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FACT SHEET

Public Meeting
on
Commencement of
Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
at
Combe Fill South Landfill
Chester and Washington Townships
Morris County
July 23, 1984

Site Description: The Combe Fill South Landfill is an inactive site located on a 100-acre tract of land in Washington and Chester Townships, bordered by a 50-acre tract of hardwood wetland. The site consists of an old fill area, a new landfill area and two open fields. The old fill area may date back to the 1940's and has been used for the disposal of household and industrial wastes, dead animals, sewage, sludge, septic tank wastes, chemicals and waste oils. No records are available to indicate the specific types or volumes of industrial wastes disposed of at the site. Local residents have alleged that the open fields may have been used for unauthorized disposal of chemical and industrial wastes. On December 12, 1972 the site was certified and approved for the disposal of non-hazardous municipal waste. This action marked the first state regulatory control over the landfill operation. The new landfill was closed and regraded shortly after Combe Fill Corporation, the site owner and operator, filed for bankruptcy in September 1981. The federal funding of the investigation and study is for $550,000.

Background: The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) issued several Administrative Orders to the Combe Fill Corporation which culminated in a Closure Order in September 1981. Proper grading, capping, well monitoring, and a leachate collection system were implemented as part of the landfill closure plan. NJDEP has taken samples of landfill leachate, surface water of the East and West Branches of Trout Brook, and potable wells for local residences.

Status: In July 1984, NJDEP awarded the contract for a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study to Lawler, Matusky & Skelly Engineers of Pearl River, New York. The Scope of Work will involve the following activities:

- Ongoing field investigations to identify the specific location, nature, and extent of the hazardous wastes contained in the old and new landfill areas and the adjacent fields.

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- Examination of the landfill discharges to determine the concentrations and extent of ground water contamination.

- Qualitative and quantitative evaluation of surface water discharges that impact on Trout Brook, Tanners Brook, and Lamington River.

- Air monitoring to identify specific types and concentrations of organic compounds that are discharged to the air.

- Qualitative and quantitative assessment of soil contamination.

- Determination of the degree of on-site and off-site radioactivity and whether it is natural, disturbed-natural, or waste-generated.

- Definition of the potential for long-term environmental impacts via air, surface water, and ground water discharges.