

## State and Feds Take Over Cleanup at Metachem Products, LLC in Delaware City

*Owner declares bankruptcy; work underway to close site*



- The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have assumed responsibility for the cleanup of the Metachem Products manufacturing facility (formerly Standard Chlorine of Delaware) located along Governor Lea Road just north of Delaware City. The current site owner Metachem Products, LLC recently declared bankruptcy and is financially unable to carry out the cleanup activities.
- DNREC and EPA are now inventorying and characterizing hazardous materials that pose an immediate threat to public health and/or the environment.
- Hazardous materials include a wide variety of chemicals contained in various storage containers, soil and water.
- Some of the hazardous materials include liquid benzene, hydrochloric acid, and PCBs. Exposure to these chemicals can be toxic to human health and the environment.
- DNREC and EPA are taking the following measures to secure the site:
  1. maintaining security and utilities at the plant,
  2. maintaining the fire suppression system,
  3. cleaning out the chlorine lines,
  4. inventorying and securing the railcars,
  5. inventorying, labeling and proper storage of all drums and small containers,
  6. cleaning out the trenches and drains, railcars, containers, pipes, lines, equipment and piles.
  7. maintaining the wastewater treatment plant, and
  8. removing benzene from the site

- For more information contact:

Vance Evans  
EPA (3HS43)  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
215-814-5526  
[evans.vance@epa.gov](mailto:evans.vance@epa.gov)

Marjorie Crofts  
DNREC  
302-739-4764  
[marjorie.crofts@state.de.us](mailto:marjorie.crofts@state.de.us)

---

To receive mailings with more information about Metachem, please provide the following information, clip and return to Vance Evans at above address.

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

---



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103