Carroll And Dubies Sewage Disposal

New York

EPA ID#: NYD010968014

EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 20

Orange

1 mile northeast of Port Jervis

NPL LISTING HISTORY
Proposed Date: 6/24/1988
Final Date: 2/21/1990

Site Description

The Carroll and Dubies Sewage Disposal site was made up of seven inactive lagoons that were used for the disposal of various wastes since about 1970. Until 1979, waste from two nearby cosmetic manufacturers was deposited into unlined lagoons at the site. Septic tank waste was also accepted at the site until 1989. Five of the seven lagoons were filled, covered, and graded. The two uncovered lagoons were fenced. Approximately 2,000 residents live within a mile of the site. The nearest homes are about 1/4 mile southeast of the site. A steep slope, woods, open areas and the Port Jervis Municipal Landfill surround the facility. The City of Port Jervis is supplied with water from several reservoirs located more than a mile upstream from the site. Homes near the site rely on private wells. Approximately 1,500 feet to the east of the site is Gold Creek, which lies between the site and the Neversink River.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potentially responsible party (PRP) actions.

Threat and Contaminants

On-site groundwater is contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) as well as some chlorinated VOCs. Potential threats to human health included drinking contaminated groundwater, however, this threat is being addressed by the implementation of institutional controls to restrict the use and installation of groundwater wells throughout the contaminated groundwater plume. Implementation of institutional controls was completed in August 2004. Environmental investigations conducted indicate that residential wells located downgradient of the site are not threatened by site contamination.

Cleanup Approach

This site is being addressed in two long-term remedial phases focusing on cleanup of the source areas and the groundwater.

Response Action Status

Source Areas: The source area investigations involved characterizing the nature and extent of chemical compounds associated with the lagoons by obtaining soil and waste samples. An investigation that determined the extent of the contamination of four lagoons was completed in 1992. An investigation to determine the nature and extent of contamination of three additional lagoons was completed in 1993. Based on the results of these investigations, remedial alternatives were developed and a Record of Decision (ROD) selecting a final cleanup plan for the source areas was signed in March 1995.

An Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) was issued in August 1998. The ESD describes changes to the March 1995 ROD. The changes described in the ESD include: 1) the excavation and off-site treatment and disposal of approximately 13,300 tons of lagoon sludges and soil contaminated with organic and inorganic contaminants; 2) in-situ soil vapor extraction to treat subsurface soils impacted by volatile organic compounds, unless it is more practicable to excavate and dispose these soils off-site; 3) on-site treatment of some contaminated soil and materials by ex-situ soil vapor extraction prior to off-site disposal; and 4) backfilling and regrading of excavated areas with clean soil.

On January 22, 1997 and December 3, 1998, EPA approved the Remedial Design workplan and Remedial Action workplan for the source areas, respectively. The remedial action, which was implemented by the PRPs, began in April 1999 and was completed in January 2000.

Groundwater: The groundwater investigation was conducted in two phases. The first phase of the investigation was completed in 1992 and the purpose of the investigation was to identify the nature and extent of the groundwater contamination on-site. The results of the Phase I investigation indicated the need for implementation of the second phase of the investigation. The purpose of Phase II was to determine whether off-site migration of contaminants through the groundwater had occurred. The Phase II investigation revealed that significant levels of contaminants had not migrated from the source areas. A Record of Decision selecting a final cleanup plan for the contaminated groundwater was signed in September 1996 and included: natural attenuation of organic contaminants in the groundwater; implementation of institutional controls to restrict the use and installation of groundwater wells throughout the contaminated groundwater plume; monitoring of the groundwater; and sampling in Gold Creek.

Site Facts: In 1990, the EPA and two parties potentially responsible for the site contamination entered into an Administrative Order on Consent requiring the parties to conduct an investigation to characterize the nature and extent of contamination at the site and develop appropriate alternatives for remediating the site. Record of Decisions selecting final cleanup plans for the source areas and the groundwater were signed in March 1995 and September 1996, respectively. An ESD modifying the remedy selected for the source areas was issued in August 1998. In May 1995 EPA issued "special notice" letters to the potentially responsible parties requesting that they submit a good faith offer to perform the Remedial Design/Remedial Action for the source areas. The parties and EPA were unable to reach agreement; in September 1995, EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order to the parties ordering them to implement the source areas remedy. In June 1997, EPA issued an amended Unilateral Administrative Order to two of the parties ordering them to perform the natural attenuation and monitoring remedy selected in the September 1996 ROD. EPA also issued a Unilateral Administrative Order to the City of Port Jervis requiring that they cooperate and coordinate with the other recipients of the Unilateral Administrative Order in implementing the source areas and natural attenuation remedies.

Cleanup Progress

(Construction Complete)

The excavation and off-site disposal of approximately 34,000 tons of lagoon sludges, sediment and contaminated soil, completed in January 2000, should mitigate the potential for further contamination of the groundwater. Groundwater monitoring is conducted to ensure that the 1996 Natural Attenuation/ Institutional Control groundwater remedy remains protective. The monitoring network did not allow for a determination of the edge of the chlorinated compounds plume and any impacts to Gold Creek. Surface water and sediment sampling in Gold Creek do not indicate the Site is having an impact on this water body. However, more thorough sampling and additional well installation were recommended to verify this conclusion. A workplan for additional field work and sampling was approved in September 2005. This supplemental investigation was completed in February 2006. Recent monitoring data indicates that the extent of the plume has been established and that benzene concentrations appear to decline with distance away from the former lagoons. No additional work is recommended at this time, other than continued monitoring.

Site Repositories

Deer Park Town Hall- Drawer A, Route 209 North, Huguenot, NY 12746

EPA Record Center 290 Broadway, 18th Floor New York, NY 10007-1866 (212) 637-4308