

to the north, south, and east by a coke-making facility which is owned and operated by the Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corporation. The Site is bounded to the west by the Ohio River.

The Site consists of process and storage facilities for the manufacture of coal tar by-products. Contamination at the Site is due to leaking tanks, spills, surface impoundments and poor operation practices. The Site is underlain by three geological formations (a Perched Zone, an Alluvial Aquifer and a Bedrock Aquifer), each of which is contaminated with polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as benzene and toluene, and heavy metals. In addition, the Bedrock Aquifer is contaminated with as much as seven feet of a coal tar Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (DNAPL).

The Site is located in a heavily industrialized area within one mile of several population centers. There are an estimated 5,900 people living within a 3-mile radius of the Site. The City of Follansbee obtains potable water from a radial collector well and a surface water intake located approximately 1.5 miles downstream of the Site. Fifty private residential wells are within a 3-mile radius, and there are public wells located five miles downstream of the Site.

Site History

American Tar Products Company began operations at the Site in 1914. Since then, there have been many physical changes to the processing facilities, as well as changes in plant ownership. The Site, however, has always operated as a coal-tar processing plant. The northern portion of the property is highly contaminated with coal tar constituents which have migrated through the groundwater into the bedrock. The Site was proposed for inclusion on the NPL in December 1982 and was listed in September 1983.

Response Actions

As noted below, the Follansbee Site is currently being addressed by a series of RCRA Interim Measures under an existing enforceable order. The response under RCRA is progressing adequately as detailed below. Deletion of the Site from the NPL will not disrupt the possibility of any further CERCLA response action. As such, EPA intends to delete the listing of this Site from the NPL under CERCLA based on deferral to RCRA.

In October 1990, EPA and Beazer East (Beazer) the former owner/operator of the Follansbee Site, entered into a RCRA section 3008(h) Administrative Order on

Consent (AOC), Docket No. RCRA-III-037CA, requiring Beazer East to conduct a RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) and to prepare a Corrective Measures Study (CMS). A draft RFI report was submitted to EPA in May 1994 and subsequently found to be deficient by EPA. Beazer then developed a new work plan which enabled it to gather additional information to sufficiently supplement the 1994 RFI report. As a result, in June 2000 the final RFI report was approved subject to additional sediment sampling by Beazer. Beazer is currently operating two interim pump and treat systems to control contaminated groundwater migration.

The first system installed in 1983 by Beazer involves the operation of five groundwater recovery wells to provide hydraulic containment for portions of the shallow perched zone aquifer. The recovered groundwater is processed in an on-site wastewater treatment plant prior to being discharged to the Ohio River. The effect of this system has been to prevent releases into the neighboring Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corporation coal pits as well as to mitigate historical plant seeps to the banks of the Ohio River. EPA has required that Beazer provide a demonstration of the effectiveness of this system. Beazer is presently completing additional field investigations to fulfill this objective.

The second system, initiated pursuant to the 1990 RCRA, Order began operation in April 1999. This system provides for the collection of DNAPL coal tar product from the bedrock wells on-site. To date, the DNAPL removal program has been successful. This system will remain in operation until it is no longer technically feasible to remove DNAPL from this area of the Site.

Beazer has been conducting the RFI in a phased approach which resulted in the submission of a comprehensive RFI report in 1994. EPA provided technical comments on this report. Beazer responded to these comments by performing additional field work to better characterize the Site and to address certain identified data gaps. The work has included the installation of additional wells, performance of additional sampling and analysis, and evaluation of the existing shallow zone pump and treat system.

On June 26, 2000, EPA conditionally approved the RFI report subject to additional sediment sampling by Beazer. The river sediment sampling was completed in January 2001 and EPA received those results in August 2001. Actions taken as a result of this sampling will be at the discretion of the EPA Region III RCRA program.

Additionally, Beazer will submit an interim measures program report regarding the performance of the DNAPL removal program and the performance of the shallow groundwater pump and treat system. Both interim measures are expected to be components of the final RCRA remedy at the Site.

Pursuant to the 1990 RCRA Consent Order and the 1984 Consent Decree (*United States of America and State of West Virginia v. Koppers Company Inc. and Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel Corp.* Civil Action No. 83-0127-W(k) WV-1984), Beazer submitted a work plan to EPA on July 24, 2002. EPA approved this work plan on July 30, 2002. The work to be performed under this plan will expand the groundwater monitoring activity at the Site to provide useful data allowing EPA to document the effectiveness of current and future remedial activities.

EPA completed construction activities at the Follansbee Site in accordance with *Close Out Procedures for National Priority List Sites* (OSWER Directive 9320.2-09A-9) on July 25, 2003. EPA's Superfund Division conducted a Pre-Final Inspection on June 17, 2003 and determined that the contractors have constructed a remedy in accordance with the Interim Measures specified by EPA, and no further Superfund response is anticipated.

Exposure Pathways

Human exposure to contaminated soils is being prevented due to the Site being largely paved and secured. Koppers Industries (Koppers), the current Site owner, developed and submitted a plan to EPA in February of 1998 to increase the extent of paved area at the Site. Koppers also provides a full time security staff which limits access to the property.

The area in the vicinity of the Site is serviced by municipal water supplies which obtain water from the Ohio River and from wells near the river. The nearest surface water intake and the municipal wells are located about 1.5 miles downstream from the Site. Three industrial wells are located within one mile of the Site but are not used for potable purposes. As supported by Site characterization data, there is no evidence that the Site contamination has impacted private or municipal water supplies due to the remoteness of the water supply wells and the surface water intakes as well as the substantial dilution effect of the Ohio River.