing major risks at the nation's worst hazardous sites long before all clean-up work is done and the site deleted. It also ignores the Removal Program's contributions to meeting Superfund's twin mandates of maximizing public health and environmental protection.

Renewing Superfund's commitment to rapid protection from hazardous materials, the EPA is streamlining the program. The Superfund Accelerated Cleanup Model, or SACM, will take Early Actions, such as removing hazardous wastes or contaminated materials, while experts study the site. SACM also will combine similar site studies to reduce the time required to evaluate a site and its threats to people and the environment. This way, immediate public health and environmental threats will be addressed while long-term cleanups are being planned.

Emergencies such as train derailments and motor vehicle accidents will continue to be handled expeditiously. Teams of highly trained technicians will swing into action right away, coordinating the cleanup and removal of hazardous substances to ensure public safety as quickly as possible.

Breaking With Tradition

The traditional Superfund process begins with a lengthy phase of study and site assessment, but SACM will save time by combining separate, yet similar, activities. Each EPA Region will form a Decision Team of site managers,

risk assessors, community relations coordinators, lawyers, and other experts to monitor the studies and quickly determine whether a site requires Early Action (taking less than five years), Long-term Action, or both.

While the site studies continue, the Decision Team will begin the short-term work required to correct immediate public health or environmental threats from the site. Besides removing hazardous materials, Early Actions include taking precautions to keep contaminants from moving off the site and restricting access to the site. Early Actions could eliminate most human risk from these sites, and Superfund will further focus its public participation and public information activities on site assessment and Early Action.

Long-Term Solutions

While Early Actions can correct many hazardous waste problems—and provide the bulk of public health and environmental protection—some contamination will take longer to correct. Cleanups of mining sites, wetlands, estuaries, and projects involving incineration of contaminants or restoration of groundwater can take far longer than the three to five years envisioned for Early Actions. Under SACM, these sites will be handled much as they are now.

Also under SACM, the EPA will continue its pursuit of potentially responsible parties who may have caused or contributed to site contamination. Expedited enforcement and procedures for negotiating potentially responsible party settlements will secure their participation. Superfund personnel will continue to oversee clean-up work performed by potentially responsible parties.

INTRODUCTION

HOW SUPERFUND WORKS

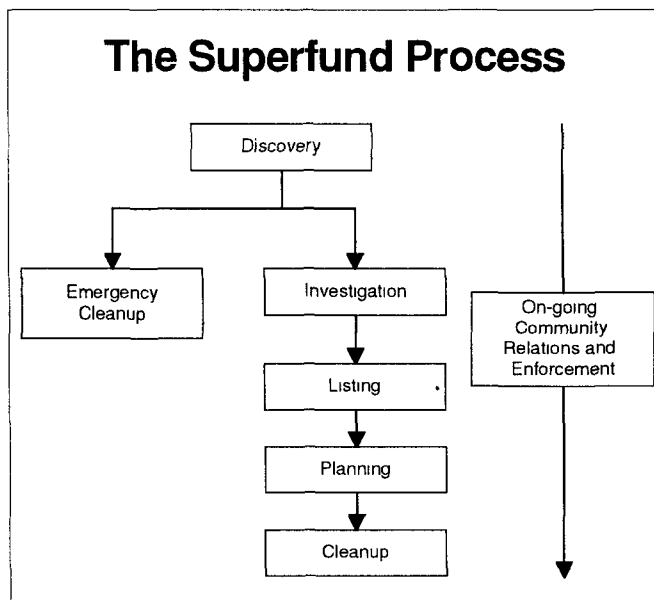
Each Superfund site presents a different set of complex problems. The same hazardous materials and chemicals often contaminate many sites, but the details of each site are different. Almost always, soil is contaminated with one or more chemicals. Their vapors may taint the air over and around the site. Contaminants may travel through the soil and reach underground aquifers which may be used for drinking water, or they may spread over the site to contaminate streams, ponds, and wetlands. The contaminating chemicals may interact with each other, presenting even more complicated cleanup problems.

Superfund's cleanup process is arduous and exacting. It requires the best efforts of hundreds of experts in science and engineering, public health, administration and management, law, and many other fields.

The average NPL site takes from seven to ten years to work its way through the system, from discovery to the start of long-term cleanup. Actual cleanup work can take years, decades if contaminated groundwater must be treated. Of course, imminent threats to public health or the environment are corrected right away.

The diagram to the right presents a simplified view of the cleanup process. The major steps in the Superfund process are:

- Detailed studies to determine whether conditions are serious enough to add the site to the National Priorities List of sites eligible for federally funded cleanup under Superfund;
 - Selection, design, and implementation of a cleanup plan, after a thorough review of the most effective cleanup options, given site conditions, contaminants present, and their potential threat to public health or the environment.
 - Follow-up to ensure that the cleanup work done at the site continues to be effective over the long term.
- Site discovery and investigation to identify contaminants and determine whether emergency action is required;
- Emergency site work such as removing contaminants for proper treatment or disposal, and securing the site to keep people and animals away, if warranted by conditions at the site;
- Site evaluation to determine how people living and working nearby, and the environment, may be exposed to site contaminants;



From the earliest stages, EPA investigators work hard to identify those responsible for the contamination. As their responsibility is established, the EPA negotiates with these “responsible parties” to pay for cleaning up the problem they helped create. This “enforcement first” policy saves Superfund Trust Fund monies for use in cleanups where the responsible parties cannot be identified, or where they are unable to fund cleanup work.

THE VOLUME

How to Use the State Book

The site fact sheets presented in this book are comprehensive summaries that cover a broad range of information. The fact sheets describe hazardous waste sites on the NPL and their locations, as well as the conditions leading to their listing ("Site Description"). The summaries list the types of contaminants that have been discovered and related threats to public and ecological health ("Threats and Contaminants"). "Cleanup Approach" presents an overview of the cleanup activities completed, underway, or planned. The fact sheets conclude with a brief synopsis of how much progress has been made in protecting public health and the environment. The summaries also pinpoint other actions, such as

legal efforts to involve polluters responsible for site contamination and community concerns.

The fact sheets are arranged in alphabetical order by site name. Because site cleanup is a dynamic and gradual process, all site information is accurate as of the date shown on the bottom of each page. Progress always is being made at NPL sites, and the EPA periodically will update the site fact sheets to reflect recent actions and will publish updated State volumes. The following two pages show a generic fact sheet and briefly describe the information under each section.

How Can You Use This State Book?

You can use this book to keep informed about the sites that concern you, particularly ones close to home. The EPA is committed to involving the public in the decision making process associated with hazardous waste cleanup. The Agency solicits input from area residents in communities affected by Superfund sites. Citizens are likely to be affected not only by hazardous site conditions, but also by the remedies that combat them. Site cleanups take many forms and can affect communities in different ways. Local traffic may be rerouted, residents may be relocated, temporary water supplies may be necessary.

Definitive information on a site can help citizens sift through alternatives and make decisions. To make good choices, you must know what the threats are and how the EPA

intends to clean up the site. You must understand the cleanup alternatives being proposed for site cleanup and how residents may be affected by each one. You also need to have some idea of how your community intends to use the site in the future, and you need to know what the community can realistically expect once the cleanup is complete.

The EPA wants to develop cleanup methods that meet community needs, but the Agency only can take local concerns into account if it understands what they are. Information must travel both ways in order for cleanups to be effective and satisfactory. Please take this opportunity to learn more, become involved, and assure that hazardous waste cleanup at "your" site considers your community's concerns.

THE VOLUME

SITE NAME		EPA REGION XX
STATE	COUNTY NAME	LOCATION
EPA ID# ABC0000000		Other Names:
Site Description		A
Site Responsibility:		NPL Listing History
Threats and Contaminants		B
Cleanup Approach		C
Response Action Status		D
Site Facts:		E
Environmental Progress		
Site Repository		

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Provides the dates when the site was Proposed, made Final, and Deleted from the NPL.

SITE RESPONSIBILITY
Identifies the Federal, State, and/or potentially responsible parties taking responsibility for cleanup actions at the site.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS
Summarizes the actions to reduce the threats to nearby residents and the surrounding environment and the progress towards cleaning up the site.

SITE REPOSITORY
Lists the location of the primary site repository. The site repository may include community relations plans, public meeting announcements and minutes, fact sheets, press releases, and other site-related documents.

A**SITE DESCRIPTION**

This section describes the location and history of the site. It includes descriptions of the most recent activities and past actions at the site that have contributed to the contamination. Population estimates, land usages, and nearby resources give readers background on the local setting surrounding the site.

B**THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS**

The major chemical categories of site contamination are noted, as well as which environmental resources are affected. Icons representing each of the affected resources (may include air, groundwater, surface water, soil, and contamination to environmentally sensitive areas) are included in the margins of this section. Potential threats to residents and the surrounding environments arising from the site contamination also are described.

C**CLEANUP APPROACH**

This section contains a brief overview of how the site is being cleaned up.

D**RESPONSE ACTION STATUS**

Specific actions that have been accomplished or will be undertaken to clean up the site are described here. Cleanup activities at NPL sites are divided into separate phases, depending on the complexity and required actions at the site. Two major types of cleanup activities often are described: initial, immediate, or emergency actions to quickly remove or reduce imminent threats to the community and surrounding areas; and long-term remedial phases directed at final cleanup at the site. Each stage of the cleanup strategy is presented in this section of the summary. Icons representing the stage of the cleanup process (initial actions, site investigations, EPA selection of the cleanup remedy, engineering design phase, cleanup activities underway, and completed cleanup) are located in the margin next to each activity description.

E**SITE FACTS**

Additional information on activities and events at the site are included in this section. Often details on legal or administrative actions taken by the EPA to achieve site cleanup or other facts pertaining to community involvement with the site cleanup process are reported here.

THE VOLUME

The “icons,” or symbols, accompanying the text allow the reader to see at a glance which environmental resources are affected and the status of cleanup activities at the site.

Icons in the Threats and Contaminants Section



Contaminated *Groundwater* resources in the vicinity or underlying the site. (Groundwater is often used as a drinking water source.)



Contaminated *Surface Water and Sediments* on or near the site. (These include lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers.)



Contaminated *Air* in the vicinity of the site. (Air pollution usually is periodic and involves contaminated dust particles or hazardous gas emissions.)



Contaminated *Soil and Sludges* on or near the site. (This contamination category may include bulk or other surface hazardous wastes found on the site.)



Threatened or contaminated *Environmentally Sensitive Areas* in the vicinity of the site. (Examples include wetlands and coastal areas or critical habitats.)

Icons in the Response Action Status Section



Initial, Immediate, or Emergency Actions have been taken or are underway to eliminate immediate threats at the site.



Site Studies at the site to determine the nature and extent of contamination are planned or underway.



Remedy Selected indicates that site investigations have been concluded, and the EPA has selected a final cleanup remedy for the site or part of the site.



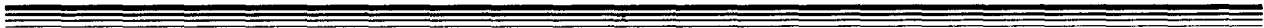
Remedy Design means that engineers are preparing specifications and drawings for the selected cleanup technologies.



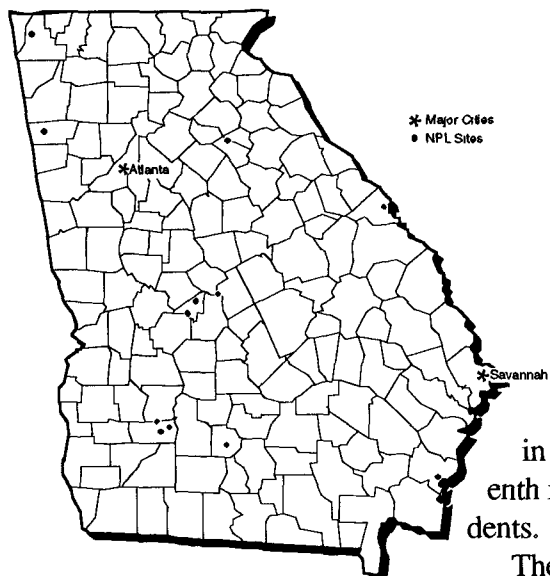
Cleanup Ongoing indicates that the selected cleanup remedies for the contaminated site, or part of the site, currently are underway.



Cleanup Complete shows that all cleanup goals have been achieved for the contaminated site or part of the site.



A SUMMARY OF THE STATE PROGRAM



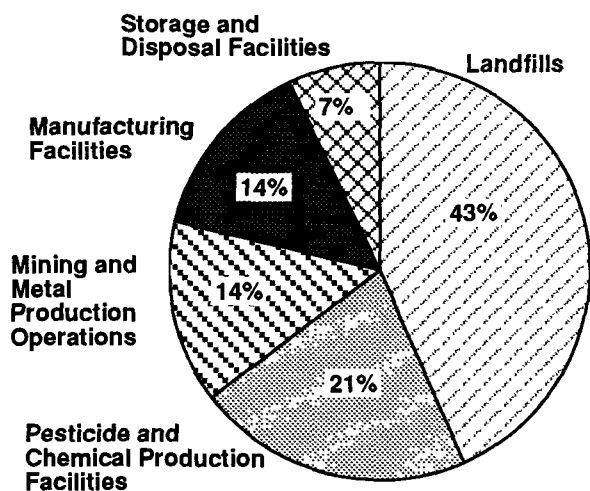
Superfund Activities in Georgia

The State of Georgia is located within EPA Region 4, which includes the eight southeastern States. The State covers 58,910 square miles. According to the 1990 Census, Georgia experienced a 19 percent increase in population between 1980 and 1990, and is ranked eleventh in U.S. population with approximately 6,478,000 residents.

The Georgia Hazardous Waste Management Act of 1979, amended in 1990, is the primary authority used by the State to compel cleanup activity at Superfund sites. This statute allows the State either to authorize cleanup activities or make hazardous waste generators, transporters, and owners or operators linked to site contamination liable for cleanup activities or costs. Both the statute and the program are primarily regulatory. In practice, the State is required to seek an agreement with polluters prior to using its enforcement authorities to compel polluters to take responsibility for cleanup. This statute also created the Hazardous Waste Trust Fund, which is used to fund the 10 percent contribution required by the Federal Superfund program and the cleanup of environmental problems related to hazardous waste; it may not be used for normal operating expenses. Public participation requirements in the cleanup decision-making process were increased when the statute was amended in 1990. Currently, 13 sites in the State of Georgia have been listed as final on the NPL; one has been deleted. No new sites have been proposed for listing in 1992.

The Department of Natural Resources implements the Superfund Program in the State of Georgia

Activities responsible for hazardous waste contamination in the State of Georgia include:



Facts about the 14 NPL sites in Georgia:



Immediate Actions (such as removing hazardous substances or restricting site access) were performed at eight sites.



Four sites endanger sensitive environments.

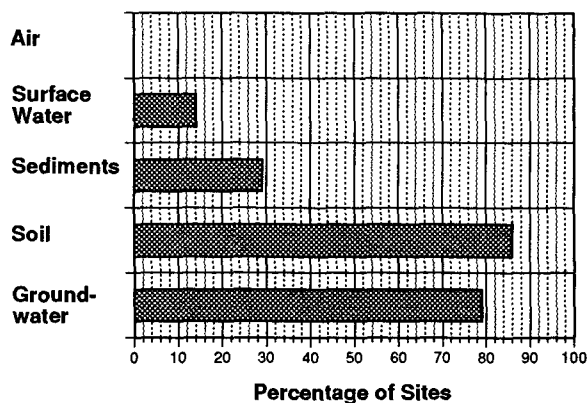


Eleven sites are located near residential areas.

GEORGIA

Most Sites Have Multiple Contaminants and Contaminated Media:

Media Contaminated at Sites



Contaminants Found at Sites

Percentage of Sites	
Heavy Metals	57%
Pesticides/Herbicides	57%
VOCs	43%
PCBs	14%
Radiation	7%

The Potentially Responsible Party Pays...

In the State of Georgia, potentially responsible parties are paying for or conducting cleanup activities at 11 sites.

For Further Information on NPL Sites and Hazardous Waste Programs in the State of Georgia Please Contact:

☎ EPA Region 4 Public Affairs Office	For information concerning community involvement	(404) 347-3004
☎ National Response Center	To report a hazardous waste emergency	(800) 424-8802
☎ The Department of Natural Resources: Environmental Protection Division, Hazardous Waste Management Branch	For information about the State's responsibility in the Superfund Program	(404) 656-2833
☎ EPA Region 4 Waste Management Division	For information about the Regional Superfund Program	(404) 347-5065
☎ EPA Superfund Hotline	For information about the Federal Superfund Program	(800) 424-9068

THE NPL REPORT

PROGRESS TO DATE

The following Progress Report lists all sites currently on, or deleted from, the NPL and briefly summarizes the status of activities for each site at the time this report was prepared. The steps in the Superfund cleanup process are arrayed across the top of the chart, and each site's progress through these steps is represented by an arrow (⇒) indicating the current stage of cleanup.

Large and complex sites often are organized into several cleanup stages. For example, separate cleanup efforts may be required to address the source of the contamination, hazardous substances in the groundwater, and surface water pollution, or to clean up different areas of a large site. In such cases, the chart portrays cleanup progress at the site's *most advanced* stage, reflecting the status of site activities rather than administrative accomplishments.

- ⇒ An arrow in the "Initial Response" category indicates that an emergency cleanup, immediate action, or initial action has been completed or currently is underway. Emergency or initial actions are taken as an interim measure to provide immediate relief from exposure to hazardous site conditions or to stabilize a site to prevent further contamination.
- ⇒ A final arrow in the "Site Studies" category indicates that an investigation to determine the nature and extent of the contamination at the site currently is ongoing or planned.
- ⇒ A final arrow in the "Remedy Selection" category means that the EPA has selected the final cleanup strategy for the site. At the few sites where the EPA has

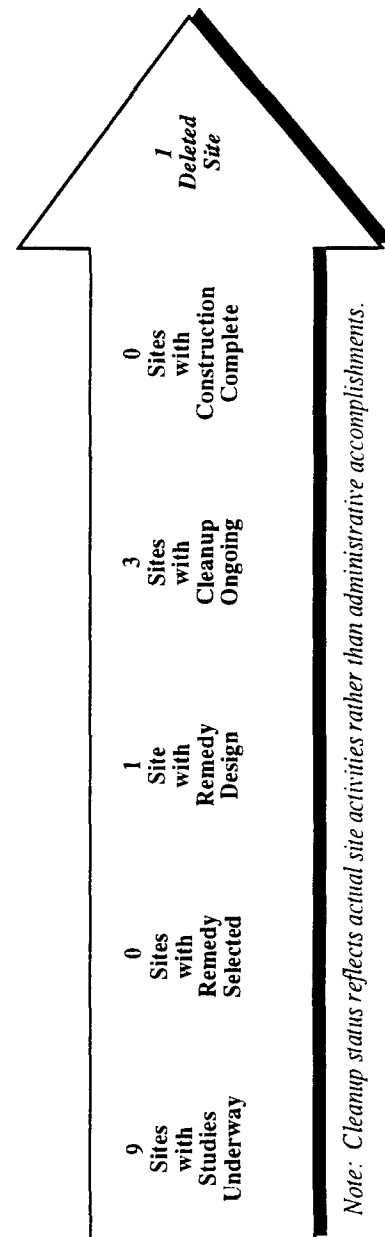
determined that initial response actions have eliminated site contamination, or that any remaining contamination will be naturally dispersed without further cleanup activities, a "No Action" remedy has been selected. In these cases, the arrows are discontinued at the "Remedy Selection" step and resume in the "Construction Complete" category.

- ⇒ A final arrow at the "Remedial Design" stage indicates that engineers currently are designing the technical specifications for the selected cleanup remedies and technologies.
- ⇒ A final arrow in the "Cleanup Ongoing" column means that final cleanup actions have been started at the site and currently are underway.
- ⇒ A final arrow in the "Construction Complete" category is used only when all phases of the site cleanup plan have been performed, and the EPA has determined that no additional construction actions are required at the site. Some sites in this category currently may be undergoing long-term operation and maintenance or monitoring to ensure that the cleanup actions continue to protect human health and the environment.
- ✓ A check in the "Deleted" category indicates that the site cleanup has met all human health and environmental goals and that the EPA has deleted the site from the NPL.

Further information on the activities and progress at each site is given in the site "Fact Sheets" published in this volume.

Progress Toward Cleanup at NPL Sites in the State of Georgia

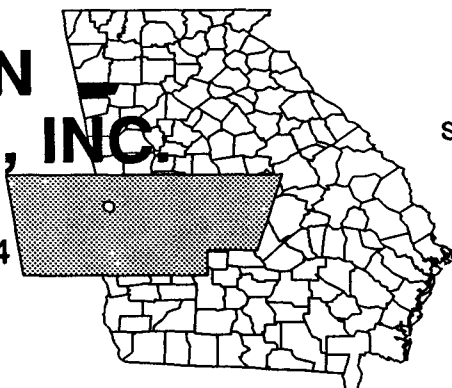
Site Name	County	NPL	Date	Initial Response	Site Studies	Remedy Selected	Remedy Design	Cleanup Ongoing	Construction Complete	Deleted
CEDARTOWN INDUSTRIES, INC.	POLK	Final	02/21/90	⇨	⇨					
CEDARTOWN MUNICIPAL LANDFILL	POLK	Final	03/31/89		⇨					
DIAMOND SHAMROCK CORP. LDFL	POLK	Final	08/30/90	⇨	⇨					
FIRESTONE TIRE AND RUBBER CO. (ALBANY PLANT)	DOUGHERTY	Final	10/04/89		⇨					
HERCULES 009 LANDFILL	GLYNN	Final	09/21/84		⇨	⇨	⇨	⇨		
LUMINOUS PROCESSES	CLARKE	Deleted	12/30/82	⇨					⇨	✓
MARINE CORP LOGISTICS BASE	DOUGHERTY	Final	11/21/89	⇨	⇨					
MARZONE INC./CHEVRON CHEM. CO.	TIFT	Final	10/04/89	⇨	⇨					
MATHIS BROTHERS LANDFILL (S. MARBLE TOP RD)	WALKER	Final	03/31/89		⇨					
MONSANTO CORP. (AUGUSTA PLANT)	RICHMOND	Final	09/24/84	⇨	⇨	⇨	⇨	⇨		
POWERSVILLE SITE	PEACH	Final	09/21/84		⇨	⇨	⇨	⇨		
ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE (LANDFILL #4/ SLUDGE LAGOON	HOUSTON	Final	07/22/87		⇨	⇨	⇨	⇨		
T. H. AGRICULTURE & NUTRITION CO. (ALBANY PLANT)	DOUGHERTY	Final	03/31/89	⇨	⇨					
WOOLFOLK CHEMICAL WORKS, INC.	PEACH	Final	08/30/90	⇨	⇨					



Note: Cleanup status reflects actual site activities rather than administrative accomplishments.

CEDARTOWN INDUSTRIES, INC. GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD095840674



EPA REGION 4

Polk County
Southwest section of Cedartown

Site Description

The Cedartown Industries, Inc. site covers 7 acres in the southwestern section of Cedartown. Originally, the site was the location of a foundry and machine shop. From 1978 to 1980, Cedartown Industries operated a secondary lead smelter with lead from discarded automobile batteries that were stored on the site. In 1980, the company sold the property to H & W Transfer Co., which parks and repairs its vehicles on a portion of the site. Remaining on site when Cedartown Industries ceased operations were an uncovered pile containing 5,000 cubic yards of slag and flue dust from the smelting operations and a 32,000-gallon lined surface impoundment. The Newala Limestone Formation underlies the site. It contains an aquifer which feeds a large spring that is the sole source of water for Cedartown's water system. This spring and a well that supplies the Polk County water system are both within 3 miles of the site and provide drinking water to an estimated 25,700 people. The site is adjacent to Cedar Creek, which is used for fishing and other recreational activities.

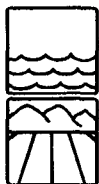
Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 06/24/88

Final Date: 02/21/90

Threats and Contaminants



The sediments in the impoundment and the soil around the slag pile were contaminated with lead from former site operations. People on the site could have been exposed to lead by touching or accidentally ingesting contaminated soil.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: initial actions and a single long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Initial Actions: Under a 1990 Administrative Order, the contaminated slag pile was removed. Approximately 8,250 tons of contaminated soil were excavated and sent to an approved hazardous waste landfill for disposal.



Entire Site: A study by the parties potentially responsible for the site contamination began in 1990. This study, to be completed in 1992, will determine the extent of contamination and will identify alternative technologies for the cleanup.

Site Facts: Negotiations have been completed, and the Consent Order was signed with five potentially responsible parties requiring them to study the nature and extent of the contamination and to identify alternative technologies for cleanup.

Environmental Progress



After adding the Cedartown Industries site to the NPL, the EPA determined that the site currently does not pose an immediate threat to the public or the environment while further studies leading to the selection of the best alternatives for permanent cleanup are taking place.

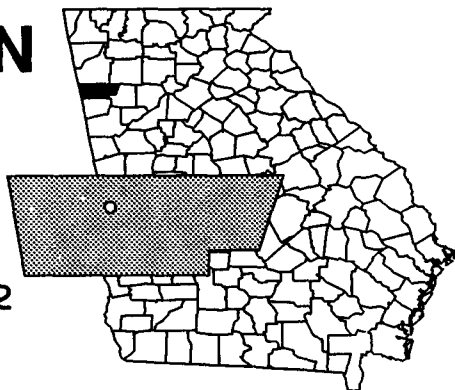
Site Repository



Cedartown Public Library, 245 East Avenue, Cedartown, GA 30125

CEDARTOWN MUNICIPAL LANDFILL GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD980495402



EPA REGION 4

Polk County
Cedartown

Site Description

The Cedartown Municipal Landfill covers approximately 130 acres just outside of Cedartown. The area was an abandoned iron ore mine before it was used as a municipal landfill by the City of Cedartown from the early 1960s until late in 1980. The City owns the land and had a permit from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division to operate it as a sanitary landfill, accepting industrial wastes from local industries. According to the City, the landfill was covered with soil after it was closed in 1981. The City periodically stockpiles construction rubble and soil on the site and uses it for fill material for other areas. Cedartown Spring, is located approximately 1 1/2 miles from the site and serves as a water supply source for approximately 8,600 Cedartown residents. The Knox and Newala Geologic Formations are within 3 miles of the site and provide drinking water to the 25,000 residents of Polk County.

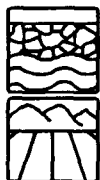
Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 06/24/88

Final Date: 03/31/89

Threats and Contaminants



On-site groundwater and soils are contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including benzene and toluene from former waste disposal activities. Site contamination poses a risk to individuals who accidentally ingest or make direct contact with the contaminated groundwater or soils.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in a single long-term remedial phase directed at cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Entire Site: The parties potentially responsible for the site contamination began a study in 1990 to determine the extent of contamination at the site and to identify alternative technologies for the cleanup. Upon completion of the study in 1992, the EPA will evaluate the findings and select the final cleanup strategy for contamination.

Site Facts: Negotiations are complete, and a Consent Order was signed on March 30, 1990 with 15 parties potentially responsible for site contamination requiring them to conduct a study of the nature and extent of contamination.

Environmental Progress



After adding the Cedartown Municipal Landfill site to the NPL, the EPA conducted preliminary investigations and determined that the site does not pose an immediate threat to the surrounding community or the environment while studies leading to the selection of the best alternatives for permanent cleanup are taking place.

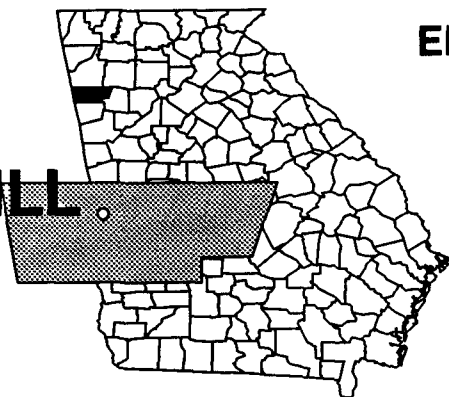
Site Repository



Cedartown Public Library, 245 East Avenue, Cedartown, GA 30125

DIAMOND SHAMROCK CORP. LANDFILL GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD990741092



EPA REGION 4

Polk County
Cedartown

Site Description

The Diamond Shamrock Corp. Landfill site is less than 1 acre in size and is located at the intersection of West Avenue and 10th Street in Cedartown. Between 1972 and 1977, the company buried drummed and bulk waste in five trenches approximately 6-foot deep at the landfill. According to the company, the waste included fungicides, amides, oil, oil sludges, esters, alcohols, and metallic salts. The unlined trenches are located in an area of permeable soils within the flood plain of Cedar Creek, which is a major tributary of the Coosa River. Area groundwater underlying the site is shallow. An estimated 25,000 people draw drinking water from public wells located within 3 miles of the site. Nearby water sources include Cedartown Spring which is a sole-source water supply for the City of Cedartown and Cave Springs Well which serves Polk County. Cedar Creek has been used for fishing and possibly for swimming.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 01/22/87

Final Date: 08/30/90

Threats and Contaminants



On-site groundwater and surface and subsurface soils are contaminated with heavy metals including cadmium, chromium, copper, and zinc from wastes deposited on the site. Potential health threats include direct contact with or accidental ingestion of contaminated groundwater, surface water, and soils, as well as inhalation of contaminated dust and particulates on the site.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: initial actions and a long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the groundwater and soil.

Response Action Status



Initial Actions: In 1990, the EPA recovered and removed 680 contaminated drums and 400 gallons of bulk liquid waste and stored them in two bioremediation treatment cells constructed on site. Data from the soil samples collected from the treatment cells indicates that the bioremediation techniques are effectively reducing the concentrations of the appropriate contaminants. Trenches also were dug and 1,500 cubic yards of waste-contaminated soil were treated on site and discharged.



Groundwater and Soil: The party potentially responsible for the site contamination, Henkel Corporation, began an investigation under EPA oversight into the nature and extent of the groundwater and soil contamination at the site in 1991. The investigation also will recommend alternatives for final groundwater and soil cleanup. The investigation is planned to be completed in 1994.

Environmental Progress



The removal of contaminated drums and liquid waste and the treatment of contaminated soil have reduced the threat of exposure to pollutants by the surrounding community and the environment while studies into a permanent cleanup solution are being conducted by the Henkel Corporation.

Site Repository



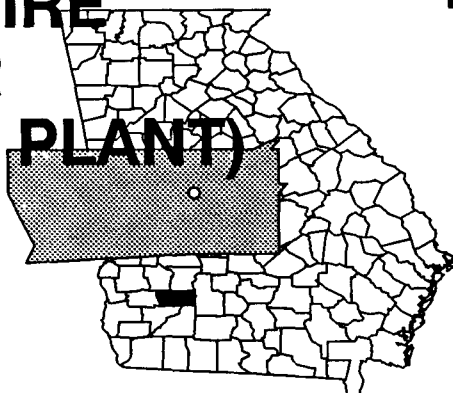
Not established.

FIRESTONE TIRE AND RUBBER CO. (ALBANY PLANT) GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD990855074

EPA REGION 4

Dougherty County
Albany



Site Description

The Firestone Tire and Rubber Company (Albany Plant) has manufactured tires on this 330-acre site in Albany since 1968. Until 1980, drums of waste cement were stored on the ground in an area covering less than an acre. Wastes were buried in a pit on another area of the site during fire-training exercises. Groundwater in this area was found to be contaminated. The facility received interim approval from the EPA for the management of hazardous wastes; however, the final permit application was withdrawn. Approximately 400 people obtain drinking water from private wells located within 3 miles of the site. Wells drawing on the contaminated groundwater also are used for irrigating 1,000 acres of cropland.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 06/24/88

Final Date: 10/04/89

Threats and Contaminants



The groundwater is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including benzene and toluene from former waste disposal practices. Heavy metals including zinc also have been found in the groundwater underlying the site. Direct contact with or ingestion of the contaminated on-site groundwater could threaten the health of residents using the resource. Use of contaminated water to irrigate crops also could expose people to chemicals.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in a single long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Entire Site: In 1992, the parties potentially responsible for the site contamination began an investigation to determine the type and extent of contamination and to evaluate the cleanup alternatives. Once these studies are completed, the EPA will evaluate the findings and will select a final cleanup strategy to address groundwater contamination and any additional contamination.

Site Facts: On March 28, 1990, the EPA sent a Special Notice letter requesting that the potentially responsible parties conduct an investigation identifying contamination at the site.

Environmental Progress



After adding the Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. (Albany Plant) site to the NPL and performing a preliminary investigation, the EPA determined that the site does not present an immediate threat to the neighboring community or to the environment while studies are taking place.

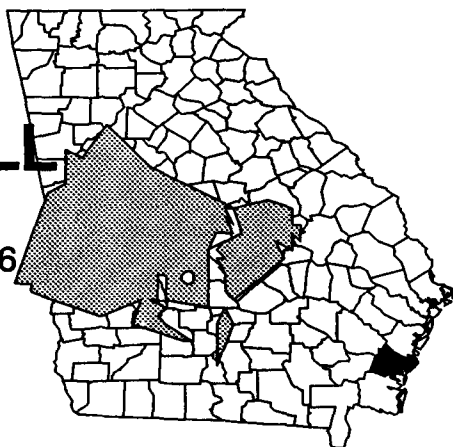
Site Repository



Dougherty County Public Library, 300 Pine Avenue, Albany, GA 31701

HERCULES 009 LANDFILL GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD980556906



EPA REGION 4

Glynn County
Brunswick

Other Names:
009 Landfill

Site Description

The Hercules 009 Landfill site occupies a 16 1/2-acre parcel of land. The landfill itself is 7 acres in size. The company manufactured the insecticide toxaphene and disposed of approximately 19,300 tons of solid wastes from its Brunswick plant on this now inactive site. The landfill began operations in 1976 with a State permit, which was revoked in 1980 because of well contamination. Hercules fenced the landfill, covered the area with clean soil, contoured it to prevent runoff, and planted vegetation on it. The closest residence is 200 yards from the site. Private wells are located within 1/4 mile of the site. Residential wells in the area generally tap the shallow aquifer underlying the site. The landfill is in a marshland and is 1 mile away from coastal wetlands.

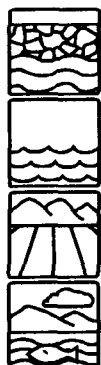
Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 09/08/83

Final Date: 09/21/84

Threats and Contaminants



The shallow and deep groundwater, sediments in a drainage ditch, and soil are contaminated with toxaphene. People who come in direct contact with or accidentally ingest contaminated groundwater, sediments, or soil may be at risk. However, the levels of toxaphene found in private wells are below the EPA limit for this chemical in drinking water.

Cleanup Approach

This site is being addressed in two long-term remedial phases focusing on cleanup of the entire site and provision of a drinking water supply.

Response Action Status



Groundwater: The potentially responsible parties began an investigation into the nature and extent of the contamination in the groundwater. This investigation, expected to be completed in late 1992, will recommend alternatives for permanent cleanup of the groundwater.



Drinking Water Supply: Because groundwater flow from the site is in the direction of several homes with private wells, an interim remedy was selected in 1991. The interim remedy includes connecting the affected residents to a municipal water supply. This interim activity was initiated in early 1992 and is expected to be completed later in the year.

Site Facts: Hercules and the EPA agreed, under a Consent Order in 1988, that the company would conduct a detailed study of the extent of contamination at the site. Hercules and EPA agreed, under a Consent Decree in 1991, that the company would extend existing municipal water lines to the affected residents.

Environmental Progress



Earlier actions, before the site was listed on the NPL, reduced risks of direct contact and of migration of contaminants. Since several private wells are threatened by groundwater contamination from the site, plans are underway to connect local residences to the municipal water supply in 1992. This action will protect residents near the Hercules 009 Landfill site while studies leading to cleanup actions are taking place.

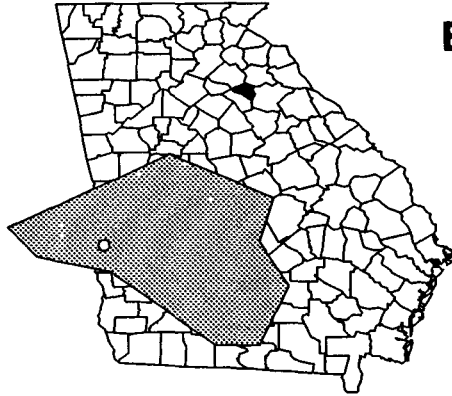
Site Repository



Brunswick-Glynn County Regional Library, 208 Gloucester Street, Brunswick, GA 31523

LUMINOUS PROCESSES GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD990855819



EPA REGION 4

Clarke County
Athens

Site Description

The 1-acre Luminous Processes site is a defunct manufacturing plant. The company was operational from 1952 to 1978 and used radioactive isotopes to paint watch and clock dials. The site was abandoned by the owners in 1980. Radioactive contamination was left behind in the soil and the building on the site. The site originally was licensed by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

Site Responsibility: This site was addressed through Federal and State actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Deleted Date: 12/30/82

Threats and Contaminants



The soil was contaminated with radium-226 and tritium from former manufacturing processes.

Cleanup Approach

The site was addressed in a long-term remedial phase that focused on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Entire Site: Site cleanup began in mid-1982. State workers excavated approximately 18,000 cubic feet of contaminated soil, shipped more than 2,400 drums, and disposed of nearly 500 millicuries of radium-226. They backfilled the excavated areas, seeded them with grass, and closed access to the public. The next step was removing contaminated structures from inside the building and cleaning up polluted areas outdoors that had not been previously identified. The site also was fenced, and warning signs were posted. The entire cleanup, including site restoration, was completed in five months.

Site Facts: The Luminous Processes site was placed on the Interim Priorities List in October 1981. In April 1982, the EPA and the State entered into a Cooperative Agreement for cleanup actions to be conducted in three phases. All cleanup actions at the site were completed before the first proposed NPL was established.

Environmental Progress



As a result of the cleanup activities described above, the Luminous Processes site has been restored to a safe condition and no longer poses a threat to the neighboring community or the surrounding environment.

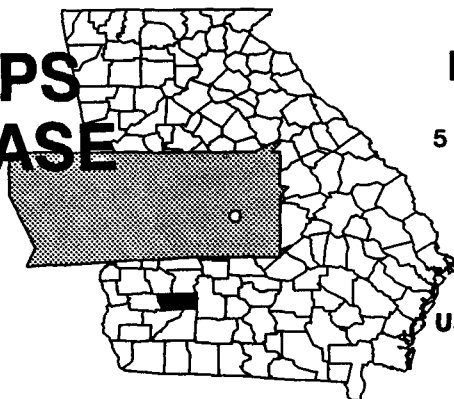
Site Repository



Information is no longer available.

MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE GEORGIA

EPA ID# GA7170023694



EPA REGION 4

Dougherty County
5 miles southeast of Albany

Other Names:
USMC Logistics Base 555
MCLB

Site Description

The Marine Corps Logistics Base (MCLB) site is divided into three areas: MCLB (the facility), the Boyette Housing Area, and the Branch Clinic. Work in support of the base mission includes maintenance, repairs and rebuilding of ground combat and combat support equipment, fuel storage, and motor transport. Maintenance activities at MCLB over the years generated a variety of materials that were disposed of on the facility. These materials include construction debris; miscellaneous industrial wastes including waste fuel, oil paints, thinners, and solvents; and municipal wastewater treatment plant sludge. Current disposal practices are monitored regularly for conformance with local, State, and Federal regulations. Fourteen potential sources of contamination have been identified within the area of the site. The base is surrounded by agricultural, residential, and commercial lands. Four aquifers underlie MCLB and the Albany area. From shallow to deep, these aquifers are: the Ocala, Tallahatta, Clayton, and the Providence. The 4,200 military personnel and dependents living on the base obtain drinking water from three multi-aquifer artesian wells tapping the three upper aquifers.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 07/14/89

Final Date: 11/21/89

Threats and Contaminants



In 1986, the Marine Corps found the pesticides DDE and DDT and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in sediments from the bottom of a drainage ditch that formerly had received hazardous substances. A study completed in 1987 indicated high levels of arsenic, chromium, lead, methylene chloride, and trichlorethylene (TCE) in shallow soils. A 1989 sampling showed TCE and trace amounts of metals in monitoring wells near the sludge drying beds of the industrial waste treatment plant. There currently are no data that indicate immediate threats to the environment or human health; however, a risk assessment will be an initial step in the study to determine the nature and extent of contamination.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: initial actions and a single long-term remedial phases focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Initial Actions: The Marine Corps cleaned up the sludge drying beds in accordance with a permit issued under Federal regulation. Workers removed contaminated materials from the beds and transported them to an EPA-approved disposal facility. The beds then were covered with a 12-inch concrete cap in 1988. Part of the site closure plan requires six test wells to be installed to pump groundwater to the surface, followed by treating it to remove contaminants. Three test wells have been installed to date, and additional wells may be installed depending on the success of the current treatment.



Entire Site: Twelve potential sources of contamination have been grouped based on geographical proximity, similarity of contamination source, and other factors. Studies into the nature and extent of contamination in the Landfill Disposal Areas, Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant, Ordnance Disposal Area, Domestic Wastewater Treatment Plant, and PCB Disposal Area were begun in 1991. Appropriate cleanup remedies will be selected upon completion of these studies.

Site Facts: A Federal Facilities Agreement for remedial action has been negotiated between the Navy/MCLB, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, and the EPA. The Base is participating in the Installation Restoration Program, a specially funded program established by the Department of Defense (DOD) in 1978 to identify, investigate, and control the migration of hazardous contaminants at military and other DOD facilities.

Environmental Progress



By removing the contaminated sludge from the drying beds, capping the beds, and installing monitoring wells, the Navy/Marine Corps has significantly reduced the potential for exposure to hazardous materials at the Marine Corps Logistics Base while further studies into potential health risks and cleanup strategies for the site are taking place.

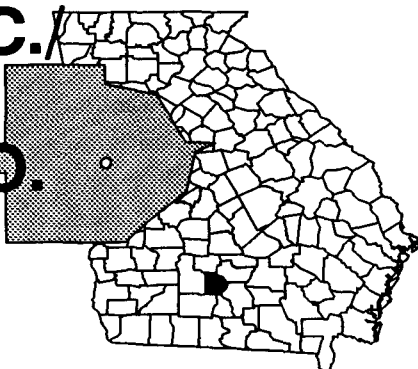
Site Repository



Dougherty County Public Library, 300 Pine Street, Albany, GA 31701

MARZONE INC./ CHEVRON CHEMICAL CO. GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD991275686



EPA REGION 4

Tift County
Tifton

Site Description

The now-defunct Marzone, Inc. pesticide plant was established in 1950 at this roughly 1 1/2-acre site in Tifton, at the junction of Golden Road and the Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad line. The facility operated until 1982, when a new owner began using its warehouse as a distribution center. Chevron Chemical Co. started blending dry powders at the site in the 1950s and constructed a building for formulating liquids some time during 1963 through 1964. This owner also added a drum storage facility, three 10,000-gallon solvent tanks, one 12,000-gallon toxaphene (insecticide) tank, and a wastewater pond. The site has changed ownership five times since 1970; four of these owners were agricultural chemical companies. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division's records show numerous environmental problems at the site starting in 1973. In May 1984, the EPA and the State inspected the site and found that pesticides were present in the soils and groundwater. Within 3 miles of the site are 28 private wells tapping the shallow, contaminated aquifer. These wells are the sole source of drinking water for the residents in the area.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 06/24/88

Final Date: 10/04/89

Threats and Contaminants



The groundwater and soils are contaminated with pesticides including toxaphene, lindane, and endrin from the site disposal areas. Discoloration of the soil and numerous dead birds on the site indicated the spread of contamination. Imminent threats to public health that existed at the site from direct contact with and inhalation of pesticide residues found in the groundwater and soils have since been removed. Gum Creek, located 250 yards south of the site, receives the bulk of the drainage from the site and could potentially be polluted.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: emergency actions and a long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the groundwater.

Response Action Status



Emergency Actions: In 1984, EPA emergency workers conducted an extensive cleanup to eliminate the immediate threats at the site. The actions performed were: removal and disposal of stored wastes; decontamination of buildings and equipment; excavation of contaminated surface soils; drainage of water and accumulated sediments in a truck-loading area near the railroad tracks; and transport of 1,700 tons of waste materials to an EPA-regulated disposal facility. Chevron Chemical Co., responding to a 1985 agreement with the EPA, agreed to help clean up the site. The company subsequently excavated the wastewater lagoon, a drainage ditch, and a railroad ditch; filled them in; and transported the contaminated soil to an EPA-approved disposal facility. Other owners also undertook cleanup actions in the early 1980s, before the site came to the EPA's attention. In 1984, Kova Fertilizer removed 49 drums of pesticide wastes. These initial actions have stabilized conditions at the site while the EPA pursues alternatives for final site cleanup.



Groundwater: Under EPA monitoring, the parties potentially responsible for groundwater contamination at the site initiated investigations in 1990 into the nature and extent of the contamination. These investigations are planned to be completed in 1993, at which time a cleanup remedy will be selected. At the same time, the potentially responsible parties are studying the need for any temporary remedies to control groundwater contamination while a final remedy is selected.

Site Facts: Under a Consent Agreement with the EPA signed in April 1985, Chevron agreed to conduct initial cleanup actions to stabilize the site. Notice letters were sent on March 10, 1989 to the potentially responsible parties. The public is concerned about possible contamination of private water wells. A Consent Order was signed in September of 1990 with four parties potentially responsible for site contamination, requiring them to conduct a study of the nature and extent of contamination.

Environmental Progress



The emergency actions to remove wastes and excavate soils and sediments from the Marzone/Chevron site have greatly reduced the immediate threats to the surrounding community and the environment until final cleanup actions can be performed.

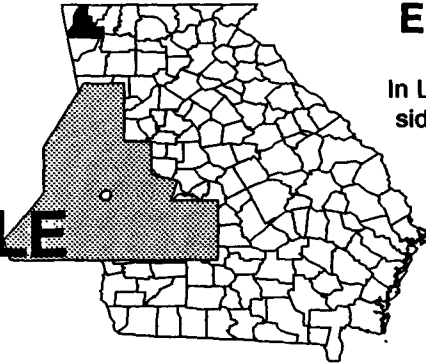
Site Repository



Tifton-Tift County Public Library, One Library Lane, Tifton, GA 31794

MATHIS BROTHERS LANDFILL (SOUTH MARBLE TOP ROAD) GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD980838619



EPA REGION 4

Walker County
In Lafayette, along the east
side of S. Marble Top Rd.

Site Description

The privately owned Mathis Brothers Landfill (South Marble Top Road) operated on this 20-acre parcel in Lafayette, 1 1/2 miles north-northwest of Kensington. Only 5 acres of the hilltop property were used for waste disposal. The landfill operated from 1974 to 1980 and had a permit from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division to accept non-hazardous wastes. Operators buried approximately 3,000 tons of hazardous wastes in unlined trenches while the landfill was in business. Records from one generator, Velsicol Chemical Corp., indicated that their wastes contained arsenic, organic chemicals, and herbicides. The landfill was abandoned some time after 1980. The landfill is unprotected from the elements, and leaking, rusted drums lie on the site surface. Most of the land use within a mile of the site is pasture and forest. The Kensington Water and Sewer Authority provides drinking water to approximately 4,300 people from wells 1 1/2 miles south of the site, and a private well lies 1,900 feet away. An estimated 75 people live within a 1-mile radius. Three homes are located within 1,000 feet of the site, and 25 are within 1/2 mile. Surface water within 3 miles downstream of the site is used for fishing and irrigation. The soil under the wastes is permeable, a condition that facilitates movement of contaminants into groundwater, 40 feet below the soil surface.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 01/22/87

Final Date: 03/31/89

Threats and Contaminants



On-site contaminants found in the soil include various residues from herbicide production and latex waste from carpet manufacture. To date, private wells have shown no evidence of contamination; however, as a result of the soil characteristics, the potential exists for the groundwater serving these wells to become polluted. Although preliminary sampling results have not revealed contamination in area water bodies, local residents have reported fish kills.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in a single long-term remedial phase directed at cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Entire Site: A potentially responsible party completed an intensive study of pollution problems in 1992. An additional study of the effectiveness of proposed remedies is underway remedies for site contamination and scheduled for completion late in 1992, at which time the remedy will be selected.

Site Facts: In 1988, the EPA signed an Administrative Order on Consent with a potentially responsible party to accept financial responsibility for conducting the study of site contamination.

Environmental Progress



The EPA determined that the Mathis Brothers Landfill (South Marble Top Road) does not pose an immediate threat to local residents or the environment while studies leading to selection of the cleanup technologies for a permanent remedy at the site are being conducted.

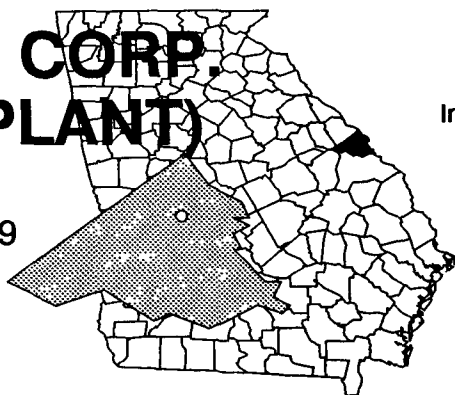
Site Repository



LaFayette County Commissioners Office, Highway 136, LaFayette, GA 30728

MONSANTO CORP. (AUGUSTA PLANT) GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD001700699



EPA REGION 4
Richmond County
In Augusta on Marvin Griffin Road

Site Description

Two small landfills are the areas of concern at the 75-acre Monsanto Corp. (Augusta Plant) site on Marvin Griffin Road in Augusta. The landfills, each about 6 feet deep, received hazardous waste containing about 5 percent arsenic trisulfide. Workers disposed of phosphoric acid sludge containing approximately 725 pounds of arsenic in the first landfill from 1966 to 1971, when the landfill was closed. The second landfill, active from 1972 to 1974, received plastic drums of sludge containing over 800 pounds of arsenic. The second landfill was closed in 1977. In 1979, the company began collecting data from two monitoring wells, one downgradient from each site, and detected arsenic contamination in the groundwater. The Tuscaloosa Aquifer, underlying the site, supplies most of the drinking water used by area residents. Most residents near the site use private wells. The Town of Gracewood, 2 1/2 miles from the site, uses the aquifer to supply the water for its population of 1,500. The closest home is a mile from the site. Butler Creek lies 1,180 feet southeast of the site, and Phinizy Swamp is 4,570 feet northeast of the landfills.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 09/01/83
Final Date: 09/24/84

Threats and Contaminants



Groundwater is contaminated with arsenic from former disposal practices at the landfills on the site. Potential threats include ingestion of contaminated groundwater.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: initial actions and a single long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Initial Actions: Approximately 830 pounds of arsenic wastes from the landfills were excavated, deposited in steel-lined drums, and disposed of off site at a permitted waste management site. In 1983, Monsanto excavated the landfills, and the remaining waste material was removed off site to a permitted waste disposal site. The landfills subsequently were sampled, backfilled with clay, and replanted.



Entire Site: Under EPA monitoring, the potentially responsible parties completed an intensive study of site contamination in 1990. The study identified the nature and extent of the groundwater contamination. The cleanup remedy selected by the EPA in 1990 calls for quarterly groundwater monitoring and possible pumping and treatment of groundwater, with discharge to a wastewater treatment plant, depending on compliance with groundwater protection standards. The engineering designs for the remedy began in 1991 and cleanup is expected to begin in late 1992.

Site Facts: The potentially responsible parties signed an Administrative Order on Consent on April 24, 1989, to perform the study of site contamination. The Order was modified March 28, 1990, to include design of cleanup activities and quarterly monitoring.

Environmental Progress



The actions taken to remove the arsenic wastes and to cover the landfills have reduced the potential for exposure to contaminated materials at the Monsanto Corp. (Augusta Plant) site while designs for the cleanup alternatives are being conducted.

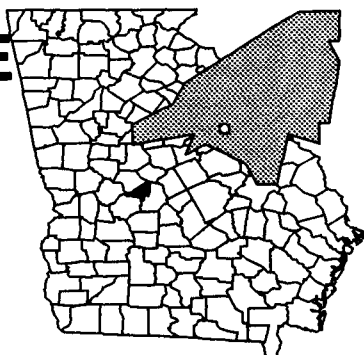
Site Repository



Not established.

POWERSVILLE SITE GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD980496954



EPA REGION 4

Peach County
Powersville

Site Description

The Powersville Site is a landfill that covers 15 acres in the community of Powersville. Beginning in the 1940s, the site was used as a borrow pit to provide sand and fill for local construction projects. In 1969, Peach County began using the pit and the surrounding area as a sanitary landfill for municipal and industrial waste. The County built a separate waste disposal area at the landfill for pesticides and other hazardous materials in 1973, under a request by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. The landfill was closed in 1979, after State officials concluded that it was no longer an acceptable site for waste disposal. Residents became concerned about the unusual taste of their well water and, in 1983, groundwater from an adjacent church well was found to be contaminated. The landfill is situated in the recharge zone of three aquifers, one of which is a major source for local water supplies. Approximately 40 to 50 residences, housing an estimated 150 people, are within a mile of the site. The area primarily is agricultural, with general crop farming, cattle and dairy farms, and orchards.

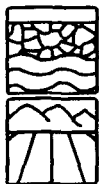
Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 09/08/83

Final Date: 09/21/84

Threats and Contaminants



The groundwater is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as vinyl chloride; heavy metals including copper, zinc, and lead; and pesticides such as dieldrin and lindane from the former waste disposal activities. Soil in the waste fill area is contaminated with heavy metals and pesticides such as alpha chlordane from the pesticide disposal activities. The site has numerous erosion channels and gullies. If erosion continues, contaminants may be transported to other areas and may pose a health hazard to those who come in direct contact with the contaminated soil. Because the groundwater contains contaminants, people using well water may be at risk. In addition, cattle or crops may accumulate contaminants if farmers use well water for irrigation or watering livestock.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in a single long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Entire Site: In 1987, the EPA selected a remedy to clean up the site, which includes: (1) covering the hazardous waste and municipal fill areas with a synthetic material or clay to prevent rainwater from coming into contact with buried contaminants; (2) grading the area so water drains away from the cover into natural drainage channels; (3) closing the landfill according to Federal procedures; (4) installing additional monitoring wells to determine whether the contamination is moving from the covered areas; and (5) extending the municipal Ft. Valley water supply to residences affected by contaminated well water. In addition, the site deed will include provisions to ensure that the cleanup is not affected by future construction and that water wells are not drilled near the site. The site will be inspected to ensure that erosion or settling is not occurring. The design phase was completed and cleanup work began in early 1991. The landfill cover and the extension of the alternate water supply are expected to be completed in 1992.

Site Facts: In 1988, a Consent Decree was lodged in the U.S. District Court, calling for cleanup of the site, including placing a soil cover on the site and providing alternate water supplies for residential and industrial needs.

Environmental Progress



After placing the Powersville Site on the NPL, the EPA conducted a preliminary evaluation and determined that the site does not pose an immediate threat to the community or the environment while the final cleanup activities are taking place.

Site Repository



Not established.

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE (LANDFILL #4/ SLUDGE LAGOON) GEORGIA

EPA ID# GA1570024330



EPA REGION 4

Houston County
East of the City of Warner Robins

Site Description

Robins Air Force Base covers 8,855 acres and is situated east of the City of Warner Robins in the Coastal Plain of Georgia. The area includes a 1,200-acre wetland. Two distinct areas make up this NPL site: Landfill #4 and an adjacent sludge lagoon. Landfill #4 operated from 1965 to 1978, and the lagoon operated from about 1962 to 1978. General refuse, garbage, and industrial wastes were disposed of in the landfill. The lagoon received wastes from two industrial waste treatment plants and other waste chemicals. The water supplies for the base and the City of Warner Robins come from the Coastal Plain Aquifer. More than 10,000 people could be affected by contaminants that have been detected in the groundwater near the site and in the surface water on site. However, the general groundwater flow is to the east, away from the City of Warner Robins and the base wells. The site is adjacent to a mixed hardwood swamp along the western border of the Ocmulgee River flood plains.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 10/15/84

Final Date: 07/22/87

Threats and Contaminants



Heavy metals including cadmium, lead, and cyanide and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) including trichloroethylene (TCE) and benzene from the former waste disposal practices have been detected in the groundwater. The leachate from the site also contains heavy metals and VOCs, along with the pesticide DDT and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Pesticides such as chlordane, DDT, and dieldrin have been detected in the sediments from a drainage ditch. Heavy metals and VOCs have been detected in the soil, and TCE and phenols have been detected in the surface water on site. People could be exposed to the contaminants by coming into direct contact with contaminated surface and groundwater. People also may be exposed to toxic chemicals by eating plants and animals that contain bioaccumulated contaminants from the wastes on site. The spread of hazardous materials from the site could pose a threat to the adjacent wetland.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in three long-term remedial phases directed at stabilization and source control and assessment of the wetlands and of the groundwater.

Response Action Status



Stabilization and Source Control: In 1991, the Air Force selected remedies to cleanup the contamination at landfill #4 and the adjacent sludge lagoon.

Remedies selected include the following: development of a flow control system onto the landfill; sludge lagoon solidification; landfill leachate collection; landfill cover renovation; and a sludge lagoon groundwater recovery system. To date the, the deign for the landfill run-on control is complete. Design of the recovery system is complete with the sludge lagoon groundwater recovery wells in place and construction of the recovery system expected to begin in mid-1992. Cleanup activities are scheduled to be completed in 1995.



Wetlands: The Air Force is conducting a study of the wetlands area to determine the nature and extent of contamination from site activities. The study is planned to be completed in 1993.



Groundwater: The Air Force began studying groundwater contamination at the site in 1991. Upon completion of the study in 1992, the best cleanup alternative will be selected.

Site Facts: Robins Air Force Base is participating in the Installation Restoration Program, a specially funded program established by the Department of Defense (DOD) in 1978 to identify, investigate and control the migration of hazardous contaminants at military and other DOD facilities. Under this program the Air Force completed a records search and a preliminary survey. A Federal Facility Agreement between the Air Force, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, and the EPA was completed and executed on September 25, 1989. An agreement between the Air Force and the State to recover costs for the investigation was completed at the same time. The agreement contains schedules for conducting the current study to determine the nature and extent of contamination and to identify alternatives for cleanup.

Environmental Progress



An initial investigation by the Air Force has determined that there is no potential for exposure to hazardous materials while the Robins Air Force Base site begins cleanup activities at the stabilization and source area and still undergoes additional investigations leading to the selection of alternatives for final cleanup of the wetlands and groundwater areas.

Site Repository



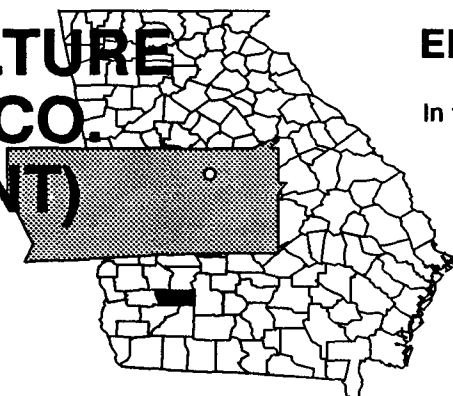
Nola Brantly Memorial Library, 721 Watson Boulevard, Warner Robins, GA 31093

T. H. AGRICULTURE & NUTRITION CO. (ALBANY PLANT) GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD042101261

EPA REGION 4

Dougherty County
In the suburbs of Albany



Site Description

The T. H. Agriculture & Nutrition Co. prepared and packaged pesticides on this 7-acre site in Albany. The site is in an agricultural area of the State. The company purchased the facility in 1967 from a previous operator. The company's operations continued until 1982. The facility served as a warehouse/distribution center until 1982, when it was closed. During the 1970s, and possibly in the late 1960s, the company operated under the name Thompson-Hayward Chemical Co. and took the present name in 1981. An estimated 3,300 Lee County residents within 3 miles of the site obtain drinking water from private wells which are drilled into an aquifer that may be affected by activities at the site. However, the direction of groundwater flow is not toward Lee County.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal, State, and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 06/24/88
Final Date: 03/31/89

Threats and Contaminants



The groundwater and soil are contaminated with pesticides including toxaphene, lindane, DDT, and methyl parathion from former pesticide production and disposal activities at the site. The health of people who accidentally ingest or come in direct contact with the contaminated groundwater or soil could be adversely affected. Kinchafoonee Creek is less than 1 mile northeast of the site and joins Muckalee Creek and the Flint River, which are dammed to form Lake Worth. Lake Worth is used for recreational activities and to generate electricity.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: initial actions and a long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Initial Actions: In 1984, the T.H. Agriculture & Nutrition Co. transported contaminated soils, debris, and building rubble from the site to an approved hazardous waste facility. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division oversaw the action. In 1992, after an investigation identified high levels of soil contamination across the western parcel, a second removal action was initiated and is currently ongoing. The action included demolition and removal from the western parcel of several on-site structures and the excavation and removal of soil and debris. Excavated areas are to be backfilled and a clay cover will be placed over the facility grounds. Over 20,000 tons of soil have been removed and shipped to a hazardous waste landfill. Approximately 3,000 tons of soil remain on site and require thermal treatment. The thermal treatment is expected to be completed in mid-1993.



Entire Site: An investigation began in 1990 to determine the type and extent of the contamination at the site and to identify measures for cleaning up the site. This investigation, conducted by the potentially responsible parties under EPA monitoring, is expected to be completed in 1993.

Site Facts: The EPA sent out special notices in March 1990 to the parties potentially responsible for the site contamination. The EPA invited them to participate and assume responsibility for the site investigation process. An Administrative Order on Consent between the EPA and T. H. Agriculture & Nutrition was signed in July 1990. In March 1992, the EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order to the potentially responsible parties to remove additional soil and debris from the site.

Environmental Progress



By removing contaminated materials from the T. H. Agriculture & Nutrition Co. (Albany Plant) site, the immediate threat of exposure to hazardous substances has been reduced, while investigations into alternatives for a permanent cleanup are taking place.

Site Repository

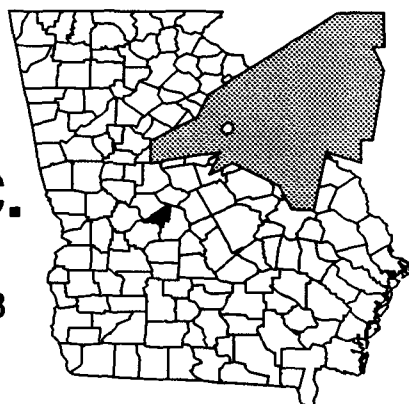


Dougherty County Public Library, 300 Pine Avenue, Albany, GA 31701

WOOLFOLK CHEMICAL WORKS, INC.

GEORGIA

EPA ID# GAD003269578



EPA REGION 4

Peach County
Fort Valley

Site Description

The Woolfolk Chemical Works, Inc. site covers 18 acres near the center of Fort Valley. The company began operation in 1910 as a lime-sulfur plant and has evolved into a full-line pesticide plant manufacturing pesticides in liquid, dust, and granular forms for the agricultural, lawn, and garden markets. The methods of handling these products over the years have resulted in extensive contamination at the site. State records indicate numerous instances of untreated industrial waste being discharged into surface waters. During a routine inspection in 1979, the EPA discovered that the facility was discharging unauthorized wastewater from the production of pesticides into Bay Creek. Records indicate that the majority of the wastewaters were discharged into a storm sewer on the site. The waste would flow into an open ditch located south of the plant and then into Big Indian Creek. Three of the five Fort Valley municipal water supply wells are within 1,000 feet of the facility. This system is the sole source of water in the area. Late in 1986, the EPA found arsenic and lead in two of the wells. The contamination did not, however, exceed Federal drinking water standards. An estimated 10,000 people obtain drinking water from municipal wells within 3 miles of the site.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 06/24/88

Final Date: 08/30/90

Threats and Contaminants



Contaminants in the groundwater and soil consist of heavy metals including lead and arsenic; volatiles and semi-volatiles; and pesticides including chlordane, DDT, lindane, and toxaphene from former process wastes. The surface water of the site was contaminated with arsenic, lindane, and toxaphene during a storm. The municipal wells near the site potentially are contaminated and may pose a possible health threat through the consumption of groundwater.

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: initial actions and a single long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status



Initial Actions: From 1986 to 1987, a former owner capped an area of contamination, removed 3,700 yards of contaminated soils, and destroyed and removed major contaminated structures to an off-site disposal facility.



Entire Site: The potentially responsible parties are conducting a study of the type and extent of groundwater contamination and will evaluate the cleanup alternatives. This evaluation is expected to be completed in 1992, at which time the EPA will select the appropriate remedies for final site cleanup.

Environmental Progress



The initial actions to remove contaminated soils and to prevent further site contamination by capping the disposal areas have reduced the immediate threats to area residents and the surrounding environment. The EPA has determined that no additional actions are required to protect public health while studies leading to selection of the final site remedy are conducted.

Site Repository



Thomas Public Library, 213 Persons Street, Fort Valley, GA 31030

GLOSSARY

Terms Used in the NPL Book

This glossary defines terms used throughout the NPL Volumes. The terms and abbreviations contained in this glossary apply specifically to work performed under the Superfund program in the context of hazardous waste management. These terms may have other meanings when used in a different context. A table of common toxic chemicals found at NPL sites, their sources, and their potential threats is located on page G-15

Acids: Substances, characterized by low pH (less than 7.0), that are used in chemical manufacturing. Acids in high concentration can be very corrosive and react with many inorganic and organic substances. These reactions possibly may create toxic compounds or release heavy metal contaminants that remain in the environment long after the acid is neutralized.

Administrative Order On Consent: A legal and enforceable agreement between the EPA and the parties potentially responsible for site contamination. Under the terms of the Order, the potentially responsible parties (PRPs) agree to perform or pay for site studies or cleanups. It also describes the oversight rules, responsibilities, and enforcement options that the government may exercise in the event of non-compliance by potentially responsible parties. This Order is signed by PRPs and the government; it does not require approval by a judge.

Administrative Order [Unilateral]: A legally binding document issued by the EPA, directing the parties potentially responsible to perform site cleanups or studies (generally, the EPA does not issue Unilateral Orders for site studies). This type of Order is not signed by the PRPs and does not require approval by a judge.

Aeration: A process that promotes breakdown of contaminants in soil or water by exposing them to air.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR): The Federal agency within the U.S. Public Health Service charged with carrying out the health-related responsibilities of CERCLA.

Air Stripping: A process whereby volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) are removed from contaminated material by forcing a stream of air through the contaminated material in a pressurized vessel. The contaminants are evaporated into the air stream. The air may be further treated before it is released into the atmosphere.

Ambient Air: Any unconfined part of the atmosphere. Refers to the air that may be inhaled by workers or residents in the vicinity of contaminated air sources.

Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs): Federal, State, or local laws which apply to Superfund activities at NPL sites. Both emergency and long-term actions must comply with these laws or provide sound reasons for allowing a waiver. ARARs must be identified for each site relative to the characteristics of the site, the substances found at the site, or the cleanup alternatives being considered for the site.

GLOSSARY

Aquifer: An underground layer of rock, sand, or gravel capable of storing water within cracks and pore spaces, or between grains. When water contained within an aquifer is of sufficient quantity and quality, it can be tapped and used for drinking or other purposes. The water contained in the aquifer is called groundwater. A "sole source aquifer" supplies 50 percent or more of the drinking water of an area.

Artesian (Well): A well made by drilling into the earth until water is reached, which, due to internal pressure, flows up like a fountain.

Asbestos: A mineral fiber that can pollute air or water and is known to cause cancer or asbestosis when inhaled.

Attenuation: The naturally occurring process by which a compound is reduced in concentration over time through adsorption, degradation, dilution, or transformation.

Background Level: The amount of a substance typically found in the air, water, or soil from natural, as opposed to human, sources.

Baghouse Dust: Dust accumulated in removing particulates from the air by passing it through cloth bags in an enclosure.

Bases: Substances characterized by high pH (greater than 7.0), which tend to be corrosive in chemical reactions. When bases are mixed with acids, they neutralize each other, forming salts.

Berm: A ledge, wall, or a mound of earth used to prevent the migration of contaminants.

Bioaccumulate: The process by which some contaminants or toxic chemicals gradually collect and increase in concentration in living tissue, such as in plants, fish, or people, as they breathe contaminated air, drink contaminated water, or eat contaminated food.

Biological Treatment: The use of bacteria or other microbial organisms to break down toxic organic materials into carbon dioxide and water.

Bioremediation: A cleanup process using naturally occurring or specially cultivated microorganisms to digest contaminants and break them down into non-hazardous components.

Bog: A type of wetland that is covered with peat moss deposits. Bogs depend primarily on moisture from the air for their water source, are usually acidic, and are rich in plant residue [see Wetland].

Boom: A floating device used to contain oil floating on a body of water or to restrict the potential overflow of waste liquids from containment structures.

Borehole: A hole that is drilled into the ground and used to sample soil or ground-water.

Borrow Pit: An excavated area where soil, sand, or gravel has been dug up for use elsewhere.

Cap: A layer of material, such as clay or a synthetic material, used to prevent rainwater from penetrating and spreading contaminated materials. The surface of the cap generally is mounded or sloped so water will drain off.

Carbon Adsorption: A treatment system in which contaminants are removed from ground-water and surface water by forcing water through tanks containing activated carbon, a specially treated material that attracts and holds or retains contaminants.

Carbon Disulfide: A degreasing agent formerly used extensively for parts washing. This compound has both inorganic and organic

properties, which increase cleaning efficiency. However, these properties also cause chemical reactions that increase the hazard to human health and the environment.

Carbon Treatment: [see Carbon Adsorption].

Cell: In solid waste disposal, one of a series of holes in a landfill where waste is dumped, compacted, and covered with layers of dirt.

CERCLA: [see Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act].

Characterization: The sampling, monitoring, and analysis of a site to determine the extent and nature of toxic releases. Characterization provides the basis for acquiring the necessary technical information to develop, screen, analyze, and select appropriate cleanup techniques.

Chemical Fixation: The use of chemicals to bind contaminants, thereby reducing the potential for leaching or other movement.

Chromated Copper Arsenate: An insecticide/herbicide formed from salts of three toxic metals: copper, chromium, and arsenic. This salt is used extensively as a wood preservative in pressure-treating operations. It is highly toxic and water-soluble, making it a relatively mobile contaminant in the environment.

Cleanup: Actions taken to eliminate a release or threat of release of a hazardous substance. The term "cleanup" sometimes is used interchangeably with the terms remedial action, removal action, response action, or corrective action.

Closure: The process by which a landfill stops accepting wastes and is shut down under Federal

guidelines that ensure the protection of the public and the environment.

Comment Period: A specific interval during which the public can review and comment on various documents and EPA actions related to site cleanup. For example, a comment period is provided when the EPA proposes to add sites to the NPL. Also, there is minimum 3-week comment period for community members to review and comment on the remedy proposed to clean up a site.

Community Relations: The EPA effort to establish and maintain two-way communication with the public. The goals of community relations programs include creating an understanding of EPA programs and related actions, assuring public input into decision-making processes related to affected communities, and making certain that the Agency is aware of, and responsive to, public concerns. Specific community relations activities are required in relation to Superfund cleanup actions [see Comment Period].

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA): Congress enacted the CERCLA, known as Superfund, in 1980 to respond directly to hazardous waste problems that may pose a threat to the public health and the environment. The EPA administers the Superfund program.

Confluence: The place where two bodies of water, such as streams or rivers, come together.

Confined Aquifer: An aquifer in which groundwater is confined under pressure that is significantly greater than atmospheric pressure.

GLOSSARY

Consent Decree: A legal document, approved and issued by a judge, formalizing an agreement between the EPA and the parties potentially responsible for site contamination. The decree describes cleanup actions that the potentially responsible parties are required to perform, or the costs incurred by the government that the parties will reimburse, and the roles, responsibilities, and enforcement options that the government may exercise in the event of non-compliance by potentially responsible parties. If a settlement between the EPA and a potentially responsible party includes cleanup actions, it must be in the form of a Consent Decree. A Consent Decree is subject to a public comment period.

Consent Order: [see Administrative Order on Consent].

Containment: The process of enclosing or containing hazardous substances in a structure, typically in a pond or a lagoon, to prevent the migration of contaminants into the environment.

Contaminant: Any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological material or substance whose quantity, location, or nature produces undesirable health or environmental effects.

Contingency Plan: A document setting out an organized, planned, and coordinated course of action to be followed in case of a fire, explosion, or other accident that releases toxic chemicals, hazardous wastes, or radioactive materials into the environment.

Cooperative Agreement: A contract between the EPA and the States, wherein a State agrees to manage or monitor certain site cleanup responsibilities and other activities on a cost-sharing basis.

Cost Recovery: A legal process by which potentially responsible parties can be required to pay back the Superfund program for money

it spends on any cleanup actions [see Potentially Responsible Parties].

Cover: Vegetation or other material placed over a landfill or other waste material. It can be designed to reduce movement of water into the waste and to prevent erosion that could cause the movement of contaminants.

Creosotes: Chemicals used in wood preserving operations and produced by distillation of tar, including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons [see PAHs and PNAs]. Contaminating sediments, soils, and surface water, creosotes may cause skin ulcerations and cancer through prolonged exposure.

Culvert: A pipe used for drainage under a road, railroad track, path, or through an embankment.

Decommission: To revoke a license to operate and take out of service.

Degradation: The process by which a chemical is reduced to a less complex form.

Degrease: To remove grease from wastes, soils, or chemicals, usually using solvents.

Deletion: A site is eligible for deletion from the NPL when Superfund response actions at the site are complete. A site is deleted from the NPL when a notice is published in the Federal Register.

De minimis: This legal phrase pertains to settlements with parties who contributed small amounts of hazardous waste to a site. This process allows the EPA to settle with small, or *de minimis* contributors, as a single group rather than as individuals, saving time, money, and effort.

Dewater: To remove water from wastes, soils, or chemicals.

Dike: A low wall that can act as a barrier to prevent a spill from spreading.

Dioxin: An organic chemical by-product of pesticide manufacture which is known to be one of the most toxic man-made chemicals.

Disposal: Final placement or destruction of toxic, radioactive, or other wastes; surplus or banned pesticides or other chemicals; polluted soils; and drums containing hazardous materials. Disposal may be accomplished through the use of approved secure landfills, surface impoundments, land farming, deep well injection, or incineration.

Downgradient: A downward hydrologic slope that causes groundwater to move toward lower elevations. Therefore, wells *downgradient* of a contaminated groundwater source are prone to receiving pollutants.

Ecological Assessment: A study of the impact of man-made or natural activity on living creatures and their environment.

Effluent: Wastewater, treated or untreated, that flows out of a treatment plant, sewer, or industrial outfall. Generally refers to wastes discharged into surface waters.

Emission: Pollution discharged into the atmosphere from smokestacks, other vents, and surface areas of commercial or industrial facilities.

Emulsifiers: Substances that help in mixing materials that do not normally mix; e.g., oil and water.

Endangerment Assessment: A study conducted to determine the risks posed to public health or the environment by contamination at NPL sites. The EPA or the State conducts the study when a legal action is to be taken to direct the potentially responsible parties to clean up a site or pay for the cleanup. An endangerment

assessment supplements an investigation of the site hazards.

Enforcement: EPA, State, or local legal actions taken against parties to facilitate settlements; to compel compliance with laws, rules, regulations, or agreements; or to obtain penalties or criminal sanctions for violations. Enforcement procedures may vary, depending on the specific requirements of different environmental laws and related regulatory requirements. Under CERCLA, for example, the EPA will seek to require potentially responsible parties to clean up a Superfund site or pay for the cleanup [see Cost Recovery].

Erosion: The wearing away of land surface by wind or water. Erosion occurs naturally from weather or surface runoff, but can be intensified by such land-related practices as farming, residential or industrial development, road building, or timber-cutting. Erosion may spread surface contamination to off-site locations.

Estuary (estuarine): Areas where fresh water from rivers and salt water from nearshore ocean waters are mixed. These areas may include bays, mouths of rivers, salt marshes, and lagoons. These water ecosystems shelter and feed marine life, birds, and wildlife.

Evaporation Ponds: Areas where sewage sludge or other watery wastes are dumped and allowed to dry out.

Feasibility Study: The analysis of the potential cleanup alternatives for a site. The feasibility study usually starts as soon as the remedial investigation is underway. In this volume, the feasibility study is referred to as a site study [see also Remedial Investigation].

GLOSSARY

Filtration: A treatment process for removing solid (particulate) matter from water by passing the water through sand, activated carbon, or a man-made filter. The process is often used to remove particles that contain contaminants.

Flood Plain: An area along a river, formed from sediment deposited by floods. Flood plains periodically are inundated by natural floods, which can spread contamination.

Flue Gas: The air that is emitted from a chimney after combustion in the burner occurs. The gas can include nitrogen oxides, carbon oxides, water vapor, sulfur oxides, particles, and many chemical pollutants.

Fly Ash: Non-combustible residue that results from the combustion of flue gases. It can include nitrogen oxides, carbon oxides, water vapor, sulfur oxides, as well as many other chemical pollutants.

French Drain System: A crushed rock drain system constructed of perforated pipes, which is used to drain and disperse wastewater.

Gasification (coal): The conversion of soft coal into gas for use as a fuel.

General Notice Letter: [See Notice Letter].

Generator: A facility that emits pollutants into the air or releases hazardous wastes into water or soil.

Good Faith Offer: A voluntary offer, generally in response to a Special Notice letter, made by a potentially responsible party, consisting of a written proposal demonstrating a potentially responsible party's qualifications and willingness to perform a site study or cleanup.

Groundwater: Water that fills pores in soils or openings in rocks to the point of saturation. In aquifers, groundwater occurs in sufficient

quantities for use as drinking and irrigation water and other purposes.

Groundwater Quality Assessment: The process of analyzing the chemical characteristics of groundwater to determine whether any hazardous materials exist.

Halogens: Reactive non-metals, such as chlorine and bromine. Halogens are very good oxidizing agents and, therefore, have many industrial uses. They are rarely found by themselves; however, many chemicals such as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), some volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and dioxin are reactive because of the presence of halogens.

Hazard Ranking System (HRS): The principal screening tool used by the EPA to evaluate relative risks to public health and the environment associated with abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. The HRS calculates a score based on the potential of hazardous substances spreading from the site through the air, surface water, or groundwater and on other factors such as nearby population. The HRS score is the primary factor in deciding if the site should be on the NPL.

Hazardous Waste: By-products of society that can pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health and the environment when improperly managed. Hazardous waste possesses at least one of four characteristics (ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity), or appears on special EPA lists.

Heavy Metals: Metallic elements with high atomic weights, such as arsenic, lead, mercury, and cadmium. Heavy metals are very hazardous even at low concentrations and tend to accumulate in the food chain.

Herbicide: A chemical pesticide designed to control or destroy plants, weeds, or grasses.

Hot Spot: An area or vicinity of a site containing exceptionally high levels of contamination.

Hydrocarbons: Chemical compounds that consist entirely of hydrogen and carbon.

Hydrology: The properties, distribution, and circulation of water.

Hydrogeology: The geology of groundwater, with particular emphasis on the chemistry and movement of water.

Impoundment: A body of water or sludge confined by a dam, dike, floodgate, or other barrier.

Incineration: A group of treatment technologies involving destruction of waste by controlled burning at high temperatures, e.g., burning sludge to reduce the remaining residues to a non-burnable ash that can be disposed of safely on land, in some waters, or in underground locations.

Infiltration: The movement of water or other liquid down through soil from precipitation (rain or snow) or from application of wastewater to the land surface.

Influent: Water, wastewater, or other liquid flowing into a reservoir, basin, or treatment plant.

Injection Well: A well into which waste fluids are placed, under pressure, for purposes of disposal.

Inorganic Chemicals: Chemical substances of mineral origin, not of basic carbon structure.

Installation Restoration Program: The specially funded program established in 1978 under which the Department of Defense has been identifying and evaluating its hazardous waste sites and controlling the migration of hazardous contaminants from those sites.

Intake: The source from where a water supply is drawn, such as from a river or water body.

Interagency Agreement: A written agreement between the EPA and a Federal agency that has the lead for site cleanup activities, setting forth the roles and responsibilities of the agencies for performing and overseeing the activities. States often are parties to interagency agreements.

Interim (Permit) Status: Conditions under which hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities, that were operating when regulations under the RCRA became final in 1980, are temporarily allowed by the EPA to continue to operate while awaiting denial or issuance of a permanent permit. The facility must comply with certain regulations to maintain interim status.

Lagoon: A shallow pond or liquid waste containment structure. Lagoons typically are used for the storage of wastewaters, sludges, liquid wastes, or spent nuclear fuel.

Landfarm: To apply waste to land or incorporate waste into the surface soil, such as fertilizer or soil conditioner. This practice commonly is used for disposal of composted wastes and sludges.

Landfill: A disposal facility where waste is placed in or on land. *Sanitary* landfills are disposal sites for non-hazardous solid wastes. The waste is spread in layers, compacted to the smallest practical volume, and covered with soil at the end of each operating day. *Secure chemical* landfills are disposal sites for hazardous waste. They are designed to minimize the chance of release of hazardous substances into the environment [see Resource Conservation and Recovery Act].

Leach, Leaching [v.t.]: The process by which soluble chemical components are dissolved and carried through soil by water or some other percolating liquid.

GLOSSARY

Leachate [n]: The liquid that trickles through or drains from waste, carrying soluble components from the waste.

Leachate Collection System: A system that gathers liquid that has leaked into a landfill or other waste disposal area and pumps it to the surface for treatment.

Liner: A relatively impermeable barrier designed to prevent leachate (waste residue) from leaking from a landfill. Liner materials include plastic and dense clay.

Long-term Remedial Phase: Distinct, often incremental, steps that are taken to solve site pollution problems. Depending on the complexity, site cleanup activities can be separated into several of these phases.

Long-term Response Action: An action which requires a continuous period of on-site activity before cleanup goals are achieved. These actions typically include the extraction and treatment of groundwater and monitoring actions.

Marsh: A type of wetland that does not contain peat moss deposits and is dominated by vegetation. Marshes may be either fresh or saltwater and tidal or non-tidal [see Wetland].

Migration: The movement of oil, gas, contaminants, water, or other liquids through porous and permeable soils or rock.

Mill Tailings: [See Mine Tailings].

Mine Tailings: A fine, sandy residue left from mining operations. Tailings often contain high concentrations of lead, uranium, and arsenic or other heavy metals.

Mitigation: Actions taken to improve site conditions by limiting, reducing, or controlling toxicity and contamination sources.

Modeling: A technique using a mathematical or physical representation of a system or theory that tests the effects that changes on system components have on the overall performance of the system.

Monitoring Wells: Special wells drilled at specific locations within, or surrounding, a hazardous waste site where groundwater can be sampled at selected depths and studied to obtain such information as the direction in which groundwater flows and the types and amounts of contaminants present.

National Priorities List (NPL): The EPA's list of the most serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites identified for possible long-term cleanup under Superfund. The EPA is required to update the NPL at least once a year.

Natural Attenuation: [See Attenuation].

Neutrals: Organic compounds that have a relatively neutral pH, complex structure and, due to their organic bases, are easily absorbed into the environment. Water is the most commonly known neutral, however, naphthalene, pyrene, and trichlorobenzene also are examples of neutrals.

Nitroaromatics: Common components of explosive materials, which will explode if activated by very high temperatures or pressures; 2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene (TNT) is a nitroaromatic.

Notice Letter: A General Notice Letter notifies the parties potentially responsible for site contamination of their possible liability. A Special Notice Letter begins a 60-day formal period of negotiation during which the EPA is not allowed to start work at a site or initiate enforcement actions against potentially responsible parties, although the EPA may undertake certain investigatory and planning activities.

The 60-day period may be extended if the EPA receives a good faith offer from the PRPs within that period. [See also Good Faith Offer].

On-Scene Coordinator (OSC): The predesignated EPA, Coast Guard, or Department of Defense official who coordinates and directs Superfund removal actions or Clean Water Act oil- or hazardous-spill corrective actions.

Operation and Maintenance: Activities conducted at a site after a cleanup action is completed to ensure that the cleanup or containment system is functioning properly.

Organic Chemicals/Compounds: Chemical substances containing mainly carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen.

Outfall: The place where wastewater is discharged into receiving waters.

Overpacking: Process used for isolating large volumes of waste by jacketing or encapsulating waste to prevent further spread or leakage of contaminating materials. Leaking drums may be contained within oversized barrels as an interim measure prior to removal and final disposal.

Pentachlorophenol (PCP): A synthetic, modified petrochemical that may be used as a wood preservative because of its toxicity to termites and fungi. It is a common component of creosotes and can cause cancer.

Perched (groundwater): Groundwater separated from another underlying body of groundwater by a confining layer, often clay or rock.

Percolation: The downward flow or filtering of water or other liquids through subsurface rock or soil layers, usually continuing downward to groundwater.

Pesticide: A substance or mixture of substances intended to prevent, destroy, or repel any pest. If misused, pesticides can accumulate in the foodchain and contaminate the environment.

Petrochemicals: Chemical substances produced from petroleum in refinery operations and as fuel oil residues. These include fluoranthene, chrysene, mineral spirits, and refined oils. Petrochemicals are the bases from which volatile organic compounds (VOCs), plastics, and many pesticides are made. These chemical substances often are toxic to humans and the environment.

Phenols: Organic compounds that are used in plastics manufacturing and are by-products of petroleum refining, tanning, textile, dye, and resin manufacturing. Phenols are highly poisonous.

Physical Chemical Separation: The treatment process of adding a chemical to a substance to separate the compounds for further treatment or disposal.

Pilot Testing: A small-scale test of a proposed treatment system in the field to determine its ability to clean up specific contaminants.

Plugging: The process of stopping the flow of water, oil, or gas into or out of the ground through a borehole or well penetrating the ground.

Plume: A body of contaminated groundwater flowing from a specific source. The movement of the groundwater is influenced by such factors as local groundwater flow patterns, the character of the aquifer in which groundwater is contained, and the density of contaminants [see Migration].

Pollution: Generally, the presence of matter or energy whose nature, location, or quantity produces undesired health or environmental effects.

GLOSSARY

Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons or Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs):

PAHs, such as pyrene, are a group of highly reactive organic compounds found in motor oil. They are a common component of creosotes and can cause cancer.

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs):

A group of toxic chemicals used for a variety of purposes including electrical applications, carbonless copy paper, adhesives, hydraulic fluids, microscope immersion oils, and caulking compounds. PCBs also are produced in certain combustion processes. PCBs are extremely persistent in the environment because they are very stable, non-reactive, and highly heat resistant. Chronic exposure to PCBs is believed to cause liver damage. It also is known to bioaccumulate in fatty tissues. PCB use and sale was banned in 1979 with the passage of the Toxic Substances Control Act.

Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PNAs):

PNAs, such as naphthalene, and biphenyls, are a group of highly reactive organic compounds that are a common component of creosotes, which can be carcinogenic.

Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC): A plastic made from the gaseous substance vinyl chloride. PVC is used to make pipes, records, raincoats, and floor tiles. Health risks from high concentrations of vinyl chloride include liver cancer and lung cancer, as well as cancer of the lymphatic and nervous systems.

Potable Water: Water that is safe for drinking and cooking.

Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs):

Parties associated with a Superfund site who may be liable for the cost of remedying the release of hazardous substances. This may include owners or operators of the site or transporters who disposed of materials at the site. PRPs may admit liability, or liability may be determined by a court of law. PRPs may sign a

Consent Decree or Administrative Order on Consent to participate in the site cleanup without admitting liability.

Precipitation: The removal of solids from liquid waste so that the solid and liquid portions can be disposed of safely; the removal of particles from airborne emissions. Electrochemical precipitation is the use of an anode or cathode to remove the hazardous chemicals. Chemical precipitation involves the addition of some substance to cause the solid portion to separate.

Preliminary Assessment: The process of collecting and reviewing available information about a known or suspected waste site or release to determine if a threat or potential threat exists.

Pump and Treat: A groundwater cleanup technique involving the extracting of contaminated groundwater from the subsurface and the removal of contaminants, using one of several treatment technologies.

Radionuclides: Elements, including radium and uranium-235 and -238, which break down and produce radioactive substances due to their unstable atomic structure. Some are man-made, and others are naturally occurring in the environment. Radon, the gaseous form of radium, decays to form alpha particle radiation, which cannot be absorbed through skin. However, it can be inhaled, which allows alpha particles to affect unprotected tissues directly and thus cause cancer. Radiation also occurs naturally through the breakdown of granite.

RCRA: [See Resource Conservation and Recovery Act].

Recharge Area: A land area where rainwater saturates the ground and soaks through the earth to reach an aquifer.

Record of Decision (ROD): A public document that explains which cleanup alternative(s) will be used to clean up sites listed on the NPL. It is based on information generated during the remedial investigation and feasibility study and consideration of public comments and community concerns.

Recovery Wells: Wells used to withdraw contaminants or contaminated groundwater.

Recycle: The process of minimizing waste generation by recovering usable products that might otherwise become waste.

Remedial Action (RA): The actual construction or implementation phase of a Superfund site cleanup following the remedial design [see Cleanup].

Remedial Design: A phase of site cleanup where engineers design the technical specifications for cleanup remedies and technologies.

Remedial Investigation: An in-depth study designed to gather the data necessary to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site, establish the criteria for cleaning up the site, identify the preliminary alternatives for cleanup actions, and support the technical and cost analyses of the alternatives. The remedial investigation is usually done with the feasibility study. In this volume, the remedial investigation is referred to as a site study [see also Feasibility Study].

Remedial Project Manager (RPM): The EPA or State official responsible for overseeing cleanup actions at the site.

Remedy Selection: The selection of the final cleanup strategy for the site. At the few sites where the EPA has determined that initial response actions have eliminated site contamination, or that any remaining con-

tamination will be naturally dispersed without further cleanup activities, a "No Action" remedy is selected [see Record of Decision].

Removal Action: Short-term immediate actions taken to address releases of hazardous substances [see Cleanup].

Residual: The amount of a pollutant remaining in the environment after a natural or technological process has taken place, e.g., the sludge remaining after initial wastewater treatment, or the particulates remaining in air after the air passes through a scrubber.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA): A Federal law that established a regulatory system to track hazardous substances from the time of generation to disposal. The law requires safe and secure procedures to be used in treating, transporting, storing, and disposing of hazardous substances. RCRA is designed to prevent new, uncontrolled hazardous waste sites.

Retention Pond: A small body of liquid used for disposing of wastes and containing overflow from production facilities. Sometimes retention ponds are used to expand the capacity of such structures as lagoons to store waste.

Runoff: The discharge of water over land into surface water. It can carry pollutants from the air and land and spread contaminants from its source.

Scrubber: An air pollution control device that uses a spray of water or reactant or a dry process to trap pollutants in emissions.

Sediment: The layer of soil, sand, and minerals at the bottom of surface waters such as streams, lakes, and rivers, that absorbs contaminants.

GLOSSARY

Seeps: Specific points where releases of liquid, usually leachate, form from waste disposal areas, particularly along the lower edges of landfills.

Seepage Pits: A hole, shaft, or cavity in the ground used for the storage of liquids, usually in the form of leachate, from waste disposal areas. The liquid gradually leaves the pit by moving through the surrounding soil.

Septage: Residue remaining in a septic tank after the treatment process.

Sinkhole: A hollow depression in the land surface in which drainage collects; associated with underground caves and passages that facilitate the movement of liquids.

Site Characterization: The technical process used to evaluate the nature and extent of environmental contamination, which is necessary for choosing and designing cleanup measures and monitoring their effectiveness.

Site Inspection: The collection of information from a hazardous waste site to determine the extent and severity of hazards posed by the site. It follows, and is more extensive than, a preliminary assessment. The purpose is to gather information necessary to score the site, using the Hazard Ranking System, and to determine if the site presents an immediate threat that requires a prompt removal action.

Slag: The fused refuse or dross separated from a metal in the process of smelting.

Sludge: Semi-solid residues from industrial or water treatment processes that may be contaminated with hazardous materials.

Slurry Wall: Barriers used to contain the flow of contaminated groundwater or subsurface

liquids. Slurry walls are constructed by digging a trench around a contaminated area and filling the trench with an impermeable material that prevents water from passing through it. The groundwater or contaminated liquids trapped within the area surrounded by the slurry wall can be extracted and treated.

Smelter: A facility that melts or fuses ore, often with an accompanying chemical change, to separate the metal. Emissions from smelters are known to cause pollution.

Soil Gas: Gaseous elements and compounds that occur in the small spaces between particles of soil. Such gases can move through or leave the soil or rock, depending on changes in pressure.

Soil Vapor Extraction: A treatment process that uses vacuum wells to remove hazardous gases from soil.

Soil Washing: A water-based process for mechanically scrubbing soils in-place to remove undesirable materials. There are two approaches: dissolving or suspending them in the wash solution for later treatment by conventional methods, and concentrating them into a smaller volume of soil through simple particle size separation techniques [see Solvent Extraction].

Stabilization: The process of changing an active substance into inert, harmless material, or physical activities at a site that act to limit the further spread of contamination without actual reduction of toxicity.

Solidification/Stabilization: A chemical or physical reduction of the mobility of hazardous constituents. Mobility is reduced through the binding of hazardous constituents into a solid mass with low permeability and resistance to leaching.

Solvent: A substance capable of dissolving another substance to form a solution. The primary uses of industrial solvents are as cleaners for degreasing, in paints, and in pharmaceuticals. Many solvents are flammable and toxic to varying degrees.

Solvent Extraction: A means of separating hazardous contaminants from soils, sludges, and sediment, thereby reducing the volume of the hazardous waste that must be treated. It generally is used as one in a series of unit operations. An organic chemical is used to dissolve contaminants as opposed to water-based compounds, which usually are used in soil washing.

Sorption: The action of soaking up or attracting substances. It is used in many pollution control systems.

Special Notice Letter: [See Notice Letter].

Stillbottom: Residues left over from the process of recovering spent solvents.

Stripping: A process used to remove volatile contaminants from a substance [see Air Stripping].

Sumps: A pit or tank that catches liquid runoff for drainage or disposal.

Superfund: The program operated under the legislative authority of the CERCLA and Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) to update and improve environmental laws. The program has the authority to respond directly to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances that may endanger public health, welfare, or the environment. The "Superfund" is a trust fund that finances cleanup actions at hazardous waste sites.

Surge Tanks: A holding structure used to absorb irregularities in flow of liquids, including liquid waste materials.

Swamp: A type of wetland that is dominated by woody vegetation and does not accumulate peat moss deposits. Swamps may be fresh or saltwater and tidal or non-tidal [see Wetlands].

Thermal Treatment: The use of heat to remove or destroy contaminants from soil.

Treatability Studies: Testing a treatment method on contaminated groundwater, soil, etc., to determine whether and how well the method will work.

Trichloroethylene (TCE): A stable, colorless liquid with a low boiling point. TCE has many industrial applications, including use as a solvent and as a metal degreasing agent. TCE may be toxic to people when inhaled, ingested, or through skin contact and can damage vital organs, especially the liver [see Volatile Organic Compounds].

Unilateral [Administrative] Order: [see Administrative Order].

Upgradient: An upward hydrologic slope; demarks areas that are higher than contaminated areas and, therefore, are not prone to contamination by the movement of polluted groundwater.

Vacuum Extraction: A technology used to remove volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from soils. Vacuum pumps are connected to a series of wells drilled to just above the water table. The wells are sealed tightly at the soil surface, and the vacuum established in the soil draws VOC-contaminated air from the soil pores into the well, as fresh air is drawn down from the surface of the soil.

GLOSSARY

Vegetated Soil Cap: A cap constructed with graded soils and seed for vegetative growth, to prevent erosion [see Cap].

Vitrification: The process of electrically melting wastes and soils or sludges to bind the waste in a glassy, solid material more durable than granite or marble and resistant to leaching.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs): VOCs are manufactured as secondary petrochemicals. They include light alcohols, acetone, trichloroethylene, perchloroethylene, dichloroethylene, benzene, vinyl chloride, toluene, and methylene chloride. These potentially toxic chemicals are used as solvents, degreasers, paints, thinners, and fuels. Because of their volatile nature, they readily evaporate into the air, increasing the potential exposure to humans. Due to their low water solubility, environmental persistence, and widespread industrial use, they are commonly found in soil and groundwater.

Waste Treatment Plant: A facility that uses a series of tanks, screens, filters, and other treatment processes to remove pollutants from water.

Wastewater: The spent or used water from individual homes or industries.

Watershed: The land area that drains into a stream or other water body.

Water Table: The upper surface of the groundwater.

Weir: A barrier to divert water or other liquids.

Wetland: An area that is regularly saturated by surface or groundwater and, under normal circumstances, is capable of supporting vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands are critical to sustaining many species of fish and wildlife. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, and bogs. Wetlands may be either coastal or inland. Coastal wetlands have salt or brackish (a mixture of salt and fresh) water, and most have tides, while inland wetlands are non-tidal and freshwater. Coastal wetlands are an integral component of estuaries.

Wildlife Refuge: An area designated for the protection of wild animals, within which hunting and fishing are either prohibited or strictly controlled.

Some Common Contaminants at NPL Sites

Contaminant Category	Example Chemical Types	Sources	Potential Health Threats*
Heavy Metals	Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Cobalt, Copper, Chromium, Lead, Manganese, Mercury, Nickel, Silver, Selenium, Zinc	Electroplating, batteries, paint pigments, photography, smelting, thermometers, fluorescent lights, solvent recovery	Tumors, cancers, and kidney, brain, neurological, bone and liver damage
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)	Trichloroethylene (TCE), Perchloroethylene (PCE), Acetone, Benzene, Ketone, Methyl chloride, Toluene, Vinyl Chloride, Dichloroethylene	Solvents and degreasers, gasoline octane enhancers, oils and paints, dry cleaning fluids, chemical manufacturing.	Cancers, kidney and liver damage, impairment of the nervous system resulting in sleepiness and headaches, leukemia
Pesticides/Herbicides	Chlordane, DDT 4-4, DDE, Heptachlor, Aldrin, Endrin, Atrazine, Dieldrin, Toxaphene	Agricultural applications, pesticide and herbicide production	Various effects ranging from nausea to nervous disorders. Dioxin is a common by-product of the manufacture of pesticides and is both highly toxic and a suspected carcinogen.
Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)	—	Electric transformers and capacitors, insulators and coolants, adhesives, caulking compounds, carbonless copy paper, hydraulic fluids.	Cancer and liver damage.
Creosotes	Polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), Polynuclear aromatics (PNAs), Phenolic Tars, Pentachlorophenol (PCP)	Wood preserving, fossil fuel combustion	Cancers and skin ulcerations with prolonged exposure
Radiation (Radionuclides)	Radium-226, Radon, Uranium-235, Uranium-238	Mine tailings, radium products, natural decay of granites	Cancer

Sources: *Toxic Chemicals—What They Are, How They Affect You (EPA, Region 5)*
Glossary of Environmental Terms (EPA, 1988)

*The potential for risk due to these contaminants is linked to a number of factors; for example, the length and level of exposure and environmental and health factors such as age.