

NPL Site Narrative for Raymark Industries, Inc.

RAYMARK INDUSTRIES, INC. Stratford, Connecticut

Conditions at Proposal (June 23, 1993): The Raymark Industries, Inc. site includes the Raymark Industries, Inc. facility in Stratford, Fairfield County, Connecticut, and other locations where Raymark waste has come to be located and which EPA determines pose a significant risk to public health. The Raymark facility is located on 33.4 acres on East Main Street next to Interstate 95. A public recreation park containing a baseball diamond and recreation field is located immediately northwest of the site.

The Raymark facility operated at this location from 1919 until 1989, manufacturing asbestos brake linings and other automotive asbestos products. The facility operated as a hazardous waste generator and land disposal facility. Raymark Industries, Inc. is a RCRA subtitle C regulated facility which is currently subject to bankruptcy proceedings.

Hazardous waste produced on site includes lead-asbestos dust, metals and solvents. From 1919 to July 1984, Raymark used a system of lagoons to capture waste lead and asbestos dust produced by its manufacturing process. Dredged materials from the lagoons were landfilled at numerous other locations in the town of Stratford, Connecticut.

Interim actions intended to stabilize waste were initialized by Raymark and EPA at the Raymark facility and the ballfield in 1992. An intensive surficial sampling program of the other locations where waste from Raymark is known or suspected to have been received and used as fill was instituted by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEP) and EPA in April 1993. Based on the detection of elevated concentrations of lead, asbestos, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in surficial soils, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) issued a Public Health Advisory on May 25, 1993 for "Raymark Industries/Stratford Asbestos Sites." The presence of dioxins and other contaminants in Raymark waste has subsequently been confirmed. The advisory was based on the concern that people could be exposed to site-related contaminants through inhalation, direct dermal contact, ingestion of waste present in the soil, and consumption of potentially contaminated area seafood.

Sampling to determine the vertical extent of contamination at known disposal areas has been conducted to expedite complete site characterization. Site characterization and initiation of mitigation actions at known and newly discovered disposal sites are currently underway. Ferry Creek, the Housatonic River, and Long Island Sound are located downstream of some of the disposal areas. Seed oysters are cultivated in this area of Long Island Sound. Crabs and clams may also be recreationally harvested. The total population within 4 miles is about 145,000.

Status (April 1995): Forty one residential properties have been identified as contaminated with waste from Raymark. To date, 29 of these properties have been cleaned up by excavating the soils and storing the waste at the Raymark plant site. It is anticipated that the cleanup for all residential properties will be complete by November 1995.

On April 3, 1995, EPA Issued the Proposed Cleanup Plan for the Raymark property. In addition, EPA is currently characterizing Ferry Creek and wetland areas where Raymark disposed of its waste. CT DEP has taken interim actions at the Wooster Junior High School athletic field, Short Beach Park, and at a number of commercial properties to abate imminent health hazards.

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.