

NPL Site Narrative for Kaydon Corp.

KAYDON CORP. Muskegon, Michigan

Conditions at proposal (June 24, 1988): Kaydon Corp. has manufactured roller bearings, ball bearings, and various bearing assemblies since 1941 on a 40-acre site on McCracker Street in Muskegon, Muskegon County, Michigan. Until 1968, waste water from plant operations, some of which involved chlorinated organic solvents, was disposed of on-site in seepage pits and in the south branch of Ruddiman Creek. The creek flows into Muskegon Lake, which is used for recreational activities, and eventually into Lake Michigan.

In 1968, the wastes were separated. Now, only cooling water is discharged to the creek. Process wastes are currently removed by waste haulers, discharged to the sanitary sewer, or discharged to two on-site ponds. Waste discharged to the ponds is grinding sludge; the solids settle out and the water is piped to the sanitary sewer. The pond sludge is periodically removed to a hazardous waste facility regulated under Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The sludges contain chromium, copper, lead, and nickel, as does on-site soil, according to the company.

In October 1982, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), concerned about ground water quality in the area, requested that Kaydon conduct a hydrogeological investigation. Chlorinated organic solvents, including 1,1-dichloroethane and 1,2-dichloroethylene, and copper were found in 1985 in monitoring wells the company installed downgradient of the site. Approximately 700 people obtain drinking water from private wells within 3 miles of the site.

In June 1986, Kaydon removed 1,500 cubic yards of contaminated soil and sludge and transported them to a RCRA-regulated landfill.

Status (February 21, 1990): The company is cooperating with MDNR in cleaning up the site. Two wells to pump contaminated ground water to the surface are in operation.

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.