

Combe Fill North Landfill

New Jersey

EPA ID#: NJD980530596

EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 11

Morris

Mt. Olive Township

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 12/1/1982

Final Date: 9/1/1983

Site Description

Between 1966 and 1978, the 65-acre Combe Fill North Landfill site operated as a sanitary municipal landfill, accepting domestic and industrial wastes, along with minimal amounts of dry sewage sludge. In 1978, the landfill was purchased by Combe Fill Corporation (CFC). In 1979, groundwater beneath the site was found to be contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs), as were private residential wells near the site. VOCs were also found in the air at the site. Runoff flowed across the surface of the landfill and drained into the creeks that border the site. The landfill was not properly closed when CFC went bankrupt in 1981. The area surrounding the site is primarily wooded, with small residential areas, farms, retail centers, and light industry. Approximately 10,000 people rely on groundwater supplied from wells approximately two miles from the site. In 1986, EPA and the State selected a containment remedy for the site. The remedial action has been completed and monitoring is being conducted to ensure the effectiveness of the remedy.

Site Responsibility: This site has been addressed through Federal and State actions.

Threat and Contaminants

Presently, the remedial action has been completed and is protective of human health and the environment. The site currently does not pose any risk to human health and the environment. However, monitoring and sampling activities continue to be conducted to ensure the effectiveness of the remedy.

Cleanup Approach

This site was addressed in a single long-term remedial phase focusing on remediation of the entire site.

Cleanup Progress

In 1986, the EPA and the State selected a remedy to contain the site that included: (1) grading and compacting the waste disposal area; (2) covering the landfill with a clay or a synthetic material to prevent surface water and rainwater from coming into contact with the buried waste [clay was used as the cover material]; (3) installing a system to collect drainage from the site; (4) installing a ventilation system for the methane gas; and (5) fencing the site. These remedial activities have been completed and the State is currently monitoring the groundwater and air to ensure the effectiveness of the remedy. A second five-year review was completed in June 2004; the first one was completed in September 1999. The reviews found that the remedy remains protective of human health and the environment.

A Consent Decree was lodged into Federal Court on June 18, 1999 to recover \$7.5 million in past remedial costs from potentially responsible parties.

On June 2, 2004 a notice was published in the Federal Register announcing the removal of the Combe Fill North Superfund Site from the NPL. In November 2006, a potential developer, through a bidding process, won the rights to purchase the property. In November 2007, the potential developer conducted field investigation activities to determine if the site meets the criteria for development. EPA has reviewed the potential developer's investigation conducted last fall. At this time, no current information or site development proposal has been submitted to EPA.

A third five-year review is currently being conducted and is scheduled to be completed in summer 2009.

Site Repositories

The site repositories are located at Mount Olive Public Library, 140 Wolfe Road, Budd Lake, New Jersey 07828 and at U.S. EPA' file room located at 290 Broadway, NYC, 10007.