

NPL Site Narrative for Wamchem, Inc.

WAMCHEM, INC.

Burton, South Carolina

Conditions at listing (September 1983): Until the late 1970s, Wamchem, Inc., synthesized organic chemicals and formulated color concentrates on 200 acres in Burton, Beaufort County, South Carolina. It disposed of its wastes (including phenols, lead, cadmium, and solvents) in an evaporation lagoon. Then it switched to spraying its wastes onto two fields. State monitoring of wells on-site has detected lead, chromium, toluene, dichloronitroethane, and benzene. Some 1,000 to 2,000 people get drinking water from the shallow aquifer within 3 miles of the site. Surface water is contaminated with the same chemicals, but it does not supply drinking water at this time.

Status (June 1984): The company is conducting further ground water studies to determine the impact of the spray fields and disposal lagoon.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.