

NPL Site Narrative for Whitmoyer Laboratories

WHITMOYER LABORATORIES Jackson Township, Pennsylvania

Conditions at proposal (October 15, 1984): Whitmoyer Laboratories formerly manufactured animal pharmaceuticals on a 17.5-acre site in Jackson Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. The facility produced and stored aniline and soluble arsenic compounds. Arsenical wastes were disposed of in concrete vaults, holding tanks, and unlined lagoons.

Whitmoyer Laboratories operated from 1934 to July 1984, when it became a subsidiary of Rohm & Haas. Rohm & Haas sold the facility in early 1978 to Beecham, Inc., which subsequently sold it to Stafford Laboratories of Phoenix, Arizona.

After EPA and the State detected arsenic and various organic chemicals in ground water and surface water on and off the site, Whitmoyer Labs supplied bottled water to nearby residents from the mid-1960s until March 1982. At that time, some residents received a cash settlement. Then, in June 1984, the company filed for bankruptcy and stopped supplying bottled water. About 4,700 people use wells within 3 miles of the site as a source of drinking water.

Whitmoyer received Interim Status under Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) when it filed Part A of a permit application.

Status (January 1986): In January 1985, EPA and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources signed a multisite cooperative agreement which provides CERCLA funds for various sites, including Whitmoyer Labs. The funds are to start work preparatory to a remedial investigation/feasibility study to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site and identify alternatives for remedial action.

Status (June 10, 1986): This site is being placed on the NPL because it satisfies a component of EPA's NPL/RCRA policy: the owner has demonstrated inability to finance appropriate remedial action by invoking bankruptcy laws.

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.