



SUPERFUND FACT SHEET

INTERNATIONAL MINERAL & CHEMICAL (IMC) SITE

SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 2009

PURPOSE

The purpose of this fact sheet is to give you a brief update on the upcoming activities that are planned at this site.

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 occurring at the Site. For technical information, please review documents in the Information Repository.

SITE HISTORY

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

CURRENT SITE STATUS

EPA has issued an Action Memo to conduct a Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) lead non-time critical removal action (NTCRA) at the site. Applying a non-time-critical removal to the Site instead of a remedial action has the potential to reduce the duration and administrative costs of the response action,

while insuring that the Site is cleaned to levels that are protective of human health and the environment.

Approximately 6,000 cubic yards of process residuals (material from the plant's operation) and 700 cubic yards of soil require cleanup. The primary contaminants of concern are arsenic, PCBs, lead, fluoride, 2,4-DNT and 2,6-DNT.

The following objectives for the Site have been established:

- Prevent exposure of human and ecological receptors to contaminated site soils;
- Prevent migration of contaminants from site soils to groundwater;
- Prevent migration of contaminants from site soils to surface water; and
- Monitor the effectiveness of the remedy.

The cleanup strategy presented included:

- excavation of affected soil and process residuals;
- placement of a buffering/neutralizing chemical at the base of the process residual excavations, backfill, and grade for positive drainage; and
- on-site consolidation of the excavated materials under a cover system that also covers potential source areas in the former sulfuric acid plant area.
- The on-site explosives bunker will be inspected and removed under the supervision and direction of an explosives expert.
- A groundwater monitoring program would be implemented.

PUBLIC MEETING

In the summer of 2009, EPA held two public meetings at the C.C. Woodson Recreation Center to present a recommended cleanup option to address contaminated soil present on the IMC Site. Approximately 25 concerned citizens and officials attended the second meeting.

The following are questions about the cleanup posed and answers provided at the July 2009 meeting:

Question 1 - Why can't the soil be excavated and moved off-site as opposed to leaving it on-site?

Answer 1 – Removing the contaminated material from the groundwater and consolidating it on high ground underneath a cap is just as safe as and more cost effective than off-site disposal.

Question 2 – Why can't a liner be placed under the contaminated soil with a cover on top?

Answer 2 – While it is not required for effectiveness, the owner of the site has agreed to the request expressed at the meeting to place a liner underneath the contaminated material. The addition of the liner brings the estimated cost of the cleanup to \$1.6 million dollars, a \$100,000 increase from the original proposal.

Question 3 – Why wasn't all the contaminated soil removed during the first removal?

Answer 3 - The first removal addressed large areas of contamination and was performed to have an immediate positive impact on the environment. This removal's focus is long term and has lower contaminant cleanup levels.

Question 4 – There is a lot of water that runs through the site. How can you guarantee that water will not go through the cap?

Answer 4 – The capped material will be placed on an area of the site that is away from surface water streams and high above the groundwater.

Question 5 – Will the cap that's being prepared take care of 99% of the problem? What percentage?

Answer 5 – All known soil and process materials above the cleanup levels will be addressed in this removal.

Question 6 - What is the timeline for the cleanup?

Answer 6 – The removal workplan has been submitted and EPA and SC DHEC are currently reviewing the document. Upon approval, the entire cleanup is expected to take approximately 4 months.

Question 7 – How will the property look after the cleanup?

Answer 7 – Figure 2 shows a current photo of the site and Figure 3 shows a computer drawing of the area with the capped material.

NEXT STEPS

Once the workplan for the removal is approved, work will begin on the site. The entire project is projected to be completed in the spring of 2010. Groundwater will be monitored thereafter.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

EPA provides information regarding the cleanup of the IMC Site to the public through Fact Sheets, public meetings, and the Administrative Record file for the site. EPA and the State encourage the public to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the Site and the Superfund activities that have been conducted at the Site.

For further information on the IMC Site, please contact:

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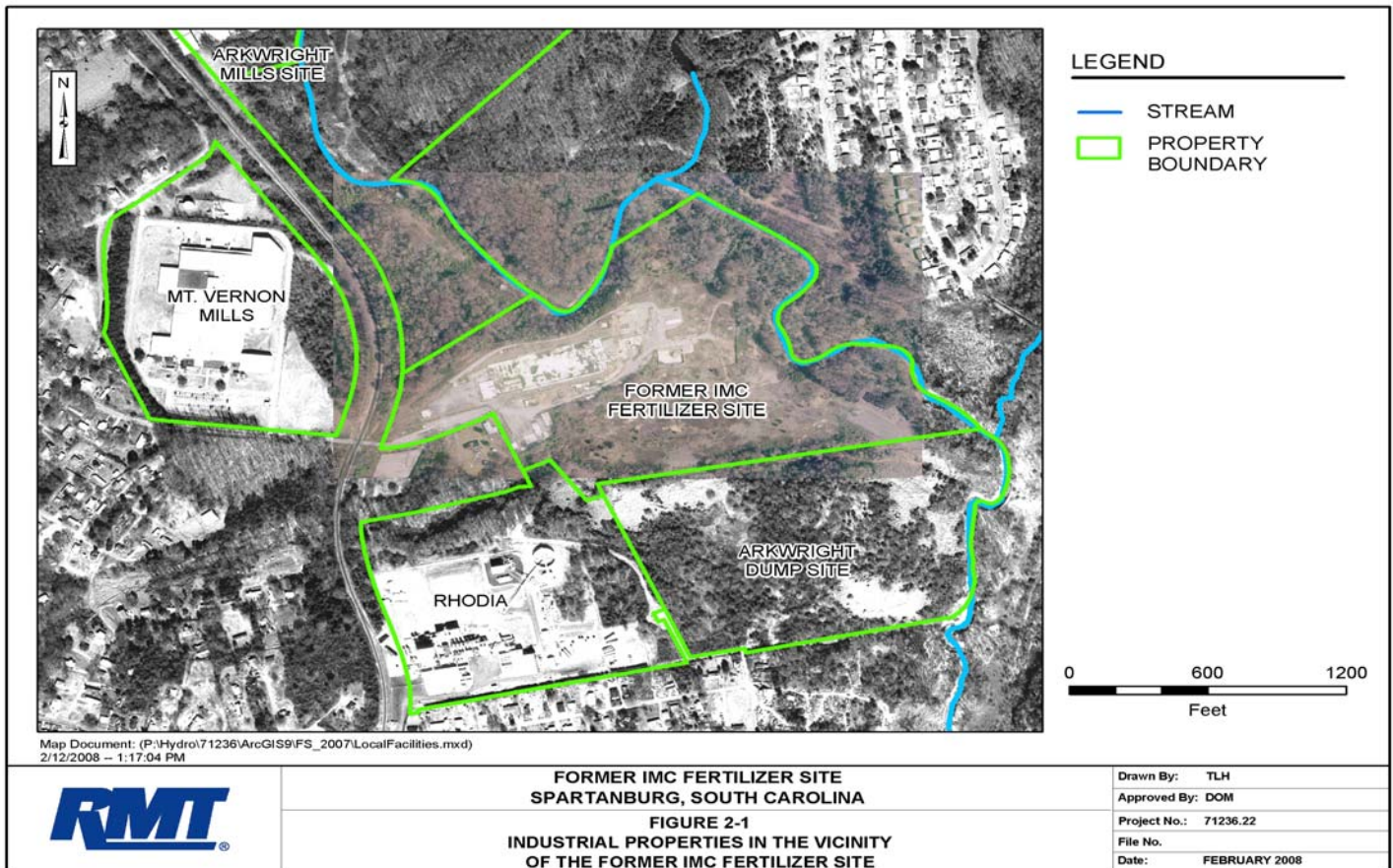


Figure 1 – Former IMC fertilizer Site



Figure 2 – Current picture of proposed capped area

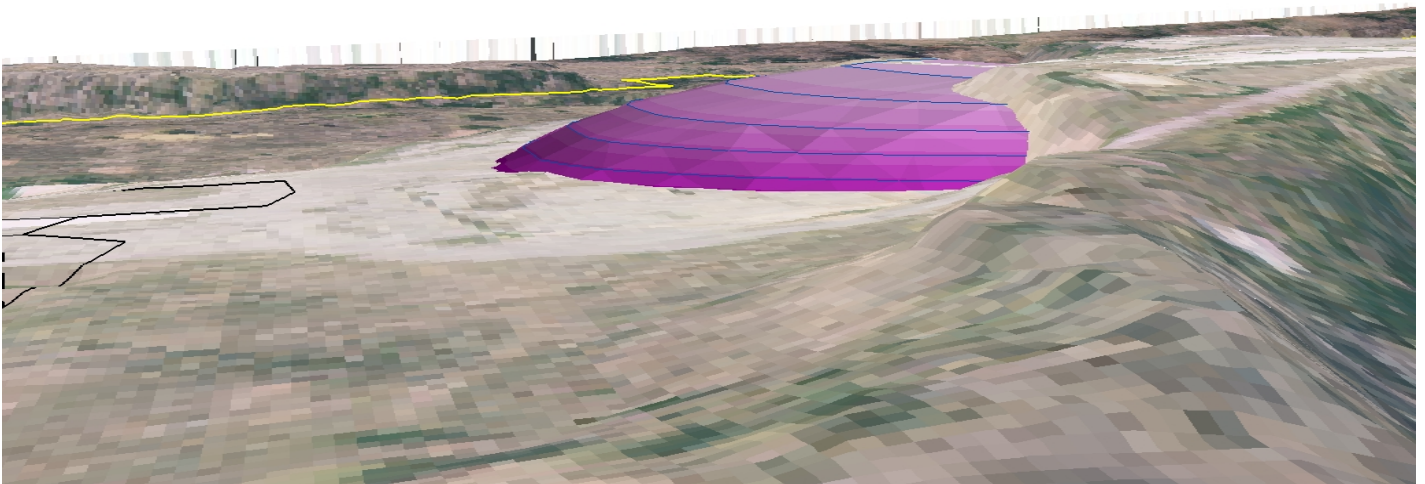


Figure 3 – Computer drawing of capped area

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Region 4

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IMC Site

Official Business

Penalty for Private Use