

# **Bayer CropScience (Formerly: Aventis Cropscience USA; formerly: Rhone Poulenc Company)**

Route 25  
Institute, WV 25112  
Congressional District 2  
EPA ID #: WVD005005509  
Facility Property Area: 350 acres  
Last Updated 04/21/2011

## **Status**

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In January 1991, EPA issued a RCRA corrective action permit to the company to proceed with site cleanup. Since that date, the facility has implemented an air sparging/soil vapor extraction system to remediate soils and groundwater in two high priority source areas which were contaminated with volatile organic compounds and approximately 80 tons of tar-like material were excavated and removed from SWMU 1. The facility also completed a Phase 2 RFI report which addressed the high priority SWMUs. A Phase 3 RFI addressing the low priority SWMU's was completed in February 2001. Based on the results of the Phase 3 investigation, the facility conducted additional sampling activities in September/October 2002 to better characterize sources of contamination. A report detailing the results of that investigation was submitted to EPA in June 2003.

Since 2007, the facility has focused on a site-wide approach to fill remaining data gaps for soil and groundwater. The facility collected additional sampling data during 2007 to 2009. In 2009, the facility also completed the repair of the soil cover over the SWMU 2 & 6 fly ash landfill. The results of these activities were summarized with the historical data in a Current Conditions Report submitted to EPA in October 2009. The facility is planning additional sampling to better define source areas and to assist with the implementation of focused interim measures in 2010 to 2012

## **Background**

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Located in Institute, West Virginia along the Kanawha River, the Bayer CropScience Facility encompasses approximately 350 acres. The facility was built in 1943 by the U.S. government for the production of rubber for World War II. The plant was then bought and utilized by Union Carbide in 1947 until 1986 when it was purchased by Rhone Poulenc for the production of agricultural chemicals.

The site is currently owned/operated by Bayer CropScience as a multi-tenant industrial park. Manufacturing at the site continues to focus on agricultural and specialty chemicals.

## Contaminants and Risks

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The main contaminants in the groundwater and soil are benzene, chlorobenzene, chloroform, carbon tetrachloride, and tetrachloroethene.

## Institutional Controls

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At SWMU 1, the former UCAR landfill, excavation of surficial tar-like oozes was performed on both the east and west side of the SWMU to approximately one foot below ground surface. Approximately 80 tons of excavated material were removed. The area was backfilled with limestone base material and then covered with approximately 4 inches of gravel. Access restrictions have also been implemented for this SWMU.

## Contacts

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For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: [www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm](http://www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm)