

# Environmental Restoration Project



## ER Site No. 211: Bldg 840 Former UST 840-1

ADS: 1302

Operable Unit: Technical Area I

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### Site History

ER Site 211 is the Building 840 Former UST 840-1. This site was originally evaluated under ADS 1300, Underground Storage Tanks (USTs); it was administratively transferred to ADS 1302 on August 15, 1995. The original ER site name was Building 840-1 UST (TA-I). The ER site name was changed to the Building 840 Former UST 840-1 during the development of the Technical Area (TA)-I Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigation (RFI) Work Plan.

ER Site 211 is a former steel underground storage tank UST located near Building 840 in TA-I. The 500-gal tank, operational from 1954 until 1989, was registered with the NMED UST Bureau as UST No. 840-1 and was located about 15 ft south of Building 840. The tank was used initially to store waste oil coolant from machining operations, and, later, to store waste water from the ceramic shop housed in the building. The waste water, derived from coolant water used in milling and machining operations, reportedly contained lead titanite and lead oxides. Release of waste water from the UST to the environment has been attributed to tank operator spillage. Information suggests that prior to its use for waste water coolant storage, the tank was used to store waste oil coolant from machining operations.

No inventory control or precision testing data about the tank were maintained. No piping was connected from the building to the tank and it was apparently hand-filled from a port on its southeast end. The base of the tank was at a depth of about 4 ft bgs. The tank did not have secondary containment, overflow protection, or leak detection systems. About one foot of earthen fill material covered the tank, as well as several inches of concrete pavement. The soil immediately underlying the tank site consists of unconsolidated sand and gravel.

The tank was removed on February 23, 1989 as part of a routine tank upgrade project. Prior to the tank pull, no releases had been officially reported for the UST system. Several SNL/NM and contractor organizations were involved in the tank removal operation and collected liquid

samples from the tank and soil samples from beneath the tank. The liquid samples contained metals and chlorinated organic compounds. Regulatory agency personnel were informed of the tank removal but did not observe the operation.

To remove the UST, a 13 by 6 ft excavation was dug to an average depth of 4.5 ft. Stained soil was not visible in the tank excavation. The tank was visually inspected during the tank removal operation; no perforations were evident. After soil samples were collected beneath the original tank location, the tank excavation was backfilled with clean sand and paved with concrete. Volatile concentrations in the soil as determined using a field headspace method were below the 100 ppm (mg/kg) total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) guidance standard set by New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) for UST sites. SNL/NM sent a tank closure notification letter to the NMED UST Bureau on May 12, 1990. To date, no closure acceptance letter has been received from NMED.

Additional site history information and compilation of data that has been collected at this site is provided in the TA-I RFI Work Plan .

## **Constituents of Concern**

The potential COCs identified for this site during its history include:

Chlorinated organic compounds,  
Coolant oil,  
Metals (including hexavalent chromium), and  
PCBs.

As indicated below in "Current Status of Work," no evidence of any of these COCs was found during site investigations.

## **Current Hazards**

There are no current hazards at this site related to contamination of the surface or subsurface soils. There may be structures or stored materials that remain at the site that are a potential hazard.

## **Current Status of Work**

The TA-I RFI Work Plan was prepared and delivered to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for review in February 1995. Site characterization and field activities were conducted in 1995. No contaminants of concern were identified at this site during the RFI.

A No Further Action (NFA) proposal was prepared and submitted to NMED for review in October 1996.

NMED reviewed the NFA and returned a Request for Supplemental Information (RSI) in February 1998. SNL responded to the RSI in May 1998 and submitted most of the information requested. NMED requested a risk assessment. The risk assessment was submitted in August 1999.

In March 2000, NMED indicated that the site was acceptable for NFA petition. The NFA was approved by NMED in October 2000 after completing the public review and permit modification process.

## **Future Work Planned**

No further work is planned.

## **Waste Volume Estimated/Generated**

A small amount of waste was generated at this site as a result of sampling conducted.

**Information for ER Site 211 was last updated Nov 19, 2001.**