

NPL Site Narrative for American Chemical Service, Inc.

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SERVICE, INC. Griffith, Indiana

Conditions at listing (September 1983): American Chemical Service, Inc., recycled chemicals in Griffith, Indiana, from 1958 to 1975, when it voluntarily stopped using two disposal areas on-site and covered them. The State has responded to complaints about the company since 1972. The site contains buried drums (estimated at 20,000) and sludges (primarily pigment and resins); the amounts, nature, and source are unknown.

The shallow aquifer beneath the site is contaminated with pentachlorophenol, benzene, toluene, vinyl chloride, 1,1,1-trichloroethylene, and other organic compounds, according to analyses conducted for the State. The majority of the 10,000 people residing within 3 miles of the site obtain drinking water from the lower aquifer. No contamination of drinking wells has been documented to date. The aquifers are separated by a supposedly continuous 15- to 25-foot layer of clay. The site is entirely mantled by sandy soil with high permeability. Ground water flows primarily to the northwest.

Status (June 1984): EPA has completed a search for parties potentially responsible for wastes associated with the site.

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.