

Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility

McGraw-Edison Co. (Pennsylvania Transformer Technology, Inc.)

**30 Curry Avenue
Canonsburg, PA 15317
Congressional District 20
EPA ID #: PAD004339297
Site Property Area: 92 Acres
Last Updated: 06/12/2008**

Current Progress at the Site

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) is pursuing the construction of a physical barrier (wall) at the stream's edge to stop the migration of PCBs into Chartiers Creek. Pennsylvania Transformer Technology, Inc. (PATT) wants to perform a new investigation phase between the creek and limestone outcropping. They are going to investigate installing larger diameter borings for pumping to try and capture the migrating oil/PCB to avoid having to install this wall. This work is currently being performed.

During a recent discussion with PADEP several maintenance issues, historical and recent releases, and remediation efforts were discussed that will have to be addressed. EPA will continue to work with PADEP to review information as it is received and determine if further activities are required to protect human health and the environment.

Site Description

PATT is located approximately one mile northeast of Canonsburg in Washington County, Pennsylvania along Chartiers Creek. This facility occupies 92 acres and consists of several industrial buildings that were constructed in the early 1900's. The original owner of the site was the Defense Plant Corporation, who manufactured warheads at the site for an unknown time period before 1947. In 1947, the property was purchased by Pennsylvania Transformer, who manufactured large power transformers and switch gears. In 1963, Pennsylvania Transformer merged with Lines Products to form McGraw-Edison, who also operated as an electrical transformer manufacturing/ conditioning center. In 1985, Cooper Power Systems bought the site from McGraw-Edison and continued to manufacture switchgear and transformers. In 1996, PATT purchased the Facility from Cooper and began operations in 1997. Current hazardous wastes generated at the facility are limited to paint related waste and parts cleaning solutions.

PATT finalized a Consent Order & Agreement (CO&A) on April 14, 2005 with PADEP to address maintenance issues with the existing pump and treat systems; subsurface lithology

identification; further groundwater, surface water, and sediment sampling; and issues relating to the stormwater and sewer piping.

PATT initiated a site characterization program (initiated on 4/12/05) to delineate the plume associated with the "Guard House Seep". This seep has been the source of polychlorinated biphenol (PCB) contaminated oils entering into Chartiers creek. The investigation of the Guardhouse seep has yielded significant information and the opportunity to recover contamination entering Chartiers Creek. Several groundwater monitoring wells were drilled to intercept fracture networks identified during GPR (ground penetrating radar) and VLF (very low frequency) geophysical surveys. A significant volume of oil contaminated with PCBs and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) was encountered in more than one of the wells.

Groundwater at the facility is contaminated with PCBs, VOCs, oil, and grease. Contaminated groundwater is recovered and treated under a CO&A with PADEP. The groundwater treatment system consists of two groundwater collection systems (one in the southwestern and one in the northern portion of the Facility combined) and another system to treat contaminated storm water. All treated water is discharged to Chartiers Creek through two permitted outfalls that are sampled on a regular basis.

Site Responsibility

The majority of Corrective Action activities at this facility have been conducted through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Consent Order & Agreements and through the delegated portions of RCRA or the Environmental Cleanup Program. EPA Region 3 will determine if any additional Corrective Action under RCRA is necessary.

Contaminants

Groundwater and soil contaminants of concern at the Facility include: PCB's, VOCs, oil, and grease.

Community Interaction

EPA will invite the public to comment on any proposed corrective measures required before they are implemented at the Facility.

Institutional Controls

There are currently no institutional controls established at this facility.

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