



Standard Chlorine of Delaware, Inc.

New Castle County, Del.

Site Description

Standard Chlorine of Delaware is a 65-acre site located in New Castle County, Del. EPA added the site to the National Priorities List in 1987. From 1966-2002, it housed a large chemical plant that made industrial quantities of chlorobenzene-based liquids, which are poisonous to humans and animals. The liquids were also stored in on-site tanks. Two accidents at the site (in 1981 and 1986) resulted in the spillage of more than 574,000 gallons of chemical products, which contaminated local soil, surface water, groundwater and sediments. The spills contaminated nearby wetlands, aquifers and creeks.

Current Site Status and Cleanup Actions to Date

- EPA divided the site into four cleanup projects, including an interim groundwater remedy, which has already been implemented. The interim action included containment and treatment of groundwater, treatment of air emissions resulting from the groundwater treatment process, source removal of dense non-aqueous phase liquids (DNAPLS) and further investigation of groundwater and DNAPLS. This action also included the removal and off-site incineration of approximately 1.3 million gallons of bulk liquid chemicals.
- From 2002 to 2006, EPA's removal program took over operation of the bankrupted facility and processed more than 40 million pounds of chemicals. EPA managed the on-site processing, sale and/or disposal of the chemicals while also overseeing the dismantlement of the chemical plant.
- As of 2009, EPA had removed approximately 3,400 totes of bulk liquid chemicals.
- In 2009, EPA accomplished additional cleanup actions with American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funds by completing removal of the remaining 800 totes of bulk liquid chemicals and upgrading the groundwater treatment system.
- In 2012, EPA dismantled the remaining warehouse in preparation for capping the former chemical plant area.
- EPA has determined that all unacceptable human exposure pathways have been eliminated, and therefore, under current conditions, human exposure is under control site wide. EPA is continuing investigations in the contaminated wetlands and underlying Columbia and Potomac aquifers.

Unfunded Action

Fiscal Year 2013 work that was not funded involved the capping of the former chemical plant area, soil gas treatment and implementation of institutional controls.

Current Funding Status

To date, EPA has spent approximately \$56.3 million on construction work at the site.

For more information on this site, please read [the Standard Chlorine site information](#) on the Region 3 Superfund web site.