



Region 7

Iowa
Kansas
Missouri
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Fact Sheet

December 2003

Third Five-Year Review to Begin Aidex Corporation Superfund Site, Council Bluffs, Iowa

Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducts regular checkups, called five-year reviews, on Superfund sites where cleanups have been completed. These reviews are required by the Superfund law [42 U.S.C. § 9621(c)]. EPA Region 7 and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) have started their third five-year review of the Aidex Corporation Superfund site located near Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The EPA and the IDNR are doing the five-year review to make sure the cleanup continues to protect human health and the environment.

Before the site cleanup, some soils were contaminated and contaminated ground water was migrating from the site. There was a possible risk to the public health through drinking water from nearby private wells that were contaminated.

Approximately 600 people live within 3 miles of the rural site. Forty-two shallow domestic water wells are located within a 2-mile radius of the site.

Site Background

The 15-acre Aidex Corporation site is a former pesticide formulation facility located in a rural area approximately 7 miles south of Council Bluffs. In 1976, a fire destroyed a building on the site where the herbicide atrazine and various pesticides were formulated.

The water used to extinguish the blaze mixed with the atrazine and the pesticides. Its runoff caused the contamination of:

- the ground water and
- the soil surrounding the building.

A shallow aquifer underlies the site and was also contaminated by the chemicals.

In 1980, Aidex filed for bankruptcy.

In 1981, when cleanup operations at the site began:

- approximately 3,400 drums of pesticides were stored in open areas on the site,
- a concrete pit within the destroyed building contained about 2 feet of contaminated water, and
- a large underground storage tank also held contaminated materials.

The removal of wastes to a secure landfill and the establishment of security measures at the Aidex Corporation site eliminated the potential for exposure to hazardous materials. Site cleanup was completed and the EPA deleted the site from the National Priorities List (NPL) on October 21, 1993.

Five-Year Review

In April, 1998, the EPA and the IDNR completed the second five-year review of the Aidex Corporation Superfund Site. The first two reviews found the original remedies to still be protective of human health and the environment.

During this third five-year review, the EPA and IDNR will:

- inspect the site,
- study information about the site including property ownership records,
- review and evaluate the annual ground water monitoring records collected by IDNR, and
- inspect the security measures in place at the site to make sure it continues to be safe.

We encourage the community to tell us about site conditions or concerns they may have.

At the end of the review, a final report will be prepared and will be available in the site information repositories.

zFor More Information

Detailed site information can be found at the following locations:

Glenwood City Hall
107 South Locust Street
Glenwood, Iowa

Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays
8 a.m. to Noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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

If you have questions or need more information on the Aidex Corporation Superfund Site or the five-year review process, please contact:

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