

Facet Enterprises, Inc.

New York

EPA ID#: NYD073675514

EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 31

Chemung
Elmira Heights4

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 10/1/1981

Final Date: 9/1/1983

Site Description

From 1929 to 1976, the 39-acre Facet Enterprises, Inc. site was owned and operated by the Bendix Corporation, which manufactured various products including bicycle parts, automobile engine components, and small arms during World War II. In 1976, Facet Enterprises, Inc. was created to carry on the manufacturing of engine components. In 1990, Facet Enterprises, Inc. changed its name to the Purolator Products Company. Facet Enterprises however remains the site name. Disposal of waste materials on the plant property is known to have occurred since at least the 1940s through 1978. The site contains numerous disposal areas, including eight dump sites and two open sludge disposal areas. Wastes disposed of at the site include cyanide salts, heavy metal sludges, spent solvents, and various oils. In addition to the eight known disposal areas, the open, flat area to the northwest of Plant 2 has been used for material storage throughout the plant's operating history. On-site disposal of wastes was discontinued by Facet in 1978. The site is adjacent to a residential area and is less than 200 feet from the nearest home. The nearby wells, Sullivan Street public water supply wells, which supply drinking water for more than 10,000 people, were closed due to contamination by trichloroethylene (TCE). There are approximately 1,000 people living within a 1/4-mile radius of the site, and six schools are located within a mile of the site.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible parties' actions.

Threat and Contaminants

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), inorganics, and petroleum were detected in on-site monitoring wells and surface water at concentrations above NYSDEC standards. The Elmira Water Board Sullivan Street public water supply wells have been contaminated with TCE. In addition, EPA detected a layer of pure product floating on top of the water table at one monitoring well located on the facility property. Perchloroethylene, TCE, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, 1,1-dichloroethane, trans -1,2-dichloroethene, 1,2-dichlorobenzene, trichlorofluoro methane, methylene chloride, acetone, PCBs, and polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) were present in site soils.

Cleanup Approach

This site is being addressed in a single long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status

Entire Site: Under EPA direction, Facet initiated a hydrogeological investigation of the site in 1983, which confirmed groundwater contamination. In 1986, Facet initiated an investigation to determine the extent of contamination at the site and to identify alternatives for the cleanup. A Record of Decision (ROD) for the Site was signed on September 4, 1992. The selected remedy included excavation of the contaminated soils and sediments and consolidation of this excavated soils and sediments beneath a RCRA cap. Wells to extract contaminated ground water from the aquifer and a system to treat the extracted groundwater by air stripping was also installed. On May 14, 1996, EPA approved the final remedial design submitted by Purolator Products Company. In August 1996, Purolator Products Company started the remedial action activities under EPA oversight. The remedial construction was completed in May 2000.

Site Facts: Facet signed a Consent Order in 1983 to conduct a hydrogeological investigation of the site. Facet entered into an Administrative Order in 1986 to conduct an investigation to determine the extent of the contamination and to identify alternatives for the cleanup. In June 1993, a Consent Decree between EPA and Purolator Products Company was entered in the Western District Court of New York. The Consent Decree requires Purolator to conduct the remedial design and remedial action required by the 1992 ROD, and to pay EPA's past and future oversight costs plus interest.

Cleanup Progress

On September 4, 1992, a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Site was issued for the excavation of soils and sediments and the treatment of contaminated groundwater. 23,541 tons of contaminated soils and sediments have been excavated and disposed of off-site during the construction completed in May 2000.

Construction of the groundwater remediation system was completed in September 1997. Groundwater contamination is addressed at Facet and Sullivan Street Wellfield by using air strippers to remove the contaminants from groundwater. The groundwater pump and treat system located at the site was completed and has been operational since the fall of 1997.

Site Repositories

Town Clerk, Horseheads Town Hall, 150 Wygant Road, Horseheads, New York 14845