

Fiscal Year 2017 Unfunded New Construction Project



Woodbrook Road Dump Superfund Site South Plainfield, New Jersey

Site Description

The [Woodbrook Road Dump](#) site is a 70-acre inactive dumping area located on two heavily wooded and undeveloped properties within the Dismal Swamp in South Plainfield, New Jersey. The surrounding area consists of a mixture of undeveloped space and residential and industrial properties.

Dumps operated on the properties during the 1940s and 1950s that accepted household and industrial wastes until the state of New Jersey shut them down in 1958. Texas Eastern Terminal Company (TETC) purchased the properties in 1971 and 1972.

Partially buried leaking capacitors were discovered in 1999. After the capacitors were removed, an investigation found soils contaminated with high levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). EPA placed the site on the National Priorities List in 2003.

Site Status and Cleanup Actions to Date

- TETC, under EPA oversight, removed and disposed of capacitors from the surface of the site and instituted security measures such as fences and warning signs.
- TETC conducted a remedial investigation/feasibility study from 2007 through 2012. Based on the remedial investigation and risk assessments, EPA identified PCBs in soil as the contaminant with the greatest potential risk to human health. The remedial investigation also found that the highest concentrations of PCBs found on-site correspond to soil in the vicinity of the capacitor or capacitor parts.
- The feasibility study and the record of decision (ROD) were completed in 2013. The ROD selected the remedy of excavation and off-site disposal of soil and debris contaminated with PCBs at concentrations greater than 1 part per million.
- The site is currently open space in wetlands; however, it is zoned commercial/industrial. TETC's 2005 conceptual site model assumes the area will be utilized for "passive recreation, hiking, and ecological education" and EPA anticipates that the land will remain open space.
- EPA initiated a pre-remedial design investigation (PDI) in 2014 consisting of more intensive soil sampling to further delineate the soil to be excavated. Soil and debris will be disposed of at two types of disposal facilities: waste with greater than 50 parts per million of PCBs will go to a TSCA facility, and waste with 1 to 50 parts per million of PCBs will be disposed at a subtitle D landfill. The PDI provided sample results to be utilized as post-excavation during the remedial action to streamline the excavation process.
- The design also found disposal by rail to be more cost-effective, less intrusive to the public, and lower in its carbon footprint.
- The site is transected by the northwest-flowing Bound Brook, and three tributaries and a body of standing water bound portions of the site and discharge to Bound Brook. Due to the proximity of the surface water and shallow groundwater, the design included stormwater protection and groundwater treatment.
- EPA completed the remedial design for soil removal in September 2017.

Unfunded Action

The FY 2017 unfunded remedial action for this site consists of soil and debris excavation which is the only action for this site.

Funding Status

EPA has spent minimal funds on this site to date.