



Region 7

Iowa
Kansas
Missouri
Nebraska

Fact Sheet

July 2003

First Five-Year Review To Begin Sherwood Medical Company Superfund Site, Norfolk, Nebraska

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducts regular five-year reviews on certain Superfund sites, as required by the Superfund law [42 U.S.C. § 9621(c)]. EPA Region 7 and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) have started their first five-year review of the Sherwood Medical Company (Sherwood) site. The site is located in Madison County, approximately 1.5 miles south of Norfolk, adjacent to U.S. Highway 81.

Prior to the remedial actions, drinking the contaminated ground water posed a potential threat to public health.

SITE

The southern part of the site is about 40 acres. It consists of the Sherwood property, which includes the manufacturing building and Sherwood Lake. The northern part of the site consists of the Park Mobile Home Court (PMHC) and adjacent commercial properties.

The Elkhorn River and Medelman's Lake are located to the north, within one mile of the site. Commercial and residential properties are on the north, east, and south of the site. The Karl Stefan Airport is on the west, across U.S. Highway 81.

BACKGROUND

Sherwood started its manufacturing operation at the site in 1961. Sherwood manufactures medical syringes and other disposable medical products using

injection molding processes. Former operations at the Sherwood site used chlorinated solvents which are present in the ground water and in two soil source areas.

The EPA supplied the residents of the PMHC with potable water after contamination was detected in the water system in 1988. Investigations identified Sherwood as the source for the contamination. Sherwood then decommissioned its septic system and installed a permanent potable water supply for PMHC, by 1989.

Sherwood conducted a remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) which resulted in EPA's 1993 Record of Decision. The remedy required the following activities:

- Deed restrictions: 1) to prohibit the use of ground water supply wells in the contaminated portion of the aquifer, and 2) to prohibit land disturbance in the two soil source areas;
- A supply of potable water to the PMHC and other affected properties, for as long as the aquifer is contaminated;
- A ground water well system to monitor and evaluate changes in the ground water quality;
- Removal of the septic system from the site;
- Excavation and low-temperature

thermal treatment of the contaminated soils from the two source areas. After decontamination, the soil would be returned to the on-site excavation.

- Extraction of the contaminated ground water and treatment by air stripping. The treated water would be discharged to the Elkhorn River by a pipeline and would comply with a state National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Note: The extraction system would be designed to achieve potable water standards in the contaminated aquifer, within five years from start-up.

Sherwood proposed changing the soil treatment method to ex-situ soil vapor extraction following a soils preliminary design effort. The EPA and NDEQ agreed with Sherwood. This was documented in a 1995 Explanation of Significant Differences Report.

In 1996, Sherwood entered into an agreement with EPA to conduct the design, construction and operation of the remedy. The designs were completed in 1998, followed by completion of construction in 1999. Sherwood has operated the ground water system since 1999.

THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

During the five-year review, EPA and NDEQ inspect the site and study site information to make sure the remedy continues to be protective. We encourage the community to tell us about site conditions or concerns you may have.

At the end of the review, a final report will be prepared and will be available in the site information repositories. The goal is to complete the review and report in September, 2003.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Detailed site information is available:

EPA Records Center
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact:

Steve Auchterlonie
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101
(913) 551-7778
Toll-free: (800) 223-0425
Email: auchterlonie.steve@epa.gov

Fritz Hirter
Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. EPA Region 7
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101
(913) 551-7003
Toll Free: (800) 223-0425
E-mail: hirter.fritz@epa.gov

