Aberdeen Contaminated Ground Water
Aberdeen, N.C.

Site Description

The Aberdeen Contaminated Ground Water site is located near the Town of Aberdeen, N.C. EPA added the site to the National Priorities List in 2008. Chlorinated solvents contaminated the site. EPA has identified several sources for the contamination. From 1980-1995, a machine-part manufacturing company called Powdered Metal Products operated at the site and used a liquid chemical “drip-vat” as part of its manufacturing process. The vat apparently leaked, and the hazardous chemicals soaked into the soil, eventually contaminating the groundwater. Another suspected source is the Lee Paving property where, from 1964-1989, the North Carolina Department of Transportation operated an asphaltic aggregate testing laboratory. The site’s chlorinated solvents have contaminated nearby private drinking wells and two municipal wells belonging to the Town of Aberdeen, located more than 4,000 feet away. The resulting trichloroethene (TCE) plume covers an area of 284 acres. This TCE plume has comingled with the pesticide plume emanating from the Geigy Chemical Superfund Site.

Current Site Status and Cleanup Actions to Date

- In 2009, EPA conducted a removal action to remove the contents of an underground concrete storage tank, assumed to be the septic tank for the property, which contained 4,200 micrograms per liter of cis-1,2-dichloroethene.

- In 2012, EPA issued an Interim Record of Decision (IROD) to address the plume. The IROD contains two components: provide wellhead treatment for the two impacted supply wells and a groundwater pump and treat system to restore the aquifer to its beneficial use.

- EPA issued the final design for both components of the remedy in 2013.

- EPA has determined that all unacceptable human exposure pathways have been eliminated, and therefore, under current conditions, human exposure is under control site wide.

Unfunded Action

Fiscal Year 2013 work that was not funded involved construction of a groundwater extraction network and a new treatment plant as well as wellhead water treatment for two town supply wells.

Current Funding Status

- To date, EPA has not spent any funds on construction work at this site.

For more information on this site, please read the Aberdeen site information on the Region 4 Superfund web site.