

BEC Trucking
New York
EPA ID#: NYD980768675

EPA REGION 2
Congressional District(s): 26

Broome
Vestal

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 10/1/1984
Final Date: 6/1/1986
Deletion Date: 10/14/1992

Site Description

Prior to the mid-1960s, the 3 1/2-acre site on Stewart Road in Vestal was unimproved marshland. The company that was to become BEC Trucking filled the marshland with various materials, including fly ash from a local power company, to raise the ground level. After raising the ground level, the property was used by BEC Trucking for truck body manufacturing. The truck body fabrication, painting, and vehicle maintenance operations that were performed here generated hazardous wastes, which were stored on-site. In 1982, alerted by municipal officials, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation found about 50 improperly stored drums. The drums contained waste motor oil, metal cutting oil, paint thinners, solvents, methanol, toluene, and petroleum distillates. Investigators also saw stained soil where spills had occurred. In 1983, COGS, Inc. purchased the property. The new owner removed the drums and placed the stained soil into four drums, which remained on-site. The property currently is being used to store construction materials. The area around the site is primarily commercial and industrial. It is bordered by Stewart Road to the south, industrial properties to the east and north, and the Stewart Trailer Park and wetlands to the west.

Approximately 3,000 people live within a 1-mile radius of the site. Residences around the site, including those in the trailer park, are hooked up to a public water system. Three other hazardous waste sites listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) are located within a mile of the BEC Trucking site, which complicates analysis of pollution problems in the area.

Site Responsibility: This site was addressed through federal actions.

Threat and Contaminants

An EPA investigation in 1988 detected low levels of benzene and arsenic in the ground water underlying the site. Sediments and surface soils were found to contain low levels of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. The results of a risk assessment performed during intensive study of the site revealed minimal risk assessment performed during intensive study of the site revealed minimal risk to human health.

Cleanup Approach

The site was addressed in two stages: immediate actions and a long-term remedial phase.

Response Action Status

Immediate Actions: In 1983, the property owner removed 30 empty drums and 20 drums containing waste motor oil, metal cutting oil, paint thinners, solvents, methanol, toluene, and petroleum distillates. Stained soil located around the drums was excavated and was contained in drums on-site; these drums were removed by EPA in 1991.

Entire Site: The site was added to the NPL based on the potential future threat to public health and the environment. Based upon the results of a remedial investigation and feasibility study performed at the site, it was determined that, as a result of the cleanup activities conducted at the site in 1983, the site does not pose a significant threat to human health and the environment. In 1989, EPA signed a Record of Decision (ROD), recommending no further action at the site. The ROD also called for a monitoring program for ground water, surface water, and sediments that will ensure the protection of human health and the environment. Ground water, surface water, and sediment samples were collected from the site in late 1991 as part of the monitoring program. Based on the sampling results, which indicated that significant contaminant migration is not occurring at the site, the site was deleted from the NPL on October 14, 1992.

As part of the monitoring program, ground water, surface water, and sediment samples were collected from the site in the spring and fall of 1996. Based on the sampling results which showed that no contaminants of concern exceeded site-specific action levels, it has been concluded that no further monitoring is necessary.

Cleanup Progress

The removal of the 50 surface drums and associated stained soil eliminated a potential source of contamination. Intensive investigation of the conditions at the BEC Trucking site has shown that the levels of contaminants in the ground water, surface water, and sediments are within the accepted state and federal guidelines. Therefore, there are no site-wide cleanup actions required at the site at this time.

Site Repositories

Vestal Public Library, 320 Vestal Parkway East, Vestal, NY 13850

Vestal Town Hall, 605 Vestal Parkway West, Vestal, NY 13850

EPA Region 2 Superfund Records Center, 290 Broadway, 18th Floor, New York, NY 10007-1866