

# NPL Site Narrative for Vertac, Inc.

## VERTAC, INC. Jacksonville, Arkansas

**Conditions at listing (October 1981):** The Vertac, Inc., Site covers 92 acres in Jacksonville, Arkansas. Since the late 1940s, insecticides and herbicides have been manufactured at the site. As a result of inadequate waste disposal methods and production controls, soil, surface water, and ground water have been contaminated by insecticides, herbicides, chlorinated phenols, and dioxin.

In 1980, the Department of Justice (DOJ) brought, on behalf of EPA, a Federal civil action seeking injunctive relief against Vertac, which now owns and operates the site, and Hercules, Inc., the former owner. The State also filed against the two companies, and the cases were consolidated. In April 1980, a hearing on a preliminary injunction resulted in Vertac being required to (1) drain and cover a contaminated basin, (2) treat the drained liquids, (3) install a cut-off wall and drain around the basin, and (4) complete the capping of all disposal areas. This work was completed in the summer of 1981.

**Status (July 1983):** To address remaining contamination problems that could not be addressed in the preliminary injunction or that required further study, EPA, the State, and DOJ negotiated a Consent Decree with Vertac which became effective in early 1982. It required Vertac to provide a consultant's study of on-site conditions, a proposal for on-site remedial work, a study of off-site conditions, a study of Lake Dupree (a nearby lake contaminated with dioxin), and a plan for on-site waste management.

Work required by the Consent Decree is proceeding. Vertac has submitted several of the studies and proposals required by the Consent Decree, and EPA has submitted responses to the reports received to date.

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.