



Region 7

Iowa
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Fact Sheet

February 2005

Five-Year Review Is Complete **White Farm Equipment Superfund Site, St. Charles, Iowa**

Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducts regular 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 completed their second five-year review of the White Farm Equipment site in Charles City, Floyd County, Iowa.

Site Background

The site consists of an old sand/gravel quarry where manufacturing wastes were disposed. It occupies approximately 20 acres along the northern border of Charles City. Wetlands border the south and northwest edges of the site.

The city of Charles City draws its drinking water from the aquifer underlying the site. Any runoff from the site flows into the Cedar River, which is used for recreational activities.

Since the early 1900s, tractors and other farm equipment have been manufactured near the disposal site. The White Farm Equipment Company leased the disposal site from the H.E. Construction Company and operated the site until 1980, when it filed for bankruptcy. In late 1986, Allied Products Company purchased the manufacturing operation.

The White Farm Equipment Company generated foundry sand, sludges, and dust from air pollution control equipment

since the 1920s. These manufacturing wastes were disposed at the site from 1971 until White Farm ceased operation in 1980. During that time, the plant disposed of 47,000 cubic yards of sludges and approximately 650,000 cubic yards of foundry sands, dust, and other industrial wastes at the site.

Nearby residents complained of dust blowing off the disposal site. Also, in 1986, EPA determined the arsenic, chromium, copper, lead, nickel, zinc, and volatile organic compounds from the former waste disposal practices were contaminating the ground water.

Allied Products Company and the H.E. Construction Company were required to conduct a remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS) which resulted in EPA's 1990 Record of Decision. Groundwater sampling was conducted as part of the remedial design, and no groundwater contamination above the groundwater performance standards was detected. In 1991 a Consent Decree was signed by Allied Products, the responsible party, to conduct the site clean-up. The final remedy for the site included installation of a protective cap including a vegetative cover over the landfill material to prevent direct contact and minimize surface water runoff and infiltration. An Explanation of Significant Differences was issued in 1993 that modified the type of cap to be installed, revised the time frame to complete construction of the cap, and clarified the groundwater point of compliance. Long-term groundwater monitoring consisting of sampling at the time of the five-year reviews was required

in the 1994 Operation and Maintenance Plan for the site. The construction of the cap was completed in 1995. Allied Products conducted groundwater sampling, physical inspections, and performed maintenance of the cap as outlined in the Consent Decree.

Five-Year Review

The first five-year review was conducted in 1999. The site was found to be protective of human health and the environment.

During the second five-year review, the site was inspected on May 11, 2004, and site information was studied. The remedy continues to be protective of human health and the environment.

The second five year review was completed and the report finalized on September 20, 2004 and is available at the site information repositories.

Additional Information

Detailed site information and the second five year review report is available at the following locations:

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

Charles City Public Library
106 Milwaukee
Charles City, Iowa

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

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