

NPL Site Narrative for Reeser's Landfill

REESER'S LANDFILL

Upper Macungie Township, Pennsylvania

Conditions at proposal (April 10, 1985): Reeser's Landfill is an inactive 50-acre unlined dump for municipal wastes near Haafsville in Upper Macungie Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. Initially, the site owner operated the landfill. Later, the facility was leased to Reeser's Hauling Service. Reeser's applied for but never received a permit to operate the landfill from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (PA DER). Operations ceased in 1981.

The landfill is inadequately covered. Soil is stained by leachate coming out of filled areas. A hole that resulted from excavation of burned wastes is filled with water. According to PA DER files, wastes were dumped into a water-filled quarry and into excavated trenches, possibly permitting the wastes to enter ground water. Homes in the immediate area rely on individual wells for drinking water. Lehigh County Water Authority municipal supply wells serving approximately 3,400 people are within 3 miles of the site. Most of the landfill drains to Iron Run, a tributary to Little Lehigh Creek.

Limited sampling by PA DER of two monitoring wells in the area detected zinc, lead, and relatively high levels of organic chemicals. In August 1983, EPA detected heavy metals, including cadmium, lead, zinc, and mercury, in on-site soils, surface water, and/or sediment samples. Mercury in a downstream water sample was three times EPA's Revised Ambient Water Quality Criteria.

PA DER issued orders to close Reeser's Landfill on June 22, 1979 and February 3, 1981. Both orders are pending under appeal by the site owner.

Status (July 22, 1987): In a March 1987 inspection, EPA observed stressed vegetation on the landfill, probably due to methane.

EPA is preparing a workplan for a remedial investigation/feasibility study to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site and identify alternatives for remedial action.

Status (May 31, 1990): This site is being deleted from the NPL because EPA, in consultation with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, has determined that all appropriate Superfund-financed response under CERCLA has been implemented, and that no further response by responsible parties is appropriate.

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/toxfaq/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.