

FACT SHEET



Riverfront Site New Haven, Missouri

May 2000

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 is currently conducting an investigation concerning the Riverfront Site

in New Haven, Missouri. EPA's investigation is being done to identify the source of the tetrachloroethylene (PCE) contamination found in wells #1 and #2 of New Haven's drinking water.

COMMUNITY MEETING: RIVERFRONT UPDATE

EPA and MDNR invite you to attend a community meeting on the Riverfront Site. Staff members involved with the site will give you a site update, discuss the next steps in the process and answer your questions, one-on-one.

Community Meeting
7 pm
Wednesday, May 31, 2000
New Haven High School
100 Park Drive
New Haven, Missouri

For more information, contact
Hattie Thoms, EPA Community
Involvement Coordinator
1-800-223-0425



The Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) discovered the PCE contamination during routine sampling of the public water supply. In 1987 and 1988, MDNR conducted a site investigation to determine possible PCE sources. The city of New Haven closed wells #1 and #2 because PCE was detected at levels above the safe drinking water standard. PCE has not been detected in municipal wells #3 or #4 which currently supply the city with its water.

SITE BACKGROUND

A number of industries operated on the Riverfront Site. The contamination on the site may have resulted from these operations.

CURRENT INVESTIGATION

Initially, EPA planned a two-phased investigation. However, sample results have indicated a need to conduct additional investigations.

The first phase of the investigation is now complete. During this phase, EPA conducted a voluntary domestic well survey in New Haven that was beneficial in understanding the ground water flow. Also during the first

phase, sampling was conducted at the old city dump. This sampling indicated the presence of PCE in small quantities but additional sampling is required to determine if it contributed to the contamination in the ground water. In addition, the first phase consisted of installing four monitoring wells between municipal well #2 and the Missouri River. These wells enabled EPA to determine that PCE contamination is present in the alluvial ground water near municipal well #2.

The second phase of EPA's investigation was designed with the following two objectives in mind and is nearing completion:

- 1) Determine if the ground water up gradient of municipal well #2 is contaminated with PCE.
- 2) Determine the depth at which contaminants are entering municipal well #2.

EPA planned to install several bedrock monitoring wells in the New Haven area. Three of these wells have been installed. They are located in the downtown area near the city water department, on Orchard Street, and near the old city dump site. Sampling on these wells is still being conducted, however, PCE has been detected in the groundwater up gradient of municipal well #2.

Initial sampling on municipal well #2 has indicated small levels of contamination throughout the entire depth of the well. Additional testing is being conducted on

municipal well #2 that includes using packers to isolate specific intervals. This enables EPA to determine the vertical extent of contamination and where contaminants are possibly entering the well.

SUPERFUND PROGRAM

EPA is conducting the site investigations under the Superfund program. Congress established the Superfund program in 1980 in response to growing concerns over human health and environmental risks posed by hazardous waste sites. Superfund locates, investigates and cleans up hazardous waste sites.

After a hazardous waste site is discovered, cleanup can fall under two programs: Removal or Remedial. Removal cleanups are taken at sites that pose threats to people or the environment in the near future. Remedial cleanups address sites that require extensive cleanup.

Under the Superfund program, a site may qualify for placement on the National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL is intended primarily to guide EPA in determining which sites warrant further investigation. For a site to be included on the NPL it has to score sufficiently on the Hazard Ranking System (HRS). The HRS evaluates exposure pathways. Those sites that score high enough on the HRS are eligible for the NPL. A site that is listed on the NPL is qualified to be financed by Superfund's Trust Fund. If a responsible party is not found, a site cannot undergo a remedial cleanup unless it is listed on the NPL.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions or need further information about this site, please contact:
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