

# NPL Site Narrative for Trans Circuits, Inc.

## TRANS CIRCUITS, INC. Lake Park, Florida

**Conditions at Proposal (October 22, 1999):** The Trans Circuits, Inc., property is located at 210 Newman Way in Lake Park, Palm Beach County, Florida. The 1.2-acre property is bordered by Brant Road to the east, Newman Road to the south, and another industrial property, the Action Bolt property, to the west. The Trans Circuits property includes a building in its center and a buried, former evaporation/percolation pond north of the building.

Trans Circuits manufactured electronic circuit boards from the late 1970s until approximately June 1985, when its facility was closed and its treatment systems were dismantled. Operations included stripping, etching, electroless and electrolytic plating, and nickel and gold plating. Various solvents, acid-based stripping solutions, and plating solutions containing lead, tin, copper, nickel, fluoride, and cyanide were used in manufacturing processes at the Trans Circuits facility. The evaporation/percolation pond was originally constructed in 1981 with a synthetic liner to collect and allow evaporation of electroplating rinse water. In September 1982, an industrial wastewater treatment system was installed, the liner was partially removed from the pond, and the remaining liner was punctured to allow percolation of treated wastewater to ground water.

In September 1982, the facility was served with a notice of violation by the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (FDER) for operating without a permit, failing to submit monitoring reports to FDER, and allowing the pond to overflow. In November 1983, following removal and puncturing of the liner, the Palm Beach County Environmental Control Board adopted an interim order finding that the Trans Circuits facility was discharging its effluent to ground water without a valid permit. During its operation, lead, copper, fluoride, tetrachloroethylene, trichloroethylene, and 1,1,1-trichloroethane were detected in the plant's discharge to the evaporation/percolation pond.

In 1981, EPA sampled the City of Riviera Beach public well field for volatile organic compounds as part of a study of water supplies in South Florida. Results from this and subsequent sampling events indicated the presence of chlorinated hydrocarbons in 7 of the 18 wells comprising the well field. These wells and others were eventually taken out of service. A subsequent investigation of the well field by FDER in 1985 tentatively traced the contamination in one of the wells to the Trans Circuits facility. This well was closed in 1984.

An expanded site inspection (ESI) was completed by EPA Region 4 at the facility in January 1998. As part of the ESI, EPA Region 4 collected 10 surface soil, 35 subsurface soil, and 35 ground water samples. Soil samples contained elevated levels of several inorganic contaminants, including lead. Subsurface soil samples collected from the former evaporation/percolation pond contained elevated levels of lead. Groundwater samples contained elevated concentrations of lead and the chlorinated hydrocarbons, 1,2-dichloroethylene and trichloroethylene. Lead and trichloroethylene had been detected in the plant's discharge to the evaporation/percolation pond, and 1,2-dichloroethylene, though not detected in the effluent, is a common degradation product of tetrachloroethylene and trichloroethylene, both of which were detected in the effluent.

The aquifer contaminated by hazardous substances attributable to former Trans Circuits operations serves as the sole source of water for the Riviera Beach and two other public water supply systems in the vicinity of the site. Riviera Beach operates 25 public water supply wells, Magnolia Park operates 4 wells, and Seacoast Utilities operates 20 wells within 4 miles of the Trans Circuits site. These 49 wells provide drinking water for approximately 67,330 people. Other than the Riviera Beach well that was closed in 1984, no other public supply wells are believed to have been affected by contamination from Trans Circuits to date.

**Status (February 2000):** EPA is considering various alternatives for this site.

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.