



# Peterson Puritan, Inc. Superfund Site

## Cumberland and Lincoln, Rhode Island

U.S. EPA | HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM AT EPA NEW ENGLAND



### MAINTAINING AND MONITORING SUPERFUND

**SITES:** After a Superfund Site or portion of a Superfund Site has been cleaned up, EPA continues to monitor the site to ensure the cleanup is operating effectively over time. Five-Year Reviews provide an opportunity to fully evaluate the implementation and performance of a cleanup and determine whether it remains protective of human health and the environment.

### INTRODUCTION:

EPA completed the fourth Five Year Review of the remedy for the Peterson Puritan, Inc. Superfund site in September 2017. This Five Year Review focused primarily on the PAC/CCL area located in the northern part of the site on Martin Street. EPA signed a Record of Decision in 1993 formalizing the cleanup of soil and groundwater in this area after investigation revealed contamination in the soil and groundwater.

### BACKGROUND

The 500-acre Peterson Puritan Superfund Site is located in Cumberland and Lincoln, RI. The Site is situated along the Blackstone River, a river with an extensive industrial history. EPA listed the site on the National Priorities List in 1983.

### PROGRESS SINCE LAST REVIEW

EPA determined that the remedies in the PAC/CCL areas are protective in the short term, but that additional actions must be taken to address long term protectiveness. Based on a vapor intrusion (VI) assessment conducted at the CCL Source Area (i.e., 35 Martin Street), EPA has determined that there is no current risk from VI; however, the deed restriction for the affected property was amended to include VI specific land use controls, and annual inspections of the slab are conducted. EPA also determined that the groundwater component

of the CCL remedy is protective in the short-term based on the fact that alternative water supplies are available to meet current demand. Additionally, EPA continues to implement institutional controls on appropriate parcels, having recorded 7 new deed restrictions affecting 17 lots since the last FYR.

In order for the remedies to be protective in the long-term, EPA determined that the following issues need to be addressed: the CCL Source Area should be further characterized, and the extent and location of residual

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contamination in the CCL Source Area should be evaluated; institutional controls should be recorded for all outstanding parcels; 1,4-dioxane presence within or downgradient of the CCL solvent plume should be investigated, and, if present, the nature and extent of the dissolved dioxane at current detection limits should be delineated; and dissolved arsenic concentrations must be reduced.

#### **OU1: CCL CUSTOM MANUFACTURING AREA AND PACIFIC ANCHOR AREA (PAC)**

In 1974, a rail car derailed and spilled solvents that resulted in VOC contamination of the soil and groundwater at the CCL facility that eventually migrated toward the Quinville Wellfield in Lincoln, RI. The CCL area is currently being remediated through groundwater treatment and soil vapor extraction.

The PAC facility, located immediately north of the CCL area, manufactured specialty chemicals for use in detergents, cosmetics, agriculture and food industries. Past PAC operations included the disposal of process wastes in

three leach fields. Completed cleanup activities in the Pacific Anchor Chemical Company (PAC) area in OU-1 include the excavation of the leach fields and treatment of contaminated soil. Potentially responsible parties (PRPs) completed most of these activities between the fall of 1995 and January 1997. This area is currently undergoing Monitored Natural Attenuation for arsenic.

#### **OU2: JM MILLS LANDFILL AREA**

In September 2015, another Record of Decision was signed for Operable Unit 2 (OU2) also known as the JM Mills Landfill area. The remedy for the JM Mills area landfill area is in design phase and therefore, no remediation activities have been performed that could be evaluated during this Fourth Five Year Review. Remedial activities for the JM Mills Landfill and adjacent parcels are anticipated to begin during the fifth Five Year Review period, and if so, the remedy will be assessed during that time. Therefore, no Issues/Recommendations and Protectiveness Statements are included for JM Mills area (OU-2) for this fourth Five Year Review.

#### **FACT**

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