

King of Prussia

New Jersey

EPA ID#: NJD980505341

EPA REGION 2

Congressional District(s): 01

Camden

New Jersey Pine Barrens

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 12/1/1982

Final Date: 9/1/1983

Site Description

The 10-acre King of Prussia (KOP) site was purchased by the King of Prussia Technical Corporation from Winslow Township in 1970. KOP treated industrial waste and disposed of hazardous liquids on the site and stopped its operations in 1973. From 1973 to 1975, Evor Phillips, Inc. owned the site and continued operations during part of this period. In 1975, the site was abandoned. The Township regained ownership of the property in 1976, when it foreclosed because of unpaid property taxes. The site had six lagoons, buried drums and plastic containers, and two rusting and torn tankers. Records of the site show that approximately 15 million gallons of wastewater containing toxic chemicals were delivered to the site. The site was fenced in 1988 to protect public health and to prevent further illegal dumping of waste on the site. The site is in a rural area within the Pinelands National Reserve and is adjacent to the Winslow Wildlife Management Area. The Great Egg Harbor River borders the property. Approximately 10,000 people live within 3 miles of the site, and 3,000 people depend on groundwater for drinking water supplies.

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

Threat and Contaminants

Groundwater is contaminated with heavy metals including beryllium, chromium, copper, and nickel. Groundwater also contains phthalates and various volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Lagoon sludges were contaminated with various heavy metals, and have been remediated. The soil was contaminated with various heavy metals and VOCs and has been remediated. People could have become exposed to hazardous and toxic chemicals through accidental ingestion or direct contact with groundwater, sludge, soil, and surface water. The installation of fencing around the site has prevented public access to the contaminated materials. The remediation of the lagoon sludges and soil have eliminated major sources of groundwater contamination. The site is within the 6,000-acre Winslow Wildlife Management Area, which is used for recreation. City drinking water is not available in this area; therefore, residents must use private wells for their water needs. There are no private wells impacted by the groundwater contamination at the Site.

Cleanup Approach

This site is being addressed in two stages: initial actions and a long-term remedial phase focusing on cleanup of the entire site

Response Action Status

Initial Actions: EPA fenced the site in 1988, and in 1989, removed and disposed of 120 buried plastic containers and the associated contaminated liquids and soils. In 1990, EPA removed 200 drums and 235 additional plastic containers. EPA initiated the removal of two tankers and their contents in early 1991. Disposal of the contents of the drums and tankers was completed in late 1991.

Entire Site: The parties potentially responsible for site contamination completed a study to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site in 1990. EPA reviewed the study and selected a remedy which included: excavation and treatment of contaminated soils, sediments and sludges by soil washing technology; drum removal and off-site disposal; tanker removal and off-site disposal; installation of a pump and treat system for contaminated groundwater; and additional monitoring of the Great Egg Harbor River. The design phase, which included additional sampling of contaminated areas, began in December 1991, and was completed in 1994 with the design of the ground-water treatment system. The soil washing treatment system was constructed in 1993. Operation of this system lasted from June through October 1993. Over 19,000 tons of soil contaminated with heavy metals were successfully treated during

its operation. In addition, residually contaminated soils from the drum disposal area were removed from the site early in 1994. As the contaminated soils that posed a risk at the site were already removed from the area, a no action ROD was issued for the drum disposal area in September 1995. The ground-water treatment system was constructed in late 1994. Initial start-up of the system began in March 1995. A Five Year Review of the remedy was completed in September 2000. The Five Year Review determined that the remedy for this site remains protective of human health and the environment. A second Five Year Review was completed in September 2005. The second Five Year Review determined that the remedies for the site remain protective of human health and the environment. In addition, the second Five Year Review required that the potentially responsible parties conduct a comprehensive groundwater sampling event and other investigations at the site. The data from this event will be used by EPA to determine if measures should be taken to optimize the ongoing groundwater extraction, treatment and reinjection system. These investigations took place in late 2006. EPA will use the results to determine how to best optimize the groundwater extraction and treatment system. The groundwater treatment system continues to operate.

Site Facts: Five waste generators entered into an Administrative Order on Consent with EPA in 1985 to conduct a site investigation. In 1991, EPA issued an order to five potentially responsible parties to design and conduct cleanup activities at the site. The extraction, treatment, and reinjection system was completed in 1994. The system began treating contaminated water in early 1995 and continues to operate.

Cleanup Progress

The removal of approximately 200 drums, numerous other containers and contaminated materials and the fencing of the site have greatly reduced the potential for exposure to hazardous materials at the King of Prussia site while cleanup activities are being conducted. In addition, the treatment of 19,000 tons of contaminated soil at the site, which was completed in 1993, was successful in achieving EPA's risk-based cleanup goals for these soils, as well as eliminating a major source of ground-water contamination. The operation of the ground-water treatment system since 1995 continues to remove contamination from the groundwater, which has reduced the potential for contamination of the Great Egg Harbor River.

Five-Year Review

EPA completed a five-year review in September 2005 to ensure that remedial actions selected at the site remain protective of the public health and the environment. The five year review found that the selected remedy, as implemented at the site to date, continues to be protective of human health and the environment. In addition, in late 2006, the Potentially Responsible Parties completed a comprehensive ground-water sampling event at the site. Data from this sampling event is being used to determine ways to optimize the groundwater extraction and treatment system and update the site's Operation and Maintenance Plan.

Site Repositories

Camden County Library, Echelon Urban Center, 203 Laurel Road, Voorhees, N.J. 08043