

Woodbrook Road Dump

New Jersey

EPA ID#: NJSFN0204260

EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 07

Middlesex
South Plainfield

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 9/13/2001

Final Date: 4/30/2003

Site Description

The Woodbrook Road Dump site (a.k.a. Dismal Swamp) is an inactive, illegal dumping area located in South Plainfield, New Jersey. The site is located on two properties north of Woodbrook Road. The site, totaling approximately 70 acres in size, is heavily wooded and undeveloped, and is bordered by the Bound Brook and wetlands of the Dismal Swamp. One residence is located on the site. These two properties were operated as dumps by previous owners during the 1940s and 1950s, accepting household and industrial wastes until shut down by the State of New Jersey in 1958. The current owner of the properties is Texas Eastern Transmission Corporation (TETCO). Partially buried, leaking capacitors were discovered in September 1999. After completion of a removal action to address these buried capacitors, a soil investigation revealed soils and sediments contaminated with high levels of inorganics, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal and potential responsible parties' actions.

Threat and Contaminants

The soil and sediments at the site are contaminated with VOCs, semi-volatile organic compounds, inorganic constituents, and PCBs. In addition, the ground water is contaminated with VOCs, inorganic constituents, and PCBs

Cleanup Approach

The site is being addressed in two stages: emergency actions and a long term remedial phase directed at cleanup of the entire site.

Response Action Status

Emergency Actions: In March and April of 2000, TETCO removed and disposed of PCB contaminated capacitors that were found, partially buried, at the site. TETCO also installed warning signs along the paths leading to the areas where the capacitors were found and temporary fencing around these areas to prevent the public from coming into contact with PCB-contaminated soil. In April 2000, TETCO installed guard rails and warning signs at access points to prevent off-road vehicles from entering the site. To further limit access to the site, in September 2005, TETCO installed a perimeter fence, additional warning signs, and additional separate fences inside the perimeter fence around Disposal Areas 1 and 2. Entire Site: In the spring of 2007, TETCO began the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study for the site. The RI will include sampling of the on-site soil, sediments of the Bound Brook, and ground water.

Cleanup Progress

By removing capacitors found at the site and installing a fence and warnings signs surrounding the area where capacitors were found to limit site access, EPA and the potentially responsible parties have reduced the potential for exposure to hazardous materials while the remedial investigation for this site is conducted. Prior to restricting access, the site was reportedly used for recreational purposes by hunters and off-road vehicle users.

Site Repositories

South Plainfield Library, 2484 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey USEPA, 290 Broadway 18th Floor, New York City, New York