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## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

DATE: 10 NOV 1983

SUBJECT: Action Memorandum: Authorization to Proceed with Remedial Planning Activities at the Combe Fill South Landfill Site, Chester and Washington Townships, New Jersey

FROM: William J. Librizzo, Director  
Office of Emergency and Remedial Response

TO: Jacqueline E. Schafer  
Regional Administrator

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to obtain authorization for a remedial investigation and feasibility study of remedial measures for the Combe Fill South Landfill located in Chester and Washington Townships, New Jersey.

BACKGROUND

The Combe Fill South Landfill site is situated in a partially wooded, rural-residential area. The eastern third of the landfill is located in Chester Township and the remaining western two-thirds in Washington Township.

From the 1940's until 1981, the site operated as a municipal refuse and solid waste disposal facility. In 1978, the Combe Fill Corporation obtained ownership of the property. Combe Fill was authorized to receive domestic and industrial wastes, sewage sludge and septic tank wastes, chemical wastes and oil. In September 1981, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) ordered the landfill closed due to groundwater contamination and the potential threat to drinking water supplies.

Foul smelling, discolored fluids have been observed discharging from a large leachate collection basin at the site. There is visible evidence of leachate generation including numerous reddish and brownish black seeps emanating from the faces of the landfill. Sample analyses indicate that a nearby brook and many nearby private water supply wells are contaminated with volatile organics and toxic heavy metals. Groundwater samples taken at, or immediately adjacent to the site have revealed contamination. Chemicals such as carbon tetrachloride, PCE and TCE have been detected in the groundwater and surface water.

ENFORCEMENT

There has been no Federal or State enforcement activity to date. EPA currently is attempting to identify the responsible parties.

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REQUIRED ACTION

A. Requested Next Project

A remedial investigation and feasibility study to evaluate the extent and magnitude of contamination and develop alternative remedial actions.

B. Cost Estimate

The cost estimate for performing the remedial investigation and feasibility study is \$550,000.

C. Project Schedule

The remedial investigation and feasibility study should be completed within 10 months of approval of the work plan.

D. EPA or State Lead

The State will be the lead agency for all remedial activities under the proposed project.

ISSUES

A. Community Relations

A Community Relations Plan is attached.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend that you approve our plan for remedial investigation and feasibility study at Combe Fill South Landfill.

I am available to discuss this recommendation at your convenience.

APPROVE: 

DISAPPROVE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 11/15/83

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