



Region 7

Iowa
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Fact Sheet

November 2004

Third Five-Year Review Completed Waverly Ground Water Contamination Superfund Site, Waverly, Nebraska

Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducts regular five-year reviews at certain Superfund sites as required by the Superfund law [42 U.S.C. § 9621(c)]. The five-year reviews are conducted to make sure the cleanup actions taken at a site continue to protect human health and the environment.

EPA's first five-year review of the Waverly site was completed in September 1993. That review concluded the selected remedy was effective in controlling the migration of contaminated water from the site and was progressing toward cleanup and restoration of the aquifer.

The second five-year review was completed in September 1999. That review concluded the remedy continued to perform as designed and remained protective of human health and the environment.

Site Background

The Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), an agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA); operated a federal grain storage facility at the site between 1952 and 1974. The facility consisted of grain storage structures (approximately 100 bins and 13 Quonset huts) on concrete foundations. A grain fumigant consisting of 80 percent carbon tetrachloride and 20 percent carbon disulfide was used at the facility between 1955 and 1965.

Since 1975, the former federal facility property has been owned by Lancaster County, Nebraska, which operates a district office and maintenance facility on the premises. Some of the original grain storage foundations still exist at the site.

In 1982, as part of a nationwide survey, the EPA sampled the Waverly municipal water system. The results indicated carbon tetrachloride and chloroform contamination of Public Water Supply Well Numbers 1 and 3. Sampling conducted in 1983, 1984, 1985, and 1986 also showed high levels of carbon tetrachloride and chloroform. Between 1982 and 1987, four new Public Water Supply Wells were installed south of the site. All contaminated wells were taken out of service.

In May 1986, the EPA developed an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA). It included a ground water pump-and-treat system that employed air stripping technology along with soil vapor extraction. In 1988 construction began on the system.

Site Remedy

The ground water extraction and air stripping systems were designed to remove the contaminants from the aquifer and help contain the spread of the contaminated ground water plume. The active soil vapor extraction system was designed to remove the contaminants from soil above the water table.

The USDA continues to collect and analyze ground water data to ensure the system is operating as designed. The EPA continues to review all monitoring reports to ensure human health and the environment are protected.

The Third Five-Year Review

This five-year review included:

- the review and analysis of existing monitoring and operational data,
- the review of site information, and
- the inspection of the site to visually confirm and document the condition of the remedy.

The current site information was reviewed by the EPA and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality.

The third five-year review has been completed and the report concludes the remedies on the site continue to be protective of human health and the environment. Although a small ground water contaminant plume remains under 141st Street, the plume is well defined and no one is currently drinking groundwater from the site above safe levels.

Because hazardous substances remain on site, additional five-year reviews will be required. The next review is scheduled to be conducted in 2009.

Additional Information

Additional site information, including the Third Five-Year Review Report, is available during normal business hours:

Waverly City Hall
14130 Lancashire Street
Waverly, Nebraska

The Third Five-Year Review Report is available online at:

www.epa.gov/region7/cleanup/index.htm

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact:

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