

DuPont Teijin Films

1 Discovery Drive,
Chester, Virginia 23836
Congressional District # 4
EPA ID#: VAD000019273
Last Updated: 12/12/2008

Current Progress at Site

The DuPont Teijin Films Chesterfield Plant (Site) entered EPA's Region 3 Facility Lead Program in December 2006 to conduct RCRA Corrective Action activities. In 2007, DuPont Teijin Films prepared and submitted to EPA and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) a RCRA facility investigation (RFI) Work Plan that will utilize a phased approach to perform characterization activities at the site. The objectives of the RFI are to: determine if any areas of the site have released hazardous constituents to the environment and if so, the extent of the contamination; evaluate the site conditions relative to EPA's Environmental Indicator (EI) criteria; conduct effective public involvement; and perform interim measures, as necessary, to prevent or mitigate unacceptable threats to human health or the environment. Investigation activities associated with the Phase I RFI were completed in the spring of 2008.

A groundwater monitoring program was initiated by ICI Polyester's (previous owner's) risk management program in 1990 through the installation of four groundwater-monitoring wells. Based on the initial results of the four monitoring wells, semi-annual monitoring was implemented to track attenuation of contaminants observed during the initial sampling effort. A total of 15 groundwater monitoring wells currently exist at the Site. Sixteen years of analytical data has been collected.

Site Description

DuPont Teijin Films is a 147 acre property located in the Bermuda Hundred area of Chesterfield County, Virginia. The Site is surrounded by water on three sides, and is relatively flat with a slight rise in topography from west to east. The James River lies to the north, the Appomattox River, a major tributary of the James River, lies about one mile to the east, and some undeveloped land including a wildlife refuge with a 30-acre pond lies to the west with sporadic wetlands on the northern and western perimeters.

The Site was constructed by ICI Polyester in the early 1970s, purchased by E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company in 1998, and entered a joint venture with Teijin Films in 2000. Manufacturing activities have consisted of various polymer film materials with over 50 polyester film types and 8,000 product configurations. The primary chemicals used in the manufacturing process include ethylene glycol, dimethyl terephthalate, and terephthalic acid, and historically phenolic compounds. The facility manufactures methanol as a byproduct of the polyester process.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are being conducted under the Facility Lead Program administered by U.S. EPA Region 3 in conjunction with the VDEQ.

Contaminants

Preliminary constituents of potential concern (COPCs) have been identified through the groundwater monitoring program at the site. The current COPCs consist of total phenols, Dowtherm® components (1,1-biphenyl and diphenyl ether), and 1,4-dioxane. Total phenols are present above their respective Federal Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) at one or more locations. Chloroform, 1,4-dioxane, and 1,1-biphenyl were above their respective EPA Region III Tap Water screening levels. Chlorinated solvents (primarily PCE, TCE, and DCE) have been detected in one or more of the groundwater monitoring wells at concentrations exceeding the Federal MCLs; however, the source of the chlorinated solvents is indeterminate but is thought to be derived from off-site.

Community Interaction

The RFI Work Plan includes a Community Relations Plan. The Community Relations Plan calls for DuPont to establish document repository at the Enon Library in Chester. Public meetings will be conducted, if necessary, as corrective action progresses at the site.

Institutional Controls

Institutional Controls have not been implemented at this site. However, they will be implemented as part of the final remedy.

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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.