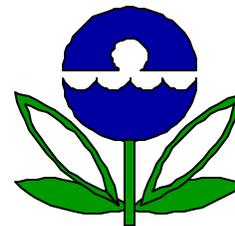


U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SUPERFUND FACT SHEET

Amended Agreement for Removal Action

ANNISTON PCB SITE



Volume 2

Anniston, Calhoun County, Alabama

October 2001

Agreement Reached to Begin Cleanup and Continue Sampling:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 4 announced today that EPA and Solutia, Inc., have entered into an Administrative Order on Consent (New Agreement) to amend the original Administrative Order on Consent (Original Agreement), for a Superfund removal action at the Anniston PCB Superfund Site (Site) in Anniston, Calhoun County, Alabama. The New Agreement keeps in place all the requirements of the Original Agreement and includes additional actions to be undertaken by Solutia, Inc.

The New Agreement covers areas around the Solutia (formerly Monsanto) plant in West Anniston, as well as, an area in Oxford where soil and stream sediments are contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). PCBs were manufactured in Anniston from 1929 to 1971.

The purpose of the Superfund removal action is to quickly reduce the short-term threats to public health and the environment caused by PCBs on residential properties in the area covered by the New Agreement. The New Agreement is an expansion of the Original Agreement and part of what EPA hopes will be a series of agreements between EPA and Solutia.

The Superfund remedial program and the State will address long-term threats posed by the Site. Thus, while a removal action may reduce exposure to contamination that would pose a health risk from short-term exposure - a remedial action is designed to remove exposure that could cause health risks from long-term contact with the environment (e.g. soil). Future agreements will focus on remedial actions.

Content of the Agreement:

The New Agreement reached is being administered by the EPA's Superfund removal program. EPA will provide technical oversight of all work done by Solutia. The New Agreement will include all the requirements of the Original Agreement, and adds significant provisions that will reduce the short-term risks to public health in West Anniston and part of Oxford. According to the terms of the amended Order Solutia will:

, expand the area covered by the original agreement to include the Oxford Lake Neighborhood

(OLN);

, expand sampling requirements to include properties within zones that have previously been sampled by EPA only utilizing field screen methods only;

, require the workplan for a parking lot at the Oxford Ballfield to include long-term monitoring and maintenance; and

, require sampling and clean up, as necessary, of properties that may have received Quintard Mall soil that have PCB levels at or above 10 ppm.

For More Information:

\$ Persons interested in obtaining additional information are encouraged to contact: Angela Leach, Community Involvement Coordinator or Steve Spurlin, On-Scene Coordinator at 256-236-2599.

\$ For more information on the Superfund Program, please refer to <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/>. For more information on the Superfund Enforcement Process, please refer to <http://es.epa.gov/oeca/osre/superfund.html>

BACKGROUND OF SUPERFUND LAW

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act commonly referred to as "CERCLA" or "Superfund," was enacted by Congress in 1980 and was amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act in 1986.

The Superfund law (CERCLA) allows EPA to respond to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances into the environment. Cleaning up hazardous substances is Superfund's highest priority. And the public's demand that polluters pay for cleanup also makes it critical that EPA find those who are responsible. At more and more Superfund sites, polluters are "stepping up to the plate" to clean contaminated air, soil, groundwater, and surface water. This cooperation, coupled with EPA's enforcement activity, is increasing the number of polluters involved in cleanup activities. In fact, in 1995, those responsible for contamination performed 75% of new Superfund cleanups. Since 1980, those responsible for contamination, have committed to pay more than \$11 billion toward these cleanups.

As indicated, the Superfund enforcement program:

- T Identifies the potentially responsible parties (PRPs) at the site
- T Negotiates with or orders PRPs to do the cleanup
- T Recovers from PRPs the costs spent by EPA and other appropriate agencies at Superfund sites