STATEMENT OF BASIS/FINAL DECISION AND RESPONSE TO COMMENTS SUMMARY

REGION V
ID# 2074

Owens-Corning, Inc.

Valparaiso, Indiana

Facility/Unit Type: **Manufacture of polyester resins**
Contaminants: **Antimony, arsenic**
Media: **Soil**
Remedy: **Excavation, no further action**

FACILITY DESCRIPTION

The Owens-Corning-Valparaiso Resins & Coatings Plant has been in operation since 1973. The facility is located on the outskirts of Valparaiso, Indiana. Surrounding land is agricultural to light industrial. The population of Valparsaiso in 1980 was 22,900. The primary function of this facility is the manufacture of polyester resins. The recovery of antimony cake, ethylene glycol and polyester products from other manufacturers' surplus products was conducted then discontinued in December 1987.

On September 30, 1987, a RCRA permit was issued to the facility, imposing an RFI. In several locations within and slightly outside of the facility boundary, the surface soil had been contaminated with antimony and smaller amounts of arsenic. Owens-Corning had known of this contamination, and in 1979 the contaminated surface soil was removed from this site. Through the RCRA permit, EPA sought to ascertain whether or not the local ground water was impacted.

During the RFI, the upgradient and downgradient ground water was sampled and analyzed for VOCs, base-neutral and acid extractable SVOCs, metals, and cyanide. Low levels of acetone and methylene chloride were detected in the groundwater samples, but were determined to be laboratory contaminants. In August 1989, the RFI concluded that the facility had not impacted the local ground water.

The RCRA permit for Owens-Corning expired on October 30, 1992. Prior to this expiration, the State of Indiana, which is Federally authorized to implement the base RCRA program, acknowledged that the facility had changed its industrial processes so as to no longer generate, treat, store or dispose of hazardous wastes. Therefore, the facility no longer requires a RCRA permit to operate.

On February 4, 1993, EPA examined the residual levels of antimony and arsenic in the facility soils, and concluded that these levels warrant no further action. EPA concurred with the State of Indiana that the renewal of the RCRA permit is not warranted.

EXPOSURE PATHWAYS

Exposure pathways would have included ingestion or inhalation of contaminated soil, as well as the leaching of antimony and arsenic into the ground water.

SELECTED REMEDY

The selected remedy for this site, completed in 1979, included the excavation and removal of contaminated soil.

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES CONSIDERED

None.

CONTAMINATION DETECTED AND CLEANUP GOALS

Media	Estimated Volume	Contaminant	Maximum Concentration (mg/kg)	Action Level (mg/kg)	Cleanup Goals (mg/kg)	Point of Compliance
soil		antimony arsenic	12400 74.6	30 80	30 80	facility boundary

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Because State and Federal RCRA permitting requirements are no longer applicable to this facility, public participation was not implemented.

NEXT STEPS

None.

KEY WORDS
Soil; ingestion (soil), inhalation; heavy metals, arsenic; excavation

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