

**POPILE, INC.**  
**El Dorado, Union County,**  
**Arkansas**  
**EPA ID# ARD008052508**  
**Site ID: 0603790**



**EPA REGION 6**  
**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 4**

**Contact: Shawn Ghose, M.S.,P.E.**  
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**Updated: March 2009**

**No change of status is anticipated until July 2009**

### **Current Status and Issues**

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- EPA has completed the 1<sup>st</sup> Five year Review on September 26, 2006 after completing sampling of the monitor wells in June 2006. US Corps of Engineers (USCOE) contracted to Materials Management Group, Inc. (MMG) to collect samples in assigned monitor wells. On the basis of the results of sampling the monitor wells for the past three years EPA noted that :1] downgradient monitor wells east of the rail road tracks are non-detect for the contaminants of concern (COCs). 2] the plume under the ex impoundment is static and have not moved downgradient in past 5 years. The plume has been static for the past 40 years and groundwater model indicates that the plume will be static for another 50 years. Sampling results indicate that the plume is decaying naturally. The lack of COCs downgradient of the impoundment confirms the groundwater model results. The 5 year review results confirm that there is no danger of the plume moving downgradient and threatening Bayou De Loutre and that only monitoring recommended in the 2001 ROD Amendment was appropriate.
- An institutional control for the northern 7.3 acres was signed by the owner on March 18, 2008. ICs for the southern 29.36 acres was signed by the owners on April 15, 2008.
- In 2003, EPA set up a monitoring program to make sure no contaminants are leaving the site boundary (defined by the railroad tracks). The flow direction for the shallow ground water to be monitored is toward north east i.e. from the site plume toward Bayou de Loutre. The monitoring plan was handled by Corps of Engineers (COE), New Orleans District. COE contracted with Materials Management Group (MMG) of New Orleans to start sampling. MMG collected samples in January 2004 had them analyzed by February 2004. Preliminary results did not conclusively show any breakthrough of the plume beyond the site boundary.
- EPA has completed a title search. In side the Site the northern 7.5 acres containing the waste disposal pond and a capped area near northern edge was purchased by Rex Hayes who formed the El Dorado Timber Company. This company will put a steel building on a slab for lumber manufacture facility. Mr Hayes is in the process of purchasing the southern 29.4 acres of the Site containing the soil cell where contaminated soil was stabilized in 1991 as a part of Response Action. EPA is in the process of putting deed restriction for no excavation except for utilities or foundation for a slab, for a building and no drilling into or use of the shallow Cockfield aquifer. Also new owners must maintain the integrity of the monitor wells and provide access for sampling by EPA or ADEQ representatives. The objectives of the ICs have been maintained for the past six years by means of fences with locked gate and signs. The site has been protective of the human health and the environment for the past five years and will remain so in the future with the implementation of the ICs.

## Benefits

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- Treat soil and groundwater to prevent contamination from migrating off site. Creosote contamination clean up standard is Benzo (a)Pyrene equivalents. Benzo (a)Pyrene was chosen as the cleanup standard to measure cleanup because it is one of the most carcinogenic compounds in creosote.

Soil	Benzo(a)Pyrene equivalents PCP	3 ppm 5 parts per million (ppm)
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Groundwater	Benzo(a)Pyrene equivalents	0.2 parts per billion (ppb)
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- Treatment Goals to be modified based on results of subsequent studies and or different use scenario (nonresidential). The results of 1998-2000 subsurface investigations and groundwater model study by Corps of Engineers indicate no migration of contaminants off-site, and no threat to Bayou de Loutre. Therefore, EPA has concluded that further remedial action is unnecessary. Groundwater will be monitored by the extensive network of piezometers and monitoring wells, and necessary action will be taken if the contaminant plume expands towards the Bayou.

## Site Description

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Location: Union County, about 3/4 mile south of El Dorado City Limits.

Population: 25,000

Setting: No drinking water wells within 2 mile of the site.  
There are residential properties on two sides; industrial/commercial properties on the other two sides of the site.

Hydrology: Site drainage enters Bayou deLoutre.  
Shallow groundwater within the county used primarily for livestock watering.  
Wells in the El Dorado Aquifer located more than 3 miles from the site provide drinking water to more than 26,000 residents.

## Current Site Strategy

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- The 1<sup>st</sup> Five Year Review in September 2006 has shown that monitoring has been adequate to show that contaminants have not moved downgradient. The COC plume is static and decaying naturally. This confirms the groundwater model results which indicate that the plume will not move downgradient for the next 50 years. Effectively ICs have been maintained since 2001 by means of fences with gate and signs which prevented excavation and drilling into the shallow aquifer. EPA is in the process of ensuring that the deed restrictions are implemented .
- The objective of this site cleanup is to protect human health and the environment by controlling the migration of shallow groundwater contaminants to reduce and/or eliminate the potential of contaminating deeper aquifers, and if possible restore the shallow groundwater to a potential future beneficial use. The plan was to bioremediate contaminated soils so that they do not leach contaminants into the groundwater and to bioremediate groundwater in place. USEPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) conducted studies to determine the how successful soil and groundwater bioremediation can be. EPA has implemented the remedial action through USACE Total Environmental Restoration Contract (TERC) delivery orders.

## Wastes and Volumes

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The principal pollutants at the Popile Superfund site include creosote and pentachlorophenol (PCP) associated with wood treatment operations.

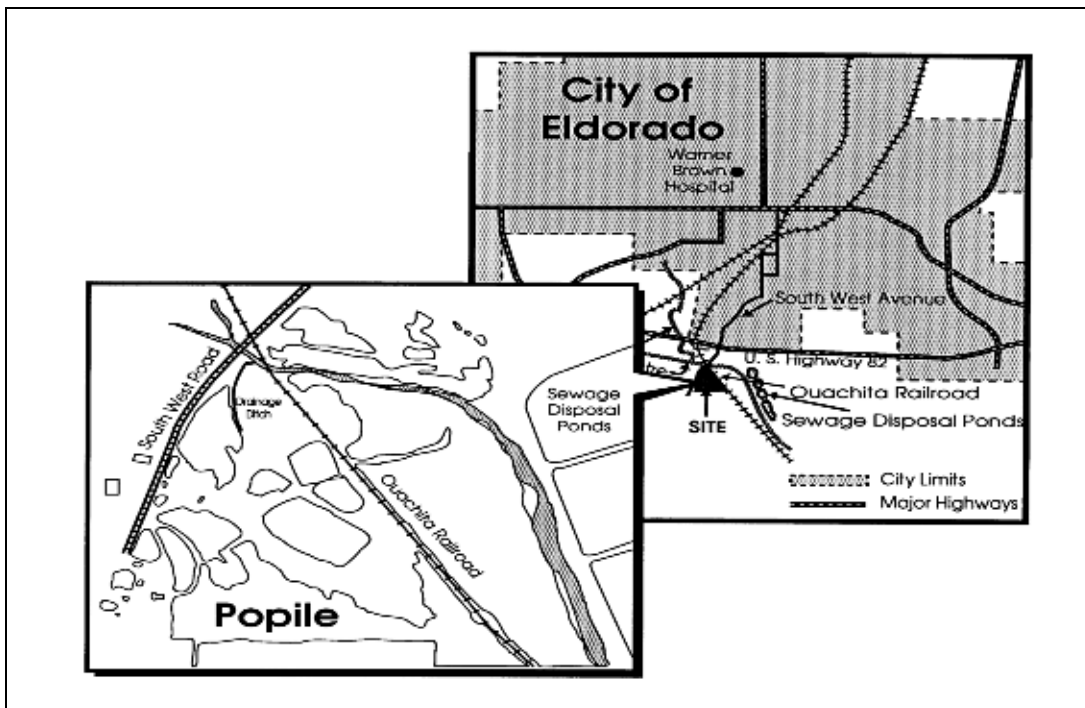
## Site Assessment and Ranking

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NPL LISTING HISTORY  
Proposed Date: 02/04/92  
Final Date: 10/14/92  
NPL Update: No. 12

## Site Map and Diagram

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## The Remediation Process

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### Site History:

- In 1947, El Dorado Creosote Co., the parent company of Popile, Inc., began treating wood at the 40-acre property using pentachlorophenol (PCP) and creosote.
- El Dorado Pole & Piling Company purchased the property in 1956 and began using three surface impoundments as part of the waste water treatment process in 1976. The wood treatment operations ceased in July 1982.
- In September 1982, Popile bought approximately 72 acres of the property including the surface impoundments and a large area known as the Salt Flat. In 1984, Popile closed the three impoundments.
- The EPA conducted an initial analysis in October 1989, which identified contaminants in the on-site soil.
- An EPA removal action started September 5, 1990, and was completed August 1, 1991. Removal activities included stabilizing contaminated soils and sludge, grading and shaping the site surface for erosion control, capping a temporary impoundment area, installing steel culverts in a drainage area, topsoil and seed entire site, as well as installing a security fence, and the posting of warning signs

### Health Considerations:

- Direct contact with soils.
- Ingestion of ground or surface water.

### Other Environmental Risks:

- Sediments in Bayou deLoutre contain low level concentrations of various polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

### Record of Decision

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Signed: February 20, 1993

The following remedies will protect humans from unhealthy exposures to contaminated soil and groundwater:

- Ground Water:
  - In situ treatment of contaminated ground water and extraction of free phase wood treating fluids.
  - Off site disposal of wood treating fluids
- Soil Treatment:
  - Onsite biological land treatment of contaminated soils and sludge.

#### Other Remedies Considered

1. "No Action"
2. Institutional Controls
3. Stabilization

#### Reason Not Chosen

- Not Protective remedial objectives  
Not Protective  
Not Protective in Long Term

### Community Involvement

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- Community Involvement Plan: Developed 06/92
- Open houses and workshops: 02/92, 07/92, 08/92, 09/92, 5/93, 9/97
- Original Proposed Plan Fact Sheet and Public Meeting: 06/92, 07/92.
- Original ROD Fact Sheet: 02/93.
- Milestone Fact Sheets: 06/92, 02/93, 5/93
- Citizens on site mailing list: 172
- Constituency Interest: Low to medium.
- Public Notice for Amended ROD July 2001
- Site Repository: Barton Public Library
- Public Notice of the Sept 2006 1<sup>st</sup> Five Year Review

### Technical Assistance Grant

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- Availability Notice: 06/92
- Letters of Intent Received: None
- Grant Award: N/A

### Contacts

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