

DeRewal Chemical Company

New Jersey

EPA ID#: NJD980761373

EPA REGION 2 Congressional District(s): 12

Hunterdon
Kingwood Township

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 9/1/1983

Final Date: 9/1/1984

Site Description

From 1970 to 1973, the DeRewal Chemical Company used the site for the storage of chemicals. Chemicals handled included a range of metals, acid solutions, and fertilizer nutrients and associated compounds. Numerous chemical spills were reported in 1973, including one incident in which the contents of a tank truck containing an acidic chromium solution were allowed to drain onto the soil. The DeRewal Chemical Company ceased operations at the site around 1974. The site is adjacent to the Delaware River, which is used for recreation. Several residences are located near the site. The population of Kingwood Township is approximately 3,900.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal actions.

Threat and Contaminants

The soil was contaminated with metals including cadmium, chromium, copper, and lead, as well as polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The shallow water-bearing zone contained metals and VOCs at levels above health-based standards, but is not used as a source of potable water. Testing of the bedrock aquifer showed the presence of VOCs such as trichloroethene and tetrachloroethene, as well as cadmium, but not at levels exceeding health-based standards.

Cleanup Approach

This site is being addressed in two remedial phases focusing on cleanup of the contaminated soils and the shallow ground water.

Response Action Status

Entire Site: Based on studies of the contamination at the site, EPA selected a remedy which included: (1) excavation of contaminated soil; (2) on-site thermal treatment of organic-contaminated soil; (3) on-site solidification and stabilization of the thermally treated soil and the inorganic-contaminated soil; (4) extraction of shallow contaminated ground water with off-site disposal at an approved industrial wastewater treatment facility; (5) provision of a treatment system for the on-site residential well; and (6) monitoring to ensure the effectiveness of the remedy. After reviewing additional data gathered during the design process, and presenting its findings to the public, EPA changed the remedy for the organic-contaminated soil from on-site to off-site thermal treatment in an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) signed in December 1994. EPA changed the remedy for the inorganic-contaminated soil to off-site treatment and disposal in an ESD signed in June 1997. The 1997 ESD also indicated that the chromium-contaminated soil located below the water table would not be excavated since it was not a source of ground water contamination.

Cleanup Progress

(Construction Completed)

The treatment system for the on-site residential well was installed in 1991, and EPA periodically monitored nearby potable wells to ensure that they were not impacted by the site.

A cultural resources mitigation action took place in November and December 1996 which resulted in the recovery of more than 3,000 Native American artifacts, many dating back more than 1,000 years. EPA worked in a cooperative

manner with Kingwood and transferred all of the artifacts to the Township. Many are on public display at the Kingwood Township Municipal Building.

A remedial action contract was awarded on May 30, 1997 to address the contaminated soil at the site. The contractor mobilized to the site on July 23, 1997 and completed the cleanup on July 30, 1998. Approximately 60,000 tons of contaminated soil were excavated and disposed of off-site. Restoration activities have also been completed.

The State obtained a conservation easement dated January 31, 2002 which incorporated portions of the site into the Delaware River Greenway. In addition, the State purchased a portion of the site in November 2002.

A remedial action contract was awarded on June 30, 2003 to address the contaminated shallow ground water at the site. The contractor mobilized to the site on July 10, 2003 and completed the construction in September 2003. Operation of the ground water remediation system is ongoing.

EPA completed a five-year review of the site in July 2007. The five-year review documented that the remedy was protective of human health and the environment.

Site Repositories

Hunterdon County Library, New Jersey State Route 12, Raritan Township, NJ; and

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 290 Broadway, 18th floor, New York, NY 10007