



Region 7

Iowa
Kansas
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Fact Sheet

August 2004

Five-Year Review Begins Coleman Operable Unit of the 29th & Mead Superfund Site Wichita, Kansas

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducts regular checkups, called five-year reviews, on certain Superfund sites. These reviews are required by the Superfund law [42 U.S.C. § 9621(c)]. EPA Region 7 has started the first five-year review of the Coleman Operable Unit (COU) of the 29th & Mead Superfund Site in Wichita, Kansas (Sedgwick County).

EPA is conducting the five-year review to make sure the cleanup actions remain protective of human health and the environment.

BACKGROUND

The Coleman Operable Unit is in an area that is used primarily for industrial purposes. The Coleman Company began manufacturing operations for heating and air conditioning units at the COU in 1949. In 1987 a portion of the Coleman Operable Unit property was purchased by RV Products, which manufactures air conditioners for recreational vehicles. York International Corporation purchased the remaining northern portion of the Coleman property in 1996 and is the current owner/operator of these facilities. York produces heating, ventilating, air-conditioning, and refrigeration systems.

The EPA and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) began investigating ground water contamination in the 29th & Mead area in 1983. These investigations revealed the presence of several volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including trichloroethylene (TCE), in the ground water at the site.

In May 1987, several water samples were collected at the Coleman facility from the effluent of cooling water from two on-site industrial water wells. The sampling results indicated elevated levels of several VOCs, including TCE. These results prompted an investigation at the Coleman facility to determine the source, magnitude, and extent of these contaminants. A Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) was conducted at the Coleman facility to characterize the VOC contamination in ground water and soil and evaluate alternatives for remedial response actions.

In September 1992 a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Coleman Operable Unit was signed which selected a remedy combining the existing ground water system with an additional recovery well and expanded soil vapor extraction (SVE) system.

The existing ground water and soil systems will continue to operate. They consist of two industrial wells, one

recovery well, two air strippers, and the 62 point SVE system installed in 1988. The ROD requires the soil vapor extraction system to be expanded for removal of VOCs from unsaturated soils in all known on-site source areas. In addition, the ROD requires the installation of a recovery well along the southern boundary to enhance hydraulic control.

Construction of the remedy selected in the ROD was completed in April 2000. The operation of the ground water and SVE systems are ongoing.

FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

During the review, EPA will inspect the site and study site information to make sure the remedy continues to be protective of human health and the environment. We encourage the community to tell us about site conditions or concerns you may have.

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information regarding the site is available at the following locations:

Kansas Department of Health
and Environment
Wichita District Office
130 South Market
6th Floor
Wichita, Kansas 67202
Contact: Kyle Parker
Phone : 316-337-6045

EPA Records Center
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

If you have questions or need more information on the Coleman Operable Unit of the 29th & Mead Superfund Site or the five-year review process, please contact:

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U.S. EPA Region 7
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