

## SUMMARY REPORT

### **Amphenol/Franklin Site Stakeholders Monthly Call**

March 22, 2021, 4:00 p.m. CDT/5:00 p.m. EDT

Facilitator Pam Avery opened the meeting with a welcome and roll call of meeting participants (names of participants below) and then turned the meeting over to Ed Nam, EPA Land, Chemicals and Redevelopment Division (LCRD) Director, and Carolyn Bury, EPA Corrective Action Project Manager, for an update on EPA activities.

Prior to the site update, Ed announced that Eric Pohl is serving as acting section chief for the EPA's Corrective Action Section and asked Eric to introduce himself. Eric told the group that his experience is mostly in emergency response as an on-scene coordinator and that he looks forward to working collaboratively with Franklin Amphenol stakeholders over the next few months. Ed then turned the meeting over to Carolyn Bury for the site updates.

#### **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Update:**

EPA has for the most part obtained access to all of the homes within the study area. Three homeowners who had not previously granted access to indoor air testing agreed to do so last summer since it was more convenient for the homeowners during the pandemic sheltering period. In February, Amphenol attempted to get access to those three homes to do indoor air sampling for winter conditions. Only one of the three homeowners granted access, and when Amphenol was conducting the indoor air sampling in that home they also sampled the closest sanitary sewer manhole on the street. EPA does not have the results from that testing yet. Neither of the other two homes had any issues during the first indoor air sampling event last summer, and one of the home's laterals—the connection between the home and the sanitary sewer—was replaced during the sewer remedy construction period. A vitreous clay pipe lateral was replaced with a PVC lateral and a clean-out was added.

As was discussed in a previous call, a subcontractor who is helping Amphenol design prospective remedies wanted more data about the on-site soil VOC (volatile organic compound) contamination. The additional soil sampling was completed in January 2021, mainly beneath the former plating room that was historically contaminated and where a remedy was completed in 2011. There were concerns that residual contamination might be present, and the sampling found some areas needing treatment. The highest concentrations were at the bottom of the "B-Unit," the unit saturated with groundwater, at around 25-feet deep. High concentrations of VOCs also were also found at the top of the "C-Unit," a confining clay layer that is below the B-Unit. Data collected was used for the preliminary development of the remedies proposed in the Corrective Measures Study (CMS) that EPA received on March 12, 2021.

The EPA is reviewing the CMS for approval. The on-site soil data established that a remedy is needed to remediate the groundwater source areas. The data were used to evaluate proposed treatment remedies. In the CMS, Amphenol is proposing treatment injections into the soil source areas sequentially over time starting with more aggressive treatments and gradually going to less aggressive treatments as the concentrations decrease. The current on-site groundwater pump-and

-treat system will need to be turned off during the injection period. This is so the system doesn't draw out the treatment chemicals, preventing them from staying where they are needed to perform. The EPA does not want the contaminated on-site groundwater moving off site during this period, so before the injections begin, Amphenol is proposing to create a chemical treatment barrier at the downgradient end of the site along Hamilton Avenue. The proposal calls for injecting the slurry that was used for the groundwater treatment pilot study, sulfated zero-valent iron mixed with microbial carbon, along the north and south sides of Hamilton Avenue. This barrier would treat any groundwater flowing downgradient so that the groundwater would be clean moving into the neighborhood. If this remedy is selected, EPA will require testing of groundwater south of the barrier to make sure that it is clean and not exacerbating the off-site groundwater contamination levels. In the Statement of Basis, EPA will explain the proposed remedy in detail.

EPA also provided an update on the remediation of the on-site portion of the storm sewer system. Amphenol will work with the City of Franklin on its plans to repair the portion of the city-owned sewer system that crosses the site. Amphenol recently completed a video inspection of the sewer and observed that not all of the joints are properly sealed. The pump-and-treat system lowers the water table keeping it for the most part below the storm sewer. In terms of the storm sewer conveying contaminated groundwater to Hurricane Creek, IDEM sampled the creek near the storm sewer outfall in 2018, with no reports of VOC contamination.

### **EPA Questions & Comments**

Tara Payne, of the City of Franklin, reiterated that the information in the CMS will become more understandable the further the process moves along.

### **Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM)**

IDEM Technical Environmental Specialist Kevin Davis provided the following updates:

#### Former Hougland Cannery:

IDEM is currently in the process of putting together two comment letters, one on the remedial progress report from the RCO Reed Corporation-ownership parcel where injections were done, and another for the Further Site Investigation Report for the eastern portion of the Hougland site. A conclusion in that report was that another round of sampling is needed to determine if additional wells are required to finalize the delineation. Also from that report, two trenches that run in separate directions underneath the recycling buildings were located. These trenches, in which contamination was detected, were back-filled with sand. Additional investigations will be conducted to determine what to do about the trenches and to address indoor air at the recycling center. This information will be included in the long-term vapor mitigation design report that IDEM is expecting.

### Former Arvin site:

IDEM received, and is reviewing, the draft proposed Environmental Restricted Covenant (ERC) in response to the agency's concerns with potential future onsite exposures.

### Seep Inspection Southeast of Hurricane Creek and Forsythe Street:

IDEM spoke with Duke Energy's environmental project manager about the seep and was told that Duke cleaned out a pit area that was filled with brick, gravel and soil backfill. Instead of a pipe that was laid horizontally, they found a vertical pipe that was subsequently cleaned to its approximate 120-foot depth. Upon camera inspection, nothing out of the ordinary was found in the pipe. Water in the pipe was flowing at about eight-gallons per minute, like an artesian well. This well is deeper than most in other parts of the county and likely tapped into a deeper confined unit which is causing the water to come to the surface. Duke Energy subsequently fully grouted the well from the bottom to the top, which was below ground surface, and then covered it up. The wet area did not return and the area has since dried out. Duke also performed a ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey around the seep area and, although building foundations and other items were located, no other wells, cisterns, or a septic field were present. Duke plans to circle back with the Johnson County Health Department and obtain some sort of closure. IDEM officials noted that this was likely their last update related to the seep.

### **IDEM Questions & Comments**

Carolyn Bury of EPA asked if the artesian well was flowing near an old septic field and if that was why there were septic samples in the original water samples. Kevin responded that a septic field was not detected by the GPR and that the sampling analytics did not come back with fecal coliform, but with coliform that indicates some sort of contamination, whether from animals, surface flow, or decaying organic matter, that contributed to the bacteria at the site. Had there been septic system contamination, there would have been fecal coliform in the samples.

Steve Carter of U.S. Senator Braun's office thanked Kevin Davis for his detailed report and asked if any other actions need to occur in addition to communicating with the Johnson County Health Department. Kevin responded that the matter was originally referred to the Johnson County Health Department when the coliform was identified. He said that IDEM does not regulate wells or septic fields, and that the county health department also doesn't regulate wells other than their distance to a septic field.

Betsy Swearingen, of the Johnson County Health Department, remarked that the matter would be referred to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Kevin added that the DNR has primacy for all water wells within the State of Indiana, and that Duke Energy conducted closure of the water well on its property to DNR standards.

With no further questions or comments, the Amphenol Franklin Site Stakeholders Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m. CDT/5:30 p.m. EDT. The next stakeholders call is scheduled for **Monday April 26, 2021, at 4:00 CDT/5:00 p.m. EDT**. An invitation will be sent to all stakeholders.

**March 22, 2021, Meeting Participants:**

**EPA:** Ed Nam, Carolyn Bury, Joe Cisneros, Scott Ireland, Eric Pohl, Phillipa Cannon, Kirstin Safakas, Bhooma Sundar, and Gillian Asque

**ATSDR:** Dr. Motria Caudill

**IDEM:** Kevin Davis

**Local/State Stakeholders:** Patty Meade, Franklin Mayor Steve Barnett, Tara Payne (City of Franklin), Betsy Swearingen (Johnson County Health Department), Casey McFall (EnviroForensics), Terry Seitz and Steve Carter (U.S. Senator Braun's Office)

**AveryMassey:** Pam Avery, facilitator; Rachel Massey, note taker