

Lodi Municipal Well

New Jersey

EPA ID#: NJD980769301

EPA REGION 2 Congressional District(s): 09

Bergen
Borough of Lodi

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 10/1/1984

Final Date: 8/30/1990

Deletion Date: 12/29/1998

Site Description

The Lodi Municipal Well site consists of the Home Place Well, which is located in the Borough of Lodi. Groundwater from the Home Place Well showed both radiological and chemical contamination. In addition to the Home Place Well, ten other municipal wells exist in the area. All eleven municipal wells were investigated to varying degrees to determine the quality of groundwater in the vicinity of the Home Place Well. All of these municipal wells, including Home Place, were closed by 1987 due to elevated levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Approximately 95% of Lodi's drinking water is now supplied by the Passaic Valley Water Commission, and the remainder is purchased from the Hackensack Water Company. Approximately 24,000 people live in Lodi.

Site Responsibility: This site was addressed through Federal actions

Threat and Contaminants

The Home Place Well contains uranium, radium-226 and VOC contamination. The other wells contain various volatile organic compounds. The Borough of Lodi has closed all the wells that tap into the contaminated aquifer.

Cleanup Approach

This site was addressed in two phases: an initial action and a remedial phase focusing on the entire site.

Response Action Status

Initial Action: During the 1980s, the Borough of Lodi closed 11 wells, based on sampling data from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Lodi Water Department. Alternate water supplies were installed.

Entire Site: EPA conducted a study to determine the type, extent, and source of the groundwater contamination. The study indicated that the volatile organic contamination found at and near the site was sporadic and regional in nature. At the request of the State, additional bedrock and groundwater sampling was performed to determine if the radionuclide contamination found in the Home Place Well was the result of natural or "man-made" sources. The investigation was initiated in mid-1991 and was completed in July 1993. The investigation showed that the radionuclide contamination found in the Home Place Well was naturally occurring. Section 104 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act provides limitations on response actions and directs that no remedial action be taken in response to a release or threat of release of a naturally occurring substance in its unaltered form. In addition, remedial action is not necessary to ensure protection of human health and the environment from non-radiological compounds at the site, since the concentrations of those compounds in the groundwater at the well do not pose an unacceptable risk. For these reasons, on September 27, 1993, EPA signed a Record of Decision (ROD) that selected a "No Action" remedy for the site. The Site was deleted from the NPL on December 29, 1998.

Cleanup Progress

EPA's studies concluded that radiological contaminants found in the Home Place Well were naturally occurring. Closing contaminated wells and providing an alternate water supply has greatly reduced the potential for exposure to contaminants from the Lodi Municipal Well site. Ground water should not be used for potable purposes without appropriate treatment.

The Site was deleted from the NPL on December 29, 1998.

Site Repositories

Lodi Memorial Library, 1 Memorial Drive, Lodi, N.J.07644