

Bioclinical Laboratories, Inc.

New York

EPA ID#: NYD980768683

EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 02

Suffolk

1585 Smithtown Avenue Hamlet of Bohemia

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 6/10/1986

Final Date: 3/31/1989

Deletion Date: 9/9/1994

Site Description

The Bioclinical Laboratories (BCL) site (Site) at 1585 Smithtown Avenue in Bohemia is a rental property within a 10-unit, single-story building on a 2.6 acre paved lot. BCL formulated, mixed, repackaged, and distributed chemicals from 1978 to 1981. Operators stored drums of hazardous wastes on-site, some of which leaked. BCL formulated and repackaged industrial chemicals. Another tenant Panatone Finishing Corp., prepared and applied finishing coatings to metal products. Hazardous materials were disposed of 1) in on-site septic systems which contaminated the groundwater and, 2) through surface runoff which contaminated surface and subsurface soils. When washing chemically-contaminated containers for reuse, workers routinely poured rinse water directly onto the ground or discharged it to sinks, a septic tank/distribution pool, and storm drains. These structures were sampled when citizen concerns prompted an investigation by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS) in 1981. SCDHS discovered a range of organic contaminants, including solvents, in the sanitary systems. In July 1981, a fire at the Site destroyed much of BCL's inventory. BCL reincorporated its operations at another location in Bohemia. The Site lies in an industrial setting in a major suburban area of Long Island. Municipal and private wells downgradient of the Site serve 10,000 residents.

Site Responsibility: This site was addressed through Federal and local actions. This is an EPA-lead site.

Threat and Contaminants

The results of EPA investigations of soils and groundwater at the Site indicated that the contamination present at the Site did not present risks warranting further remedial action.

Cleanup Approach

The Site was addressed in a single phase, focusing on the entire Site.

Response Action Status

Entire Site: In 1988, the EPA began studies of the Site to explore the nature and extent of contamination. Analysis of constituents in the two Site sanitary systems by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS) in the fall of 1991 revealed no contamination in the east sanitary system and some contamination of the west sanitary system. As a result of subsequent enforcement actions taken by the SCDHS, the owner of the property, in conjunction with the tenant, cleaned the west sanitary system. Analyses of groundwater, soil, and the septic tanks revealed low levels of contamination. Therefore, in the fall of 1992, EPA determined that no further action was required at the Site.

Site Facts: In November 1981, the SCDHS issued an order to BCL, requiring removal of all fire-damaged containers from the Site and all industrial wastes from the sanitary system. It also required the owner to prepare and submit a plan to install on-site monitoring wells to detect any contamination in groundwater. BCL removed all chemicals and pumped the wastewater system clean but did not install the wells. EPA installed monitoring wells during its investigation.

Cleanup Progress

After the Site was added to the NPL, local enforcement of environmental codes and regulations, including SCDHS cleanup orders issued to the PRPs, resulted in the cleanup of the most heavily contaminated areas, i.e., the removal of an unknown amount of septic system waste from the on-site and currently active septic systems.

As a result of these cleanup actions, EPA issued a No Further Action ROD on June 30, 1992 when it determined that no further actions were required to protect public health or the environment.

The Site was deleted from the NPL on September 9, 1994, and no longer poses a threat to human health and the environment.

Site Repositories

Connetquot Public Library 760 Ocean Avenue Bohemia, New York 11716