

NPL Site Narrative for Westinghouse Electric Corp. (Sharon Plant)

WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORP. (SHARON PLANT) Sharon, Pennsylvania

Conditions at proposal (June 24, 1988): Westinghouse Electric Corp. produced and repaired transformers during 1922-84 on a 50-acre site at 409 Sharpsville Avenue in a heavily industrialized area of Sharon, Mercer County, Pennsylvania. During 1936-76, Westinghouse used PCBs as a conducting fluid in some of the transformers. In 1976, 48,000 gallons of PCBs and 15,000 gallons of organic solvents were removed from the site and incinerated. PCBs were spilled in certain areas during routine operations. In 1984, at least 6,000 gallons of solvents and oil leaked from an underground tank and became contaminated with PCBs in the soil.

In November 1985, EPA detected PCB 1260 at two of the four points where the plant discharges waste water to the Shenango River, which is 0.5 mile to the east. The company had a permit for the discharges under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The Shenango Valley Water Co. provides drinking water to an estimated 75,000 people from an intake approximately 1,600 feet downstream of the plant's discharge points. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (PA DER) detected PCBs in river sediments between the site and the intake.

Tests conducted in 1986 by a Westinghouse consultant detected PCBs, 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene, and methyl ethyl ketone in on-site ground water.

In April 1985, PA DER issued Westinghouse an Administrative Order under the State's Clean Streams Law and Solid Waste Management Act. Under the order, Westinghouse has conducted a limited study of subsurface conditions and submitted a cleanup plan to PA DER.

This facility obtained Interim Status under Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) when it filed a Notification of Hazardous Waste Activity and Part A of a permit application to treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste. Later, it withdrew its Part A and converted to generator-only status with EPA or State approval. Hence, it satisfies a component of EPA's NPL/RCRA policy.

Status (August 30, 1990): On September 21, 1988, Westinghouse and PA DER signed a Consent Order and Agreement under which Westinghouse is conducting a remedial investigation/feasibility study to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site and identify alternatives for remedial action. Field work started in March 1990.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.