



Region 7

Iowa
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Nebraska

Fact Sheet

May 2004

First Five-Year Review Completed 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 completed 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 process, EPA and NDEQ inspected the site and studied site information. A final report was approved by the EPA on September 25, 2003, which states that the remedy continues to be protective.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The five-year review report can be reviewed at the following locations:

Norfolk Public Library
208 Prospect
Norfolk, NE 68701

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

This five-year review report may also be accessed at the following web address:

<http://www.epa.gov/region07/cleanup/index.htm>
(under the heading of FIVE-YEAR REVIEW REPORTS).

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

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