



Region 7

Iowa
Kansas
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Fact Sheet

June 2003

Chemical Commodities, Inc. Building Coming Down **Chemical Commodities, Inc., Superfund Site, Olathe, Kansas**

SITE UPDATE

EPA is ready to demolish the Chemical Commodities, Inc. warehouse building at 320 South Blake in Olathe, Kansas. Our contractor, Environmental Restoration, L.L.C., is scheduled to mobilize personnel and equipment on the site on June 9, 2003.

The building has deteriorated and is dangerous for site workers or trespassers to be in or around. The building will be removed first, followed by the soil pile removal.

The building demolition should start on June 10, 2003. Demolition debris will be loaded and taken off-site to an approved landfill. The stockpiled soils will be removed from the site after the building has been taken care of. Weather permitting, the entire project is expected to take 2 to 3 weeks to complete.



Chemical Commodities, Inc. building and stockpiled soils, 320 S. Blake, Olathe, Kansas.

BACKGROUND

CCI operated a chemical brokerage and recycling facility at the site from the 1950s through the 1980s. As a result of its operations, various chemicals leaked into the ground at CCI causing soil and groundwater contamination. The EPA conducted cleanup actions at the site between 1989 and 1991. These cleanups addressed the most immediate health threats for the community. As part of these actions, contaminated soils were excavated and stockpiled onsite and the onsite warehouse building was cleaned.

PLANNED ACTIONS

In addition to demolishing the building, the EPA is planning to remove the stockpiled soils from the site. The cover over the soils, consisting of a plastic liner and clean soil, has degraded over time creating the potential for exposure to the contaminated soils. Before the soils can be safely removed from the site, the onsite building will be demolished and the debris will be taken to an approved landfill.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

The EPA is currently overseeing a groundwater study to determine the extent of groundwater contamination. The groundwater contains high levels of a group of chemicals known as chlorinated solvents. Current information indicates that the groundwater contamination extends beyond the CCI property underneath the residential area west of the site.

The groundwater study is nearly complete, and a Baseline Risk Assessment has been completed. The Baseline Risk Assessment was done to evaluate potential human health and environmental risks posed by the site.

The next step in the cleanup process is called a Feasibility Study which involves evaluating various cleanup alternatives for the site.

Recent air samples collected by the EPA indicated that contaminated groundwater may be affecting indoor air quality in some homes near the site. To address this situation, the potentially responsible parties have started installing ventilation systems in the homes most likely impacted. The EPA is overseeing all of the potentially responsible parties' work. The EPA will continue to conduct air sampling to monitor the indoor air quality of homes above the area of groundwater contamination.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please visit the following information repositories, during normal business hours, for detailed information about the Chemical Commodities, Inc. site.

Olathe Public Library
201 E. Park
Olathe, Kansas

EPA Region 7 Records Center
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas

If you have questions about this fact sheet or need, please contact:

Mary Peterson, Project Manager
EPA Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
(913) 551-7882
peterson.mary@epa.gov

Hattie Thomas, Community Involvement
Coordinator
EPA Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
(913) 551-7003
thomas.hattie@epa.gov

or