

Byron Barrel And Drum

New York

EPA ID#: NYD980780670

EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 27

Genesee

9 miles north of Batavia

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 10/1/1984

Final Date: 6/10/1986

Site Description

The Byron Barrel and Drum site, which occupies about 2 acres of an 8-acre parcel, was used as a salvage yard for heavy construction equipment. In 1982, it was revealed that the site had been used for hazardous waste disposal. Approximately 200 drums of solid and liquid chemical wastes were abandoned on the site without any spill control or containment provisions. Over 200 additional drums were ripped open or crushed, mixed with soil, and covered over. Other drums were disposed of in a ravine. Testing by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation showed hazardous substances, including polychlorinated biphenyls, in many of the drums. The site is bordered by heavily wooded areas and farmland. Surface water drains to Oak Orchard Creek, which is within 1/2 mile of the site. The property lies within 2 miles of a residential area. Approximately 20 people draw drinking water from wells within 1 mile of the site; 2,200 others live within a 3-mile radius. Water supplies are privately provided and use both surface water and ground water. Testing of residential wells near the site through early 1994 has not shown any site-related contaminants to be present.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through a combination of federal and potentially responsible party's actions.

Threat and Contaminants

On-site ground water and soil are contaminated with volatile organic compounds. Direct contact with or ingestion of contaminated ground water or soils on this site may pose a health threat.

Cleanup Approach

This site is being addressed in two stages: emergency actions and a long-term remedial phase focusing on the cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status

Emergency Actions: In 1984, EPA removed the drums located on-site and contaminated soils and debris from the site and disposed of them at an EPA-approved hazardous waste disposal facility. EPA also installed a monitoring well, sampled soils, and tested nearby private wells. In 1990, during an EPA site inspection, 10 additional drums were found and disposed of.

Entire Site: In 1989, following the completion of a remedial investigation and feasibility study to determine the nature and extent of the contamination at and emanating from the site and to evaluate remedial alternatives, a Record of Decision (ROD) was signed, selecting a remedy for the site. The selected remedy featured extracting contaminated water by pumping, evaporating volatile ground water contaminants from the extracted groundwater by air stripping, decontaminating the collected vapors with activated carbon, and reinjecting the treated groundwater to flush contaminants from the subsurface soil in-place. Data collected during pre-remedial design sampling revealed that the contaminant concentrations in the groundwater in one of the two areas of the site noted above are only marginally above the cleanup levels specified in the ROD and that the levels of inorganic contaminants in the surface soil in the third area of the site noted above is consistent with background concentrations. Based on these findings, it was concluded that further action in these two areas is not warranted. The contamination in the remaining area of the site, however, still requires remediation. To enhance the remediation of the contaminated soil in this area, instead of discharging the treated water to a recharge basin, as was originally planned, an infiltration gallery, consisting of perforated pipe and gravel, will be installed after the excavation of several feet of contaminated soil. The excavated soil will be transported off-site for

treatment/disposal. These modifications to the remedy were documented in an August 2000 Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD).

The design of the selected remedy, as modified by the ESD, was performed by the potentially responsible parties (PRPs). The in-situ soil flushing remedy commenced in June 2000. The remediation of the contaminated soils was completed in September 2002. Since the groundwater is still contaminated, the ground water extraction, treatment, and reinjection system continues to operate.

On September 24, 2002, EPA approved a Preliminary Close-Out Report, documenting the completion of construction activities at the site.

Five-year reviews are undertaken at sites to ensure that implemented remedies protect public health and the environment and that they function as intended by site decision documents. EPA completed the first five-year review for the site in September 2007. The assessment of this five year review was that the implemented actions at the site protect human health and the environment. The second five-year review will be completed on or before September 2012.

Site Facts: EPA issued an Administrative Order in 1984, requiring the property owner to take immediate corrective actions to clean up the site. The owner did not comply with the order. In 1990, EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) to the PRPs for the performance of the engineering design and the cleanup of the site. The UAO was superseded by a Consent Decree in 1996.

Cleanup Progress

The removal of over 400 drums and approximately 64 tons of contaminated soils and debris greatly reduced the potential for exposure to hazardous substances at the Byron Barrel and Drum site while further studies and design of the final cleanup activities continue.

As part of the soil remedy, approximately 650 cubic yard of contaminated soil were remediated.

Site Repositories

Byron Town Hall, Townline Road, Byron, New York 14422

Gillam Grant Library, 6966 West Bergan Road, Bergan, New York 14416

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