

NPL Site Narrative for Helena Chemical Co. Landfill

HELENA CHEMICAL CO. LANDFILL Fairfax, South Carolina

Conditions at proposal (June 24, 1988): Helena Chemical Co. formulated pesticides in Fairfax, Allendale County, South Carolina, during 1971-78. The company disposed of pesticides and empty pesticide containers in an unlined landfill measuring approximately 100 by 150 by 8 feet. In the spring of 1984, the company removed some of the waste, transported it to a regulated hazardous waste facility, and capped the site.

In March 1985, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) detected 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid and 2,4,5-TP (also known as Silvex) in shallow on-site monitoring wells. The shallow aquifer is hydraulically connected to the lower aquifer, permitting water to move to the lower aquifer. The lower aquifer provides water to Fairfax municipal wells within 3 miles of the site that serve approximately 2,200 people. The nearest municipal well is approximately 500 feet from the site.

In March 1985, SCDHEC also detected high levels of pesticides in sediment in and around the landfill.

In October 1981, SCDHEC and Helena signed a Consent Order requiring the company to study the contamination and then clean up the site. In December 1981, the two parties agreed to cleanup schedules. Under a March 1984 agreement with SCDHEC, Helena is to cover the landfill with an impermeable clay cap and monitor ground water for at least 30 years.

Status (February 21, 1990): In March 1989, EPA and Helena Chemical signed an Administrative Order on Consent under which the company will conduct a remedial investigation/feasibility study to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site and identify alternatives for remedial action. Field work is expected to start in early 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.