Site Description

The American Creosote Works, Inc. (Winnfield Plant), site is in a mixed-use area with commercial, industrial and residential development in Winnfield, Louisiana. The 62-acre site was an operations wood preserving facility from 1901 to the mid-1990s. Spills and problems with the treatment process resulted in the contamination of soil and groundwater with creosote and pentachlorophenol solutions. Identified contaminants of concern are polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, volatile organic compounds, dioxins and pentachlorophenol in soil and groundwater. It is estimated that approximately 200,000 gallons of dense non-aqueous phase liquid (DNAPL) creosote remains in the site’s subsurface. EPA added the site to the National Priorities List in 1992.

Site Status and Cleanup Actions to Date

- EPA signed a record of decision in 1993, and the selected remedy, implemented in 1996, included: pump and treat system to recover DNAPL and dissolved phase groundwater contamination; on-site incineration of highly contaminated sludges; injection of nutrients in re-injected treated water to stimulate bioremediation; and capping of surface contaminated soils.

- After approximately 20 years of operations, various evaluations of the operational remedy culminated in a 2015 revised feasibility study, which concluded that the amount of remaining contamination mass would prevent the current remedy from achieving the soil and groundwater remedial action objectives in the 1993 ROD within a reasonable timeframe.

- EPA issued a 2016 amendment to replace the 1993 ROD’s selected remedy. The main component of the new remedy is in-situ stabilization/solidification of the NAPL source area in the site’s central portion.

Project Pending Funding, as of the end of Fiscal Year 2020

This project will consist of in-situ stabilization/solidification of the NAPL source area in the central portion of the site.

Funding Through Fiscal Year 2020

EPA has provided approximately $47 million for cleanup activities at the site.