

NPL Site Narrative for Douglassville Disposal

DOUGLASSVILLE DISPOSAL Douglassville, Pennsylvania

Conditions at listing (December 1982): The Douglassville Disposal Site covers 50 acres adjacent to the Schuylkill River in Douglassville, Pennsylvania. The company reclaims waste oils. From 1941 to 1972, waste oil sludge was placed in on-site lagoons. The contents were washed into the Schuylkill River during flooding in 1970 and 1972. After the 1972 flood, the sludge remaining in the lagoons was removed, and the lagoons were filled in and seeded. Sludge generated in the oil recovery process was land farmed on the site. From 1979 to 1982, about 700 drums, many leaking, were stored on the site. Pennsylvania ordered the facility to remove the drums and surface soil contaminated by their storage. This was done in April 1982. A 50,000-gallon tank that may contain water contaminated with solvents remains on-site. Sampling on the site indicates that ground water and soil in a drainage ditch have been contaminated with organic compounds and lead. In addition, some pollutants are being released into the Schuylkill River. The drinking water intake for the City of Pottstown is 2.3 miles downstream from the site.

Status (July 1983): EPA is preparing a Remedial Action Master Plan outlining the investigations needed to determine the full extent of cleanup required at the site. It will guide further actions at the site.

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.