

Lightman Drum Company

New Jersey

EPA ID#: NJD014743678

EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 01

Camden

Winslow Township

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 7/26/1999

Final Date: 10/22/1999

Site Description

The 15-acre Lightman Drum Company (LDC) Superfund site is located on Route 73 in Winslow Township, Camden County, New Jersey. LDC acquired the property in 1974 and began recycling drums. LDC received drums, some full or partially full; which were emptied before they could be forwarded to an off-site location for cleaning. Initially, a pit was dug at the rear of the property to discard the contents of any drum that arrived "heavy". This practice was discovered by an adjacent property owner, who contacted the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). A formal complaint was filed in 1974 and NJDEP took legal action to force the company to upgrade its disposal methods. The NJDEP continued to monitor operations at the Site and in 1977, during a site inspection, discovered that LDC had installed two 5,000-gallon underground storage tanks. The company applied for, and was granted, a temporary one year permit to receive and store specific types of waste before sending these wastes to an approved hazardous waste facility for final disposal. Under this temporary one year permit, LDC consolidated chemical residues in underground storage tanks, in drums, and in trailers. Numerous violations occurred during this period of operation, which led to the subsequent denial of LDC's application to continue as an interim hazardous waste storage facility. In 1987, a NJDEP investigation led to the discovery and further investigation of volatile organic chemicals and heavy metals contamination in the on-site soils. NJDEP supervised subsequent investigations of the contamination by the company under a 1988 Administrative Order (AO). The 1988 AO ordered LDC to conduct an investigation to determine the nature and extent of contamination and any impact on human health and the environment. The investigation documented that the groundwater underlying the site was contaminated with hazardous substances as a result of the company's operations. Recycling operations at the Site have since ceased. LDC, d/b/a United Cooperage, is currently buying and selling used and reconditioned drums at the Site. Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) actions.

Threat and Contaminants

Site investigation sampling data has revealed that groundwater is contaminated with VOCs such as TCE, PCE, and methylene chloride, and heavy metals. Ingestion of contaminated groundwater including use of contaminated groundwater for domestic purposes and agricultural irrigation may pose a potential health risk. Within four miles of the site, seven public supply wells and numerous private wells utilize the Kirkwood-Cohansey Aquifer (the contaminated aquifer) as a source of drinking water.

Cleanup Approach

The Site is being addressed in a single long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire Site. Response Action Status Entire Site: The EPA and NJDEP are overseeing an investigation of the groundwater contamination emanating from the Lightman Drum site that has been underway since 2002. The groundwater investigation has included a thorough evaluation of the vertical and horizontal extent of contamination. Field activities are nearing completion and a nano-scale zero-valent iron groundwater remediation technology is being piloted at the site. Results of the site investigation and pilot study will be used by the EPA to evaluate and select final cleanup alternatives. Site Facts: In March 2000 EPA sent out 32 letters to potentially responsible parties who may have contributed to the contamination at the Site and may be liable for costs of the response actions. In November 2000 sixteen PRPs signed an Administrative Order on Consent to perform the remedial investigation and feasibility study at the site. EPA expects that the ongoing remedial investigation and feasibility study will be completed in 2007.

Cleanup Progress

After adding this Site to the NPL, EPA performed preliminary investigations and determined that no immediate actions were required at the Lightman Drum Company Site while further studies and cleanup activities are being planned.

Site Repositories

USEPA Records Center 290 Broadway, 18th floor New York, NY 10007 (212) 637-4308