



Region 7

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Fact Sheet

August 2004

Third Five-Year Review Completed John Deere - Dubuque Site, Dubuque, Iowa

Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducts regular checkups, called five-year reviews, on certain Superfund sites, as required by the Superfund law [42 U.S.C. § 9621(c)]. The third five-year review of the John Deere - Dubuque site has been completed. The site is located approximately 2.5 miles north of the city of Dubuque, near the confluence of the Little Maquoketa and Mississippi Rivers, in northeast Iowa.

The EPA undertook the five-year review to make sure the cleanup continues to protect people and the environment. Based on the evaluation of the information during the review, EPA believes the remedy continues to be protective of human health and the environment.

A portion of the site was used for treating hazardous wastes and drum storage. From 1946 until 1974, John Deere disposed of approximately 3,000 tons of solvents, paint sludges, acids, heavy metals, foundry sand, and cyanide in a landfill at the site.

Background

Sampling and analysis indicated the presence of contaminants in and around the old landfill, primarily in the ground water in the alluvial aquifer under the site. The aquifer is a source of process or production water for the facility. A Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

(RI/FS) was completed in accordance with a Consent Order entered into by John Deere and EPA. A Record of Decision (ROD) was signed by EPA on September 8, 1989, requiring John Deere to implement the remedial actions defined in the ROD.

John Deere is required to extract ground water from the alluvial aquifer in such a manner that migration of contamination is controlled. John Deere must also submit written Quarterly Progress Reports to EPA. Two previous Five-Year Reviews have found that the selected remedy remains protective.

Five Year Review

EPA considered a significant amount of information, including substantial file documentation, ground water monitoring data, and institutional controls, before concluding the site remains safe. The site was inspected in August 2003. Long-term protectiveness of the remedial action will be verified by continuing inspections, maintenance, and sampling of ground water at the site. Current data indicate no impacts to surface water from the site, and no ground water contamination migrating off of the site. Current monitoring indicates that the remedy is functioning as intended, and is protective of human health and the environment.

There are no issues related to the current John Deere - Dubuque site operations, conditions, or activities which prevent the

selected remedy from being protective.

EPA will conduct another five-year review in 2008 as required by the Superfund law when any contaminants remain on a site. These contaminants are responsible for elevated concentrations of volatile organic compounds and metals in the ground water beneath the facility and the site's use is restricted because of them.

Additional Information

The five-year review report can be reviewed at the following locations:

Carnegie-Stout Public Library 11 th & Bluff Street Dubuque, Iowa	EPA Record Center 901 N. 5 th Street Kansas City, Kansas
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If you have questions or need more information on the John Deere - Dubuque site or the Five-Year Review process, please contact:

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