NPL Site Narrative for Intermountain Waste Oil Refinery

INTERMOUNTAIN WASTE OIL REFINERY
Bountiful, Utah

Conditions at Proposal (October 22, 1999): The Intermountain Waste Oil Refinery (IWOR) site is located in southern Bountiful, Davis County, Utah. From 1957 to 1993, waste oils from Utah, Nevada, Idaho, and Wyoming were received by the IWOR facility and treated on site. Cleaned waste oil was used by area cement facilities as fuel in their kilns and suppression of coal dust at regional coal mines; waste sludge was disposed in the North Davis County Landfill or in the Salt Lake County/City Landfill. Wastewater that may have remained after the treatment process was boiled off at the site. The facility closed to business in May 1993 after receiving several Waste Oil Notices of Violation and Orders from the Utah Attorney General's office and from the Utah Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste (DSHW). Under a cooperative agreement with DSHW, the owner began dismantling the refinery and consolidating solid waste on site into a waste pile of approximately 100 cubic yards on the rear portion of the site. After gathering the waste pile, the owner ceased remediation of the site, claiming a lack of funds. The site surface was reportedly covered with approximately two inches of a gravel/soil backfill.

In 1996, the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ) collected several soil, sediment, ground water, and surface water samples from residential properties, Mill Creek, an on-site monitoring well, and sources at IWOR. These samples were collected to delineate areas of observed contamination, determine whether off-site surface water was impacted, and characterize soil/source contamination. In 1998 an EPA contractor collected additional samples to further identify sources on site, installed a monitoring well in an upgradient location to confirm or deny a release to ground water, and attempted to further identify and delineate target populations in the study area.

Analysis of the samples collected during the UDEQ sampling event indicated that several organic substances (dichloroethene (DCE), trichloroethene (TCE), benzene, and toluene) were present on site, and that DCE and trichloroethane were present in an on-site monitoring well. The EPA sampling event confirmed a release of DCE to the East Shore aquifer, as well as further identifying potentially affected residents of the study area.

An evaluation of municipal wells along the Wasatch Front indicates that there are approximately 68,118 residents within a four-mile radius of the IWOR site who rely on ground water from the East Shore aquifer for drinking water.

Status (May 2000): EPA is considering various alternatives for this 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) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.