

NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

Final Site

September 2014

NORTH SHORE DRIVE | **Elkhart, Indiana**
Elkhart County

Site Location:

The North Shore Drive site contains a contaminated ground water plume with no identified source located in the city of Elkhart, Elkhart County, Indiana. The ground water plume is approximately 70 acres and is located north of the St. Joseph River and south of Old U.S. 20.

Site History:

The North Shore Drive site was initially discovered in 1996. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has continued to investigate the plume by obtaining drinking water samples from private homes. In five homes contaminants exceeded the Safe Drinking Water Act Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). Despite several investigations in the area, the origin of the contaminants is unknown.

Site Contamination/Contaminants:

The plume consists of chlorinated solvents, specifically trichloroethene (TCE), cis-1,2-dichloroethene (cis-1,2-DCE), tetrachloroethene (PCE) and trans-1,2-dichloroethene (trans-1,2-DCE).

Potential Impacts on Surrounding Community/Environment:

IDEM sampled drinking wells from 43 residences in the area and found 12 contaminated residential wells, five of which exceeded the MCL. About 147 residential drinking wells within ¼ mile of the plume could be potentially contaminated by this site.

Response Activities (to date):

IDEM has provided carbon filters to nine residential homes for the wells in which contamination approached or exceeded the MCLs. Other investigations have identified potential sources of contamination; however, the origin of the contaminants remains unknown.

Need for NPL Listing:

The state of Indiana referred the site to the EPA because the contaminated ground water plume is affecting nearby residences. Listing will allow for an investigation into the nature and extent of contamination. Other federal and state cleanup programs were evaluated but are not viable at this time. The EPA received a letter of support for placing this site on the NPL from the state.

[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination. See 56 FR 5600, February 11, 1991, or subsequent FR notices.]

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