DOCUMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR DETERMINATION

Interim Final 2/5/99

RCRA Corrective Action
Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRIS code (CA750)

Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control

Facility Name: Former Firestone Fibers and Textiles Plant, Hopewell, Virginia
Facility Address: 105 Winston Churchill Drive, Hopewell, VA 23860 (former address)
Facility EPA ID #: VAD003112588

1. Has **all** available relevant/significant information on known and reasonably suspected releases to the groundwater media, subject to RCRA Corrective Action (e.g., from Solid Waste Management Units (SWMU), Regulated Units (RU), and Areas of Concern (AOC)), been **considered** in this EI determination?

   __X__ If yes - check here and continue with #2 below.
   _____ If no - re-evaluate existing data, or
   _____ if data are not available, skip to #8 and enter "IN" (more information needed) status code.

BACKGROUND

Definition of Environmental Indicators (for the RCRA Corrective Action)

Environmental Indicators (EI) are measures being used by the RCRA Corrective Action program to go beyond programmatic activity measures (e.g., reports received and approved, etc.) to track changes in the quality of the environment. The two EI developed to-date indicate the quality of the environment in relation to current human exposures to contamination and the migration of contaminated groundwater. An EI for non-human (ecological) receptors is intended to be developed in the future.

Definition of "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" EI

A positive "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" EI determination ("YE" status code) indicates that the migration of "contaminated" groundwater has stabilized, and that monitoring will be conducted to confirm that contaminated groundwater remains within the original "area of contaminated groundwater" (for all groundwater "contamination" subject to RCRA corrective action at or from the identified facility (i.e., site-wide)).

Relationship of EI to Final Remedies

While Final remedies remain the long-term objective of the RCRA Corrective Action program the EI are near-term objectives which are currently being used as Program measures for the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, GPRA). The "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" EI pertains ONLY to the physical migration (i.e., further spread) of contaminated ground water and contaminants within groundwater (e.g., non-aqueous phase liquids or NAPLs). Achieving this EI does not substitute for achieving other stabilization or final remedy requirements and expectations associated with sources of contamination and the need to restore, wherever practicable, contaminated groundwater to be suitable for its designated current and future uses.

Duration / Applicability of EI Determinations

EI Determinations status codes should remain in RCRIS national database ONLY as long as they remain true (i.e., RCRIS status codes must be changed when the regulatory authorities become aware of contrary information).

2. Is **groundwater** known or reasonably suspected to be **"contaminated"**[1] above appropriately protective "levels" (i.e., applicable promulgated standards, as well as other appropriate standards, guidelines, guidance, or criteria) from releases subject to RCRA Corrective Action, anywhere at, or from, the facility?

   __X__ If yes - continue after identifying key contaminants, citing appropriate "levels," and referencing supporting documentation.

   _____ If no - skip to #8 and enter "YE" status code, after citing appropriate "levels," and referencing supporting documentation to demonstrate that groundwater is not "contaminated."

   _____ If unknown - skip to #8 and enter "IN" status code.

Rationale andReference(s):

Groundwater Sampling conducted in May 2004, indicated the following constituents exceeded MCL or Region III tap water screening values: 1,1Dichloroetene and 1,1,2,2-Tetrachlorethane. It has been determined through previous investigations that at least one CVOC has been detected in groundwater beneath the subject property at concentrations greater than USEPA MCLs. Observed CVOCs are confined to the property and the laboratory analytical data indicate that the migration of impacted groundwater has stabilized, as the CVOC concentrations have decreased since monitoring was initiated. In addition, application of the plume stability model has demonstrated that the area, average concentration, and mass of the CVOCs have significantly declined over the course of the investigations.

Please see references:

Premier, 2004, Groundwater Assessment Report and Environmental Indicators Analysis, Former Firestone Fibers and Textile Plant, prepared for Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, August 2004.

Premier, 2004, Groundwater Assessment Scope of Work, prepared for Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, March 22, 2004.

Premier, 2004, Soil Gas Survey and Groundwater Sampling Summary Report, prepared for Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, February 6, 2004.

Premier, 2003, Soil Gas Survey Protocol, prepared for Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, August 2003.

Premier, 2002, Soil Assessment Workplan, prepared for Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc., March 2002.

Premier, 2001, Focused Groundwater Investigation Report and Environmental Indicators Analysis, prepared for Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc., February 19, 2001.

O'Brien & Gere, 1995, Baseline Site Assessment, Firestone Fibers and Textile Company Draft Report, prepared for AlliedSignal Inc., November 1995.

Footnotes:

[1]"Contamination" and "contaminated" describes media containing contaminants (in any form, NAPL and/or dissolved, vapors, or solids, that are subject to RCRA) in concentrations in excess of appropriate "levels" (appropriate for the protection of the groundwater resource and its beneficial uses).

3. Has the **migration** of contaminated groundwater **stabilized** (such that contaminated groundwater is expected to remain within "existing area of contaminated groundwater"[2] as defined by the monitoring locations designated at the time of this determination)?

__X__ If yes - continue, after presenting or referencing the physical evidence (e.g., groundwater sampling/measurement/migration barrier data) and rationale why contaminated groundwater is expected to remain within the (horizontal or vertical) dimensions of the "existing area of groundwater contamination"[2]).

_____ If no (contaminated groundwater is observed or expected to migrate beyond the designated locations defining the "existing area of groundwater contamination"[2]) - skip to #8 and enter "NO" status code, after providing an explanation.

_____ If unknown - skip to #8 and enter "IN" status code.

Rationale andReference(s):

The laboratory analytical data demonstrate that the migration of CVOCs is not occurring and that the plume has stabilized, as the CVOC concentrations have decreased since monitoring was initiated. In addition, chlorinated ethenes in groundwater are reducing in mass and concentration over time, as demonstrated by the plume stability model. This reduction in mass and concentration provide a natural mechanism to limit any migration of chlorinated ethenes in groundwater.

Please see references:

Premier, 2004, Groundwater Assessment Report and Environmental Indicators Analysis, Former Firestone Fibers and Textile Plant, prepared for Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, August 2004;

And the additional references listed under Question 2.

[2] "existing area of contaminated groundwater" is an area (with horizontal and vertical dimensions) that has been verifiably demonstrated to contain all relevant groundwater contamination for this determination, and is defined by designated (monitoring) locations proximate to the outer perimeter of "contamination" that can and will be sampled/tested in the future to physically verify that all "contaminated" groundwater remains within this area, and that the further migration of "contaminated" groundwater is not occurring. Reasonable allowances in the proximity of the monitoring locations are permissible to incorporate formal remedy decisions (i.e., including public participation) allowing a limited area for natural attenuation.

4. Does "contaminated" groundwater **discharge** into **surface water** bodies?

_____ If yes - continue after identifying potentially affected surface water bodies.

__X__ If no - skip to #7 (and enter a "YE" status code in #8, if #7 = yes) after providing an explanation and/or referencing documentation supporting that groundwater "contamination" does not enter surface water bodies.

_____ If unknown - skip to #8 and enter "IN" status code.

Rationale and Reference(s):

Based on the results of the investigations which have confirmed that CVOCs are not present at the subject property boundary, the fact that CVOC concentrations and contaminant mass are decreasing, and the very substantial distance to the James River (approximately 2 miles), there is no evidence that impacted groundwater from the subject property is discharging into this surface water body. In addition, the groundwater impacted by CVOCs is found at depths of approximately 35 feet below ground surface. As a result, the likelihood of discharge to shallower surface water bodies such as streams or ponds that may be present between the property and the James River is very low.

Please see references:

Premier, 2004, Groundwater Assessment Report and Environmental Indicators Analysis, Former Firestone Fibers and Textile Plant, prepared for Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, August 2004;

And the additional references listed under Question 2.

5. Is the **discharge** of "contaminated" groundwater into surface water likely to be **"insignificant"** (i.e., the maximum concentration[3] of each contaminant discharging into surface water is less than 10 times their appropriate groundwater "level," and there are no other conditions (e.g., the nature, and number, of discharging contaminants, or environmental setting), which significantly increase the potential for unacceptable impacts to surface water, sediments, or eco-systems at these concentrations)?

_____ If yes - skip to #7 (and enter "YE" status code in #8 if #7 = yes), after documenting: 1) the maximum known or reasonably suspected concentration[3] of key contaminants discharged above their groundwater "level," the value of the appropriate "level(s)," and if there is evidence that the concentrations are increasing; and 2) provide a statement of professional judgement/explanation (or reference documentation) supporting that the discharge of groundwater contaminants into the surface water is not anticipated to have unacceptable impacts to the receiving surface water, sediments, or eco-system.

_____ If no - (the discharge of "contaminated" groundwater into surface water is potentially significant) - continue after documenting: 1) the maximum known or reasonably suspected concentration[3] of each contaminant discharged above its groundwater "level," the value of the appropriate "level(s)," and if there is evidence that the concentrations are increasing; and 2) for any contaminants discharging into surface water in concentrations[3] greater than 100 times their appropriate groundwater "levels," the estimated total amount (mass in kg/yr) of each of these contaminants that are being discharged (loaded) into the surface water body (at the time of the determination), and identify if there is evidence that the amount of discharging contaminants is increasing.

_____ If unknown - enter "IN" status code in #8.

Rationale and Reference(s):

[3] As measured in groundwater prior to entry to the groundwater-surface water/sediment interaction (e.g., hyporheic) zone.

6. Can the **discharge** of "contaminated" groundwater into surface water be shown to be "**currently acceptable**" (i.e., not cause impacts to surface water, sediments or eco-systems that should not be allowed to continue until a final remedy decision can be made and implemented[4])?

   _____ If yes - continue after either: 1) identifying the Final Remedy decision incorporating these conditions, or other site-specific criteria (developed for the protection of the site's surface water, sediments, and eco-systems), and referencing supporting documentation demonstrating that these criteria are not exceeded by the discharging groundwater; OR
   2) providing or referencing an interim-assessment,[5] appropriate to the potential for impact, that shows the discharge of groundwater contaminants into the surface water is (in the opinion of a trained specialists, including ecologist) adequately protective of receiving surface water, sediments, and eco-systems, until such time when a full assessment and final remedy decision can be made. Factors which should be considered in the interim-assessment (where appropriate to help identify the impact associated with discharging groundwater) include: surface water body size, flow, use/classification/habitats and contaminant loading limits, other sources of surface water/sediment contamination, surface water and sediment sample results and comparisons to available and appropriate surface water and sediment "levels," as well as any other factors, such as effects on ecological receptors (e.g., via bio-assays/benthic surveys or site-specific ecological Risk Assessments), that the overseeing regulatory agency would deem appropriate for making the EI determination.

   _____ If no - (the discharge of "contaminated" groundwater can not be shown to be "**currently acceptable**") - skip to #8 and enter "NO" status code, after documenting the currently unacceptable impacts to the surface water body, sediments, and/or eco-systems.

   _____ If unknown - skip to 8 and enter "IN" status code.

Rationale and Reference(s):

[4] Note, because areas of inflowing groundwater can be critical habitats (e.g., nurseries or thermal refugia) for many species, appropriate specialist (e.g., ecologist) should be included in management decisions that could eliminate these areas by significantly altering or reversing groundwater flow pathways near surface water bodies.

[5] The understanding of the impacts of contaminated groundwater discharges into surface water bodies is a rapidly developing field and reviewers are encouraged to look to the latest guidance for the appropriate methods and scale of demonstration to be reasonably certain that discharges are not causing currently unacceptable impacts to the surface waters, sediments or eco-systems.

7. Will groundwater **monitoring** / measurement data (and surface water/sediment/ecological data, as necessary) be collected in the future to verify that contaminated groundwater has remained within the horizontal (or vertical, as necessary) dimensions of the "existing area of contaminated groundwater?"

__**X**__ If yes - continue after providing or citing documentation for planned activities or future sampling/measurement events. Specifically identify the well/measurement locations which will be tested in the future to verify the expectation (identified in #3) that groundwater contamination will not be migrating horizontally (or vertically, as necessary) beyond the "existing area of groundwater contamination."

__X__ If no - enter "NO" status code in #8.

_____ If unknown - enter "IN" status code in #8.

Rationale and Reference(s):

Based on the current information, the migration of impacted groundwater is Under Control. The next steps in the RCRA Corrective Action process is to submit a Corrective Measures Study (CMS) which will evaluate remedy alternatives, including natural attenuation. Further monitoring will be necessary to ensure confinement of the plume and to insure the clean-up goals are met.and further monitoring is not necessary to confirm the findings of the EI.

**NOTE: YE was entered on Question 8 since the groundwater plume has been demonstrated to be stable and migration of contaminated groundwater is under control, and no further monitoring is necessary.

Please see references:

Premier, 2004, Groundwater Assessment Report and Environmental Indicators Analysis, Former Firestone Fibers and Textile Plant, prepared for Bridgestone/Firestone North American Tire, LLC, August 2004;

And the additional references listed under Question 2.

8. Check the appropriate RCRIS status codes for the Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control EI (event code CA750), and obtain Supervisor (or appropriate Manager) signature and date on the EI determination below (attach appropriate supporting documentation as well as a map of the facility).

__X__ YE - Yes, "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" has been verified. Based on a review of the information contained in this EI determination, it has been determined that the "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater" is "Under Control" at the facility, EPA ID # VAD003112588, located at the Former Firestone Fibers and Textiles in Hopewell, VA. Specifically, this determination indicates that the migration of "contaminated" groundwater is under control, and that monitoring will be conducted to confirm that contaminated groundwater remains within the "existing area of contaminated groundwater" This determination will be re-evaluated when the Agency becomes aware of significant changes at the facility. (1)

_____ NO - Unacceptable migration of contaminated groundwater is observed or expected.

_____ IN - More information is needed to make a determination.

Completed by (signature) /s/ Date 9/7/04
(print) Michael Jacobi
(title) EPA Project Manager

Supervisor (signature) /s/ Date 9/7/04
(print) _____
(title) _____
(EPA Region or State) _____

Locations where References may be found:

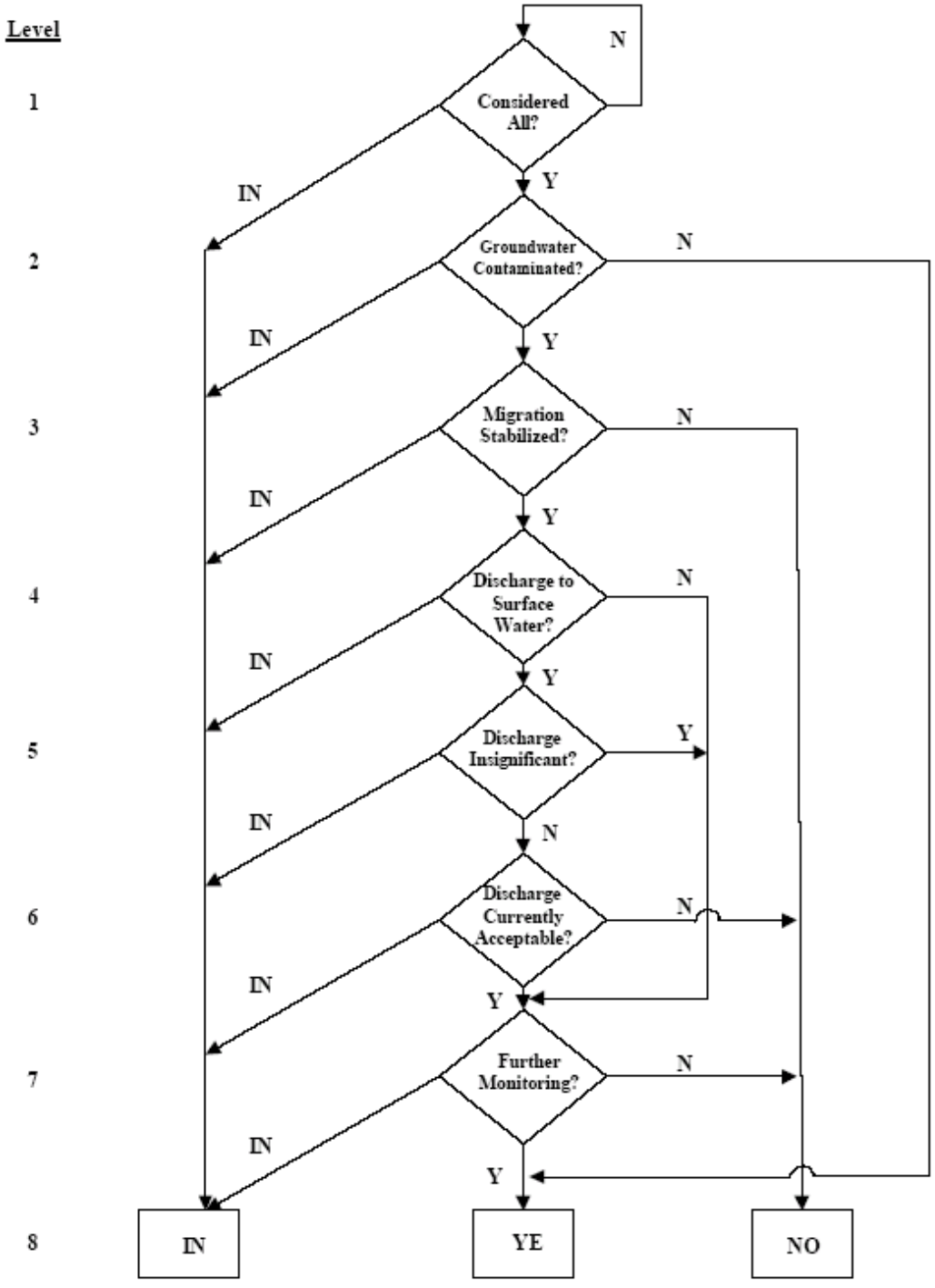
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Contact telephone and e-mail numbers

(name)_____
(phone #)_____
(e-mail)_____

*(1) **NOTE: YE was entered on Question 8 since the groundwater plume has been demonstrated to be stable and migration of contaminated groundwater is under control, and no further monitoring is necessary.*

MIGRATION OF CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER UNDER CONTROL (CA 750)



// Signed 2/5/99 //

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Interim-Final Guidance for RCRA Corrective Action Environmental Indicators

FROM: Elizabeth Cotsworth, Acting Director
Office of Solid Waste

TO: RCRA Senior Policy Managers
Regions I-X

The RCRA corrective action program and achievement of its Government Performance
Results Act (GPRA) goals are of highest priority for the national RCRA program. The RCRA program is using two Environmental Indicators (EI) to measure program performance for GPRA purposes: (1) Current Human Exposures Under Control (CA725), and (2) Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control (CA750).

With this memorandum I am transmitting revised guidance on how to determine if a facility has met the RCRA corrective action Environmental Indicators (EI). This Interim-Final guidance will replace the existing EI guidance (from 1994 and 1995) and will remain the working guidance for at least one year. The Interim-Final guidance is similar to the earlier guidance but has been modified to facilitate more consistent determinations (across regions and states) and to be more explicit with regard to the minimum level of documentation required to ensure that the determinations will be verifiable.

This guidance has been developed with the cooperation and input of representatives from all ten EPA regions and at least one state from each region. The guidance is in the form of questions to be answered in making an EI determination. The questions and answer options express the minimum criteria for EI determinations and are not to be modified for regional, state or site-specific conditions. The "Rationale" portion of the forms can be filled in to explain unique situations to any length necessary. While the signed hard-copies of these forms should reside in the facility's administrative files, these forms should also be kept in electronic format that can be posted on an "EI database" web site to be developed by the Office of Solid Waste in the near future. The "EI database" will help communicate successes and provide examples for overcoming barriers to progress.

Thank you for your assistance with this important effort. If you have any questions, please call Bob Hall or Henry Schuver of my staff at (703) 308-8432 or 308-8656 respectively.

Attachment