



METAL BANK SUPERFUND SITE



PHILADELPHIA, PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3

November 2005

Proposed Settlements Reached

Cleanup Can Begin at the Metal Bank Superfund Site

After 25 years of litigation between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the parties responsible for the contamination at the site, a global settlement has been reached among the parties. The global settlement paves the way to complete the final design plans and move forward with the cleanup of the contaminated property located at 7301 Milnor Street and Cottman Avenue in the Tacony Section of Philadelphia.

The cleanup involves:

- Removing soil contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), which has been a source of PCBs to the groundwater and Delaware River;
- Removing contaminated sediment immediately adjacent to the site; and
- Capping Delaware River sediments that have been impacted but are not immediately adjacent with clean sediment.

This cleanup will go a long way in reducing the amount of PCBs impacting the Delaware River in the area.

The settlement requires the parties who sent PCB transformers to the site to perform the cleanup. In addition, the former owners of the site, Irvin and John Schorsch and the Union Trust, have each agreed to pay monies that will be used towards the cleanup of the site. A portion of EPA's past costs will also be reimbursed.

Site History

The Metal Bank Site occupies approximately ten acres along the Delaware River. From 1968 to 1972, Metal Bank of America, Inc. drained oil from used transformers to reclaim copper parts. The oil was stored in an Underground Storage Tank (UST). This UST was used by Metal Bank to store the used transformer oil. In 1972, the UST ruptured and a release of oil to the Delaware River was documented by the U.S. Coast Guard. The U.S. Coast Guard

Come to a Public Meeting for the Metal Bank Superfund Site



When: Wednesday, December 7
7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Where: St. Hubert Catholic
High School
7320 Torresdale Avenue
Philadelphia, PA

Why: To discuss the
proposed settlement
and upcoming cleanup
plans for the Site,
which include
excavation of con-
taminated soil and
sediment, installation
of a sheet-pile wall, and
removal of an under-
ground storage tank.

traced periodic oil slicks in the river to the site in 1972, and the company performed a limited cleanup to prevent further releases. However, oil continued to seep from the site.

If you would like to remain on this mailing list, please respond!

Please send your name and address to:

U.S. EPA
Jastremski, MC 3HS52
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Or by email to jastremski.wendy@epa.gov

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

Concerns On-site

In 1972, the UST ruptured and oil was released on-site and into the Delaware River. EPA has detected PCBs and other hazardous substances in the soils on the property and in Delaware River sediment adjacent to the property. Oil is also present in the subsurface at the site. The PCB contamination continues to impact the Delaware River as a result of groundwater and tidal wave movements underneath the site.

Recreational fishermen may be at risk from eating contaminated fish. Future construction workers may be at risk from the PCBs in the oil beneath the site. Fish and animals feeding on grounds next to the site may also be affected. Contaminant descriptions and their risk factors are available on the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry, website at:

www.atsdr.cdc.gov/hazdat.html.

Additional Information

Metal Bank Website : www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/PAD046557096

Superfund Program Website : www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super

Public Files : **Northeast Branch of the Philadelphia Public Library**
2228 Cottman Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19149

U.S. EPA Region III Reading Room
1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103
Please call (215) 814-3157 to schedule a visit.

To Read a Copy of the Consent Decree: The three consent decrees are available online at EPA's Metal Bank Website listed above. They are also available with all the supporting documents at the Northeast Branch of the Philadelphia Public Library.

Or Contact:

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