

# NPL Site Narrative for Enterprise Avenue

## ENTERPRISE AVENUE Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Conditions at proposal (December 30, 1982):** The Enterprise Avenue Site covers about 57 acres along the Delaware River in an industrial area of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. From 1971 to mid-1976, the city operated the site as a landfill. Several waste-handling firms buried at least 10,000 drums of hazardous wastes there without the city's permission. During exploratory excavations in January 1979, the Philadelphia Water Department discovered approximately 1,700 drums that contained or had once contained wastes such as paint sludges, solvents, oils, resins, metal-finishing waste, and solid inorganic wastes. In 1982, the city started cleanup actions, including removal of drums and soil to a landfill permitted under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). A total of 32,800 cubic yards of excavated soil was identified as contaminated with organic chemicals (toluene, benzene, ethylbenzene, or organic halogenated compounds). In October 1982, after spending \$7 million cleaning up the site, the city ran out of money. Left on-site were approximately 20,000 tons of contaminated soil in two piles that had been partially covered.

**Status (September 8, 1983):** EPA and the State are considering various alternatives for the site.

**Status (March 7, 1986):** In 1984, EPA and the city started to complete the remedial actions. All of the stockpiled soils were analyzed for a variety of metals and organic chemicals. Soils were divided into 100-cubic-yard lots. A Key Indicator Analysis was used to determine which lots would be disposed of in an off-site facility. If any one indicator exceeded action levels, the entire soil lot was deemed contaminated and sent off-site. Action levels for inorganics were selected based upon the Extraction Procedure Toxicity Test used to determine if a waste is hazardous under RCRA. Organic action levels were established using similar methodology and are consistent with levels that would be used today. After removal of contaminated soils from the site, the area was sampled on a grid pattern to ensure that all soils not passing the test had been transported off-site. The results indicated that the remedial objectives were attained, and that all soils considered contaminated were removed. The site was then capped, seeded, and fenced.

This site is being deleted from the NPL because EPA, in consultation with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, has determined that all appropriate Superfund-financed response under CERCLA has been implemented, and that no further response by responsible parties is appropriate. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources has agreed to operate and maintain the site. The department has also developed and implemented an operation and maintenance plan for the cap and will monitor ground water to ensure that water quality remains at background levels.

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/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.