

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. 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.

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.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and PRPs 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 as two Operable Units. OU1 addresses the groundwater and OU2 addresses a small area of subsurface soils.

The Site was listed on the NPL in 1999 and the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) signed an AOC with EPA in 2000 to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study.

Contaminated Soil Removal: Contaminated soils associated with a previously removed underground storage tank were removed in late 2007 under a Removal Order. The Removal Order activities were concluded in 2009.

New Area of Subsurface Soil Contamination : This new area will be addressed through a separate action as Operable Unit 2 (OU2). A Risk Assessment and Feasibility Study are currently being prepared by the PRPs to evaluate potential

risks and options for addressing the new area of soil contamination.

Contaminated Groundwater: The groundwater contamination at the Site is Operable Unit 1 (OU1). The Potentially Responsible Parties submitted a Remedial Investigation Report which described conditions at the site and a Feasibility Study in which they evaluated groundwater remedies. In September 2009, EPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the groundwater contamination. The chosen Remedy is air sparging and soil vapor extraction for the groundwater contamination near the source areas, and pump and treat with monitored natural attenuation for downgradient groundwater contamination. In July 2011, EPA issued an Administrative Order to the PRP Group requiring the performance of the OU1 remedy to address groundwater contamination.

Response Action Status

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.

In November 2000, sixteen PRPs signed an Administrative Order on Consent to perform the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study at the site.

The EPA and NJDEP oversaw the Remedial Investigation performed by a group of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs). The investigation was initiated in 2002. The groundwater investigation included an evaluation of the vertical and horizontal extent of contamination, and was completed in 2009. Results of the site investigation were used by EPA to select a remedy to address groundwater contamination in September 2009, through the issuance of a Record of Decision. In 2007, a group of PRPs signed a Removal AOC to remove contaminated soils related to an underground storage tank. Actions under the Removal AOC have been concluded.

Cleanup Progress

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.

Contaminated Soil Removal: In 2007, a group of PRPs signed a Removal AOC to remove contaminated soils related to an underground storage tank. The contaminated soils associated with a previously removed underground storage tank were removed in late 2007 under a Removal Order. During this soil removal, areas of colored soil contamination were discovered also removed. Also during the removal, a new area of subsurface soil contamination was discovered near the removed underground storage tanks. The Removal Order activities were concluded in 2009.

New Area of Subsurface Soil Contamination : This new area will be addressed through a separate action as Operable Unit 2 (OU2). A Risk Assessment and Feasibility Study are currently being prepared by the PRPs to evaluate potential risks and options for addressing the new area of soil contamination.

Groundwater Contamination: EPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the groundwater contamination in September 2009. The chosen Remedy is air sparging and soil vapor extraction for the groundwater contamination near the source areas, and pump and treat with monitored natural attenuation for downgradient groundwater contamination. In July 2011, EPA issued an Administrative Order to the PRP Group requiring the performance of the OU1 remedy.

Site Repositories

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

Camden County Library, South County Branch 35 Coopers Folly Road Atco, NJ 08004