# Price Landfill #1

## New Jersey

EPA ID#: NJD070281175

**EPA REGION 2**

Congressional District(s): 02

Atlantic

Egg Harbor Township

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 10/1/1981
Final Date: 9/1/1983

# Site Description

The 26-acre Price Landfill #1 site is located in Egg Harbor Township and the City of Pleasantville. The site originally was a sand and gravel excavation operation that closed in 1968. Beginning in 1971, the Price landfilling operation began to accept a combination of both drummed and bulk liquid wastes. Initial listings of wastes consisted of industrial chemicals, sludges, oil, grease, septic tank, and sewer wastes. Tank trucks emptied bulk waste into the pit, and others dumped drums some of which were punctured. Chemical waste disposal ended in late 1972, sludge disposal in spring 1973, and municipal waste disposal ended in 1976. During its operation, it is estimated that over 9 million gallons of chemical waste were disposed of at the site. As a result, groundwater in the area is contaminated. The drinking water supply for Atlantic City had been threatened until relocation of the water supply wells took place. Approximately 100 houses are located within 1 1/2 miles of the site, with a total population estimated at 380. Land use in the immediate area consists of residential properties, small business properties, sand and gravel excavations, and undeveloped rural lots.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and State actions

# Threat and Contaminants

Groundwater is contaminated with heavy metals including lead and cadmium, and the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) benzene, chloroform, vinyl chloride, and methylene chloride. Potential health risks may exist for individuals exposed to contaminated groundwater. Also, groundwater contamination may threaten Absecon Creek and other nearby creeks. The installation of fencing around the site has prevent public access to the landfill.

# Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in three stages: immediate actions and two long-term remedial phases focusing on wells/plume management/source control and cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status

Immediate Actions: The EPA provided drinking water from tank trucks to affected residences and, in 1981, 37 affected residences were connected to the New Jersey Water Company (NJWC) system. To ensure that the contaminant plume would not reach the Atlantic City Municipal Utilities Authority (ACMUA) public water supply well field, the EPA and the State of New Jersey constructed an interconnection with the NJWC System, redeveloped three ACMUA production wells, installed granular activated carbon filtration units, and implemented a water conservation program.

Wells/Plume Management/Source Control: In 1983, the EPA issued a Record of Decision providing for the replacement and relocation of the ACMUA water supply well field. From 1983 to 1985, the State replaced and relocated the ACMUA water supply well field and transmission facilities and conducted additional analysis of the plume management, source control, and treatment alternatives.

Entire Site: In a 1986 Record of Decision, the EPA selected the following site cleanup actions: (1) installation of a security fence around the landfill site; (2) installation of groundwater extraction wells adjacent to the landfill to control the contaminant source; (3) installation of groundwater extraction wells hydraulically downgradient from the landfill to stop the migration of the contaminant plume; (4) construction of a groundwater/leachate pretreatment facility at or near the site; (5) construction of a force main to the Atlantic County Utilities Authority(ACUA) interceptor system; (6) extraction of contaminated groundwater followed by pretreatment and conveyance to the ACUA wastewater facility for final treatment; (7) quarterly monitoring of groundwater for approximately 25 years; and (8) construction of a landfill cap at the conclusion

of the groundwater remediation. The State began design of the various aspects of the remedy in 1987. Design activities were halted when the State and ACUA could not agree on terms for acceptance of wastewater from the on-site treatment facility. In June 1993, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) completed a Focused Feasibility Study (FFS) to evaluate several treatment and disposal options for the ground water. In March 1999, NJDEP completed an interim remedial design for a pilot plant to evaluate the treatment and discharge of the treated groundwater into the aquifer. The pilot plant was completed in February 2001. The pilot plant is currently operating at the site. Treated water is being disposed of in an infiltration basin. Remedial Design of the remedy is ongoing and is currently being performed by EPA.

Site Facts: Notice letters were sent to potentially responsible parties in February 1982, and in January 1987. The EPA, the State of New Jersey, and the ACMUA reached an agreement with approximately 50 companies and individuals to provide for the payment of part of the costs of cleaning up the landfill. The sum of $17 million was deposited in an escrow account and is being be used by NJDEP for site activities.

# Cleanup Progress

In 1981, EPA provided drinking water from tank trucks to the affected residences. Thirty-seven residences were connected to the New Jersey Water Company (NJWC) potable water system. In addition, EPA and the state interconnected the ACMUA and the NJWC potable water systems. EPA redeveloped three ACMUA production wells, and installed granular activated carbon filtration units to treat any contaminated water. Between 1983 and 1985, EPA and the State replaced and relocated the ACMUA water supply well and distribution facilities to a location away from the path of the plume.

The remedial design work for the groundwater pump and treat system reached 95% completion when the ACMUA declined to accept the discharge from the treatment plant. In 1993, NJDEP decided to evaluate the use of infiltration basins for the discharge of the treated groundwater. In November 1997, NJDEP initiated a study to size the infiltration basins for the reinjection of the treated groundwater and to analyze the various components of the groundwater treatment system. The infiltration basin study was completed in July 1999. The study indicated that the infiltration basins were not an effective method for discharging the treated groundwater into the aquifer. This was attributed to iron fouling of the infiltration basins. As a result, NJDEP has decided to use recharge basins to dispose of the treated groundwater. Testing of the different components of the treatment system indicated that the treatment components could effectively treat the contaminated groundwater. In March 1999, NJDEP completed an interim remedial design for the pilot plant. In February 2001, NJDEP completed the pilot plant construction and initiated pilot plant testing of the groundwater treatment system. Pilot plant testing was completed in the summer 2002. In January 2003, NJDEP initiated the remedial design for the final groundwater treatment system. The remedial design is being conducted in several phases. The first phase was completed in January 2005, which included the delineation of the landfill boundaries. The other phases of the remedial design which are currently being conducted by EPA will include the full-scale treatment plant and the recharge basins. The remedial design is expected to be completed in 2010.

Recovery Act Project Activity: EPA will use the $10-25 million in Recovery Act funds allocated to this site for landfill capping as well as construction and operation of a groundwater extraction and treatment system. This system will control further migration of groundwater contamination. After construction of the landfill cap and implementation of the source control action, which includes capping of the landfill, a groundwater remedy will be put into place to address the down-gradient portion of the groundwater contaminant plume. The goal of this remedy is aquifer restoration. Speeding up the implementation of the source control action will reduce the cost associated with restoring the aquifer.

# Site Repositories

EPA Superfund Records Center, 290 Broadway, 18th Floor, New York, NY 10007