



Region 7

Iowa
Kansas
Missouri
Nebraska

Fact Sheet

February 2005

SITE INSPECTION ACTIVITIES HWY 275 & 288TH STREET SITE, VALLEY NEBRASKA

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 began a Removal Site Evaluation/Expanded Site Inspection (RSE/ESI) at the Highway 275 and 288th Street site in Valley, Nebraska in October 2004. The site is a groundwater plume identified as a narrow corridor along the northwest-southeast trending Old U.S. Highway 275 (Reichmuth Road) and Union Pacific Railroad tracks. The plume, highway, and railroad tracks generally parallel the Platte River and the direction of regional groundwater flow. The source area for the plume has not been identified, but appears to be northwest of 294th Street.

BACKGROUND

Groundwater sampling in 2000 identified volatile organic compounds (VOCs) near the intersection of Old Hwy 275 and 288th Street in two monitoring wells. Further investigation identified a few private drinking water wells contaminated with trichloroethene (TCE) at levels above the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 5 micrograms per liter.

Further investigations, including a Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI) conducted by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) have found the highest and shallowest concentration of TCE in the groundwater east of Old Hwy 275 and south of 288th Street.

The purpose of the RSE/ESI field activities is to evaluate the impact of the groundwater contamination on residents in the area and

determine the source of the VOC contamination.

There is no evidence of TCE contamination in the public supply wells of Valley, NE. Currently, bottled water is being provided to those few residents whose private wells have been found to exhibit levels of TCE which exceed the MCL.

An information repository will be available in Valley, NE in the near future. Until then, detailed site information is available at :

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

If you have questions or need additional information please contact:

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