



Region 7

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Fact Sheet

September 2006

EPA Announces Proposed Plan and Public Meeting Riverfront Superfund Site, New Haven, Missouri

INTRODUCTION

EPA Region 7 and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) are releasing a Proposed Plan to address contaminated groundwater at the Riverfront Superfund Site, Operable Unit 5 (OU5) in New Haven, Missouri. The EPA Proposed Plan recommends actions that will prevent exposure to the contaminated groundwater.

The EPA and MDNR are asking for your comments on the Proposed Plan. Although EPA is recommending an action to address the contamination, a final decision will not be made until all public comments are reviewed. A 30-day public comment period will run September 6, 2006 until October 5, 2006. A public meeting will be held on September 12, 2006, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church, 9521 Highway 100 in New Haven.

Representatives from the EPA, the MDNR, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, and Black & Veatch will be available to summarize investigations at OU5. The community is invited to attend and present comments at the meeting. Written comments will be accepted until October 5, 2006. After all comments have been evaluated,

PUBLIC MEETING AND COMMENT PERIOD

The EPA and MDNR have scheduled a public meeting to give the community the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Plan for OU5. The meeting will be held September 12, 2006, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 9521 Highway 100, in New Haven, Missouri.

Written comments must be postmarked no later than **October 5, 2006**, and should be sent to:

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the EPA and MDNR will make a decision, which will be published in a Record of Decision (ROD).

OLD HAT FACTORY (OU5)

During sampling activities for the Riverfront Site in 2002, EPA detected tetrachloroethene (PCE) contamination in

a shallow bedrock monitoring well on the east side of the former Langenberg Hat Factory. Although no PCE use was documented at OU5, the detection of PCE in shallow ground water at OU5, a short distance from the closed public-supply wells, prompted EPA to begin a remedial investigation at OU5 in 2003.

The Langenberg Hat Company owned and operated the Old Hat Factory from 1928 until the company liquidated and dissolved in 2000. OU5 is located on a 1.9-acre parcel in a mostly residential area at the southeast corner of the intersection of Maupin Avenue and Wall Street. During peak production, it is estimated that the factory produced nearly 500,000 hats per year.

The Remedial Investigation for OU5 included data collected after this location was designated as an operable unit and previous data collected during investigations at other operable units. The purposes of the Remedial Investigation were to document the extent and magnitude of the PCE contamination at OU5, determine the relation between OU5 and the contaminated and closed public-supply wells, and to characterize the human health and ecological risks posed by the contamination at OU5.

THE CONTAMINANTS

The primary contaminants of concern for all investigations at the Riverfront Site are volatile organic compounds (VOCs), specifically PCE and its daughter products. Of the 40 VOCs analyzed in 10 groundwater samples from monitoring wells at OU5, only four VOCs (acetone, chloroform, carbon tetrachloride and PCE) were detected in one or more of the laboratory samples. These four

compounds were evaluated in the human health risk assessment conducted for this operable unit by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services.

REMEDIAL ALTERNATIVES

The remedial alternatives considered by EPA for OU5 are presented below:

Alternative 1 - No Action

Alternative 2 – Institutional Controls

Alternative 3 – Institutional Controls and Groundwater Monitoring

Institutional controls involve restrictive covenants and/or easements, well installation permits and public education to prevent human use of groundwater at OU5. Monitoring consists of groundwater sampling to track the natural degradation of PCE. A gradual decline in PCE in the groundwater may occur naturally and can be confirmed with this monitoring.

THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The EPA recommends Alternative 3 as the Preferred Alternative for addressing contamination at OU5. Alternative 3 includes groundwater monitoring and the imposition of institutional controls at OU5. Sampling of wells in and around OU5 would provide the data needed to determine if contaminant levels or the size of the plume are increasing. If the monitoring data indicated that further remedial action were necessary, the agencies would begin implementing necessary actions. Alternative 3 was selected over the other alternatives because it provides the greatest amount of protection for human health and the environment.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Proposed Plan and other site-related documents provide details of the nature and extent of contamination and the work that has been completed at OU5. These documents are part of the Administrative Record, available during regular business hours at the following locations:

New Haven Regional Library
109 Maupin
New Haven, Missouri

EPA Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas

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

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