

Harley-Davidson Motor Company Operations, Inc. (Former York Naval Ordnance Plant)

1425 Eden Road
York, PA 17402
Congressional District 19
EPA ID #: PAD001643691
Last Updated: 12/30/2008

Site Description

Harley-Davidson has owned and operated a motorcycle manufacturing facility on this 230-acre site since 1973. Previous owners included the United States Department of the Navy, which operated a ordnance plant on the property (often referred to as the “Former York Naval Ordnance Plant”). Reportedly, the Former York Naval Ordnance Plant manufactured non-explosive ordnance items, such as guns and gun mounts. In January 1995, Harley-Davidson and the United States entered into an agreement whereby both parties agreed to share the costs for investigation and remediation of any releases or potential releases of hazardous constituents at the facility. This agreement provides that actions at the facility will be in substantial compliance with the National Contingency Plan.

Current Progress at the Site

This facility is one of EPA Region III’s priority RCRA corrective action sites. Substantial investigations and actions have already been undertaken by Harley-Davidson at the facility, including the construction and operation of groundwater and soil vapor extraction systems. Based on investigations and actions performed to date, on September 13, 2005, EPA determined that human exposures at the facility are under control. Remaining investigations and final remedy selections are being conducted per EPA and PADEP’s recently issued One Cleanup Program Agreement (see www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/newsletters/2004-04-21.htm).

Initial work under the One Cleanup Program Agreement has included the development of a Supplemental Remedial Investigation (RI) Workplan to further identify the groundwater and soil conditions and the extent of contamination at the facility. Per the One Cleanup Program Agreement, this work will meet the requirements of both the RCRA Corrective Action Action program and the PA Land Recycling Act (Act 2). The work described in this Workplan started in 2007, is currently in progress and includes the installation of new wells both on and off current Harley Davidson property, periodic sampling of new and existing wells and additional soil sampling.

Concurrently with the RI, the U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers (USACE) is conducting a Military Munitions Program Site Inspection to determine whether any munitions or explosives of concern remain at the facility and require cleanup. Most recently, old munitions were removed from the facility by the USACE in 2004.

An evaluation is also in progress to confirm whether soil vapors under or adjacent to the facility may contain volatile organic compounds (VOCs) at levels of concern. The evaluation to date has predicted that soil vapors containing VOCs should not adversely impact onsite or offsite structures.

Contaminants

Primary organic contaminants include VOCs such as trichloroethene (TCE), tetrachloroethene (PCE) and 1,1,1-trichloroethane. Inorganic contaminants include chromium, nickel and lead.

These and other hazardous constituents have been released to soil and groundwater on Harley-Davidson property. The locations of these releases include production areas as well as miscellaneous disposal areas on the property. Investigations are underway to determine the extent of the contamination due to these releases.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities are being conducted by Harley-Davidson under the One Cleanup Program with the cooperation of the United States, as represented by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the assistance of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Institutional Controls

No institutional controls are currently in place.

Community Involvement

Harley-Davidson is informing the community of environmental activities at the facility via periodic newsletters and a website (see www.yorksiteremedy.com).

Government Contacts

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For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm