



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

SUPERFUND FACT SHEET INTERNATIONAL MINERAL AND CHEMICAL CORP (IMC) FERTILIZER SITE

Spartanburg, SC

April 2007

This fact sheet is not to be considered a technical document but has been prepared to provide the general public with a better understanding of activities at the Site. For technical information, please review documents in the Information Repository.

IN THIS UPDATE

- ▶ History
- ▶ Site Update
- ▶ Summary of Remedial Investigation
- ▶ Next Steps
- ▶ Community Involvement

HISTORY

The International Mineral and Chemical (IMC) Site is approximately 41-acres and located in the Arkwright community, just south of Spartanburg, South Carolina. *See Figure 1.* The facility was operated from about 1910 until closure in 1986, as a nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium fertilizer production. The 3 primary operations at the site were 1) operation of a sulfuric acid production process which was constructed in 1947 and operated until 1970; 2) a superphosphate production process which continued until 1987; and 3) a fertilizer mixing operation that continued, with some process modifications until 1987.

Most fertilizer products were sold and shipped in bulk. The production shut down in 1987. In 1987 when the plant closed, onsite lagoons were dredged and cleaned. Monitoring wells were also installed. In 1999, Vigindustries, a subsidiary of IMC Global, deconstructed the remaining facility buildings. Only the security fence, some asphalt paving, the concrete floors to the main fertilizer building, the office and garage areas, and the former above ground bulk fuel storage area remain. The concrete potash storage area and a concrete pad north of the former trestle also remain.

The owner of the property, Vigindustries signed an agreement with EPA in July 2001 to conduct the remedial investigation (RI) and feasibility study (FS) at the Site and has continued to cooperate with the Agency to complete the RI/FS.

The site has been the subject of numerous investigative activities. A removal action was conducted by Vigindustries in 2002. Soil in the former pond area was removed, along with fertilizer residuals and existing stockpiles. Approximately 15,500 tons of soil were removed and sent off-site for disposal.

SITE UPDATE

EPA is in the RI phase of the RI/FS process. The objective of the RI is to determine the nature and extent of contamination in the groundwater, surface water, sediment, and soil. This information is used to evaluate potential risks, if any, to human health and the environment, and to evaluate alternatives for site cleanup. Sampling of surface water, sediment, soil, and groundwater began in 2004 and is now complete. These samples will assist in achieving the goals of the RI.

SUMMARY OF RI FINDINGS

A total of 450 samples have been collected at the Site. This includes samples collected during the earlier stages of the site reconnaissance, including the site investigation, the expanded site investigation, and the focused removal action. In total, a significant amount of information has been obtained to characterize the IMC Site.

Soil Sampling - There were 257 soil samples collected. Four main areas of elevated contaminants in soil were found. These are identified as the wastewater/ process residuals areas, the former sulfuric acid plant and raw materials areas, the area north of the former manufacturing building, and one area that was a part of the previous removal. Contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) include lead, arsenic, fluoride, and 2, 4-DNT.

Surface Water/Sediment Sampling - Approximately 70 surface water and sediment samples were collected in Fairforest Creek and a stream that borders the site. Lead was found in the Fairforest Creek surface waters, but was also found in upstream samples. The

sediment contained COPCs including arsenic, iron, lead, manganese, vanadium, and nitrate.

Groundwater Sampling - The site contains a network of 24 monitoring wells and over 123 samples have been collected from these wells as well as other temporary locations. The RI revealed contamination of groundwater beneath the site with arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, lead, selenium, thallium, benzene, vinyl chloride, fluoride, and nitrate. The results of the RI further indicated that all of the groundwater from the site discharges into Fairforest Creek.

Risk Assessment - Human - The site was found to present a risk to a future resident that drinks the groundwater and lives on the contaminated soil. (Currently, no one lives on the Site).

Risk Assessment - Ecological - The site was not found to present a risk to any ecological habitats or populations.

NEXT STEPS

The RI phase will be complete with the approval of the final RI report. This report will then be made available to the public. The next step is the preparation of the Feasibility Study (FS). The FS is a report that summarizes the development and analysis of remedial alternatives that EPA considers for the

cleanup of Superfund sites. The FS Report will be prepared and made available to the public.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT: WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU

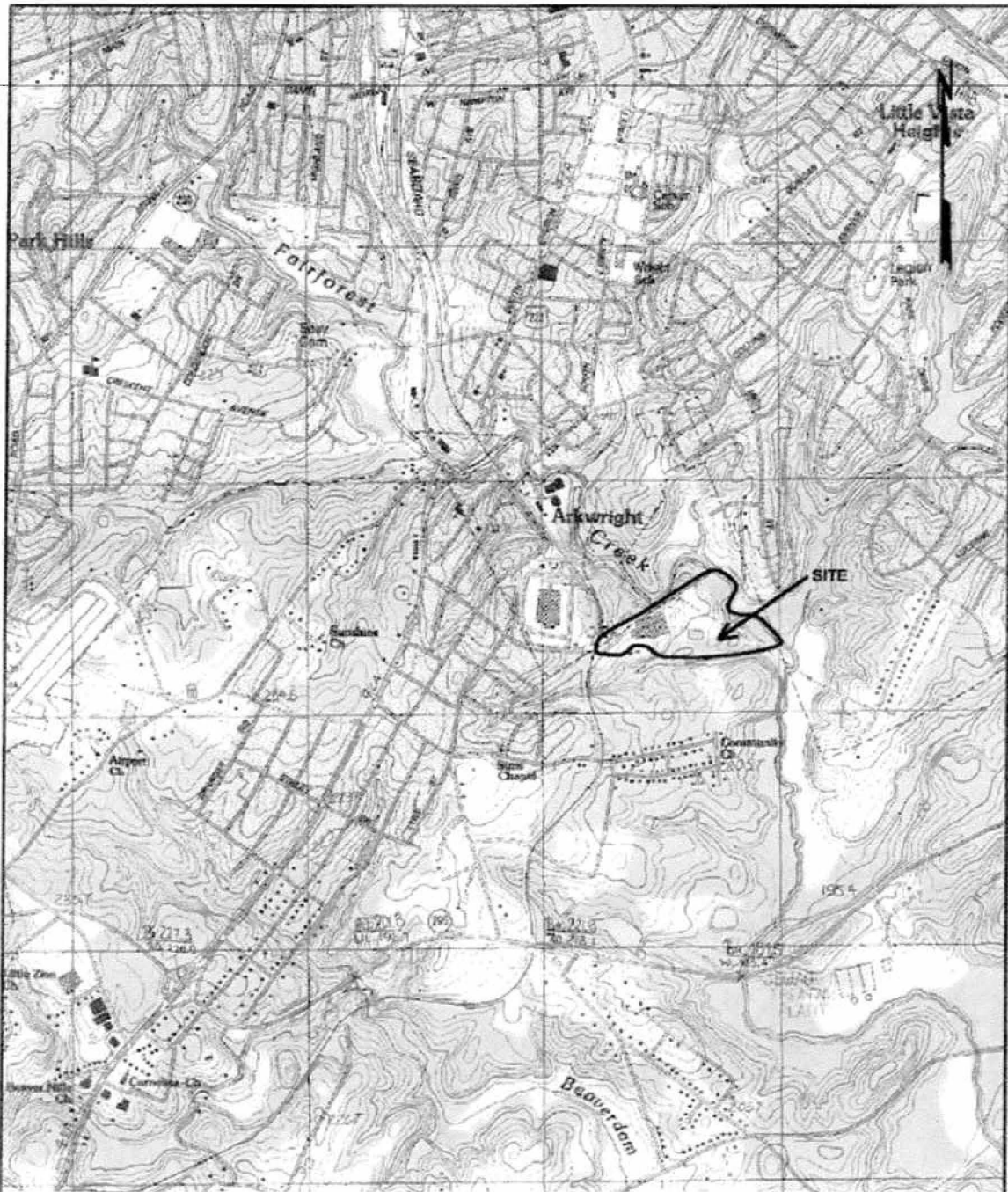
Community involvement is an important aspect of the Superfund process. It is required and accomplished by various actions and activities, which are conducted throughout the process. Citizens are encouraged to voice their concerns and ask questions regarding the information the Agency provides.

Citizens can become more involved with the Superfund process through several different methods. One method of involvement is the establishment of a Community Advisory Group. The Community Advisory Group would meet on a regular basis to discuss site progress. This would assist in developing a better understanding of the issues relative to the Site.

The ReGenesis community group has been active in the community and Site activities. If you are interested in finding out more about the ReGenesis community group, please call 864-583-2712.

If you are interested in finding out more about EPA community involvement, please contact L'Tonya Spencer, Community Involvement Coordinator, at (404) 562-8463 or 1-800-435-9233.

For more information, please contact...		
<p>Giezelle Bennett, Remedial Project Manager U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street SW Atlanta, GA 30303 404-562-8824 or 800-435-9233 Bennett.giezelle@epa.gov</p>		<p>L'Tonya Spencer, Community Involvement Coordinator U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street SW (SRTS) Atlanta, GA 30303 404-562-8463 or 800-435-9233 spencer.latonya@epa.gov</p>
Information Repositories		
<p>Spartanburg County Public Library 151 South Church Street Spartanburg, SC 29306 (864) 596-3505</p>		<p>U.S. EPA Region 4 Library Ninth Floor Reception Area 61 Forsyth Street SW Atlanta, Georgia 30303</p>
U.S. EPA on the Internet		
<p>U.S. EPA Headquarters www.epa.gov</p>	<p>U.S. EPA Region 4 www.epa.gov/region4</p>	<p>U.S. EPA Region 4 Superfund www.epa.gov/region4/superfund</p>



**FIGURE 1-1
SITE LOCATION
FORMER IMC FERTILIZER SITE
SPARTANBURG, SC**



Drawn By	PAM
Approved By	DOM
Date	DECEMBER 2006
Project No.	71236.23
File No.	SPG-00.71236.23-00.DGN

International Mineral and Chemical (IMC) Site

Mailing List Additions/Corrections

If you, or someone you know, would like your name and address added to, or corrected on, the mailing list for the IMC Site, please complete this form and return it to:

L'Tonya Spencer
U.S. EPA - Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

NAME: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

FOLD IN HALF

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET, S.W.
ATLANTA, GA 30303-8960
ATTN: L'Tonya Spencer

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300