

# South Carolina NPL/NPL Caliber Cleanup Site Summaries

Leonard Chemical Company, Inc.

EPA ID: SCD991279324

Rock Hill, York County, SC

Congressional District: 05

NPL Status: Proposed: 09/08/83; Final 9/21/84

[Project Manager](#)

Administrative Record Index ([Adobe Reader Required](#)):

[OU1](#)

**Site Repository:**

York County Library

138 E. Black St.

Rock Hill, SC 29731

[Record of Decision](#)

**Site Background:**

The 7-acre Leonard Chemical Company site began operating in the late 1960's as a hazardous waste treatment facility. Its primary treatment method was distillation. Recovery residues were placed in various locations on the site. Plant operations ceased in 1982, under orders of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Approximately 3,400 drums and 11,500 gallons of various chemicals were left on the site. Materials included solvents, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), printing inks, polyester solids, stillbottoms, and filters for paint, water, and fiberglass. Numerous spills and leaks occurred, threatening groundwater, and the State ordered the owner to install three monitoring wells. By 1988, the site was overgrown with scrub and covered with abandoned equipment and machines. Numerous sludges lay on the ground, and vegetation was spotty where

chemical wastes and stillbottoms had been used as fill. The gate and fence had been breached, and signs of trespassing were evident. Approximately 5,900 people live within a 4-mile radius of the site; 240 people live within a mile. Under a 1983 court order, Leonard Chemical Company cannot resume operation without prior approval of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. In July 1991, a Consent Decree was entered by the Court triggering the Leonard Chemical Steering Committee contractors to begin the field investigations.

### **Cleanup Progress: Studies Underway**

In 1983, a group of generators potentially responsible for the chemical wastes found on the site (PRPs, or Potentially Responsible Parties) formed a committee and retained a contractor to remove wastes from the site, under the oversight of SC DHEC. Drums and some of the contaminated soil were removed that year. This was a limited waste removal action, and additional contamination was left at the site.

Under the 1991 Administrative Order on Consent with EPA, a group of PRP's formed the Leonard Chemical Generators Group (also referred to as the Leonard Chemical Steering Committee) undertook a Remedial Investigation to determine the extent of contamination at the site. Investigation activities included monitoring well installation and sampling, subsurface soil sampling, and stream and sediment sampling. Additional field work was conducted to determine the extent of groundwater contamination both on and off site. Finally, monitoring wells were installed on properties east and south of the site for soil gas sampling purposes, and a soil gas survey was performed. EPA completed a Baseline Risk Assessment in mid-1994. The Remedial Investigation was completed by the PRPs in 1995. A draft Feasibility Study was completed by the PRPs in September 1996, but was not acceptable in terms of meeting the objective of a Feasibility Study defined in the guidance. The Leonard Chemical Generator's Group hired a new consultant to revise the document, which was finalized in December 2000. The Record of Decision was completed in August 2001.