Superfund Construction Project – Funding Pending

Scorpio Recycling, Inc. Superfund Site
Toa Baja, Puerto Rico

Site Description

The Scorpio Recycling Inc. (“SRI”) Superfund site, in the Candelaria Ward of Toa Baja, Puerto Rico, is an inactive metal recycling facility. The site is defined as the SRI property and contaminated portions of two adjacent properties: Rosa del Monte Movers ("the Rosa del Monte property") to the west and a battery crushing/sinkhole area to the south. The relatively flat nine-acre parcel slopes gently to the north within its northern portion and to the south in its southern portion. It includes an administrative office, aluminum processing buildings, copper-brass sorting buildings, a maintenance shop and a scrap vehicle accumulation building. EPA added the site to the National Priorities List in 2000.

Site Status and Cleanup Actions to Date

- In 2002, EPA conducted a removal action to excavate and remove battery cases, miscellaneous debris and soil contamination in the southern portion of the site and the sinkhole area.

- The remedial investigation for groundwater concluded that contaminants’ downward migration was minimized by the presence of a semi-confining unit underlying the site, the general immobility of metals in soil, depth to groundwater (greater than 100 feet), and potential neutralization of acids in the unsaturated zone.

- EPA issued a “no-action” record of decision (ROD) for groundwater in 2006.

- A remedial investigation/feasibility study for soil was conducted in 2010.

- In 2013, EPA, in consultation with the commonwealth of Puerto Rico, selected a containment remedy to address the site’s contaminated soil. The selected remedy includes a gravel cover within the industrial area and a soil cover within the conservation area.

- The site’s principal contaminants are metals at levels that represent an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment.

- EPA completed the remedial design for the site’s selected soil remedy in 2017.

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

This work consists of the soil remedy, which includes containment of contaminated soil with a gravel cover within the industrial area and a soil cover within the conservation area.

Funding Through Fiscal Year 2020

EPA has provided approximately $10 million for cleanup activities at the site.