

NPL Site Narrative for Fletcher's Paint Works & Storage

FLETCHER'S PAINT WORKS & STORAGE Milford, New Hampshire

Conditions at proposal (June 24, 1988): Fletcher's Paint Works has operated a plant since 1950 on an area of approximately 0.15 acre at 21 Elm Street in Milford, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire. The area is primarily residential/commercial. Fletcher's Paint manufactures and sells paints and stains for residential use. Approximately 700 feet to the south (on Mill Street) is a warehouse for storing bulk paint pigments. Contaminants attributable to the storage facility have been detected in a drainage ditch on the adjoining Hampshire Paper Co. facility. Because this ditch drains from the storage facility, the boundaries of the Fletcher's site include the portion of the ditch on Hampshire Paper property.

In an inspection in July 1985, EPA detected volatile organic compounds (VOCs), heavy metals, and PCBs in soil, surface water, and sediment at the site. VOCs were detected in ambient air. Two underground tanks were not lined. Several hundred drums were stored behind the operating plant.

The site is adjacent to and upslope from the Souhegan River, which is used for recreational activities. Contaminants, including benzene, toluene, nickel, lead, and tetrachloroethylene, attributable to the facility have been detected in river sediments. The manufacturing facility is easily accessible and is adjacent to a road leading to a popular recreation area. PCBs, organic solvents, barium, lead, and nickel have been found in on-site soil.

The potential threat to ground water is high due to the highly permeable nature of the shallow sand and gravel aquifer (12 feet in some places) that supplies drinking water to area residents. An estimated 11,400 people obtain drinking water from public and private wells within 3 miles of the site.

Status (March 31, 1989): Using CERCLA emergency funds, EPA removed 864 drums of paint resins and drying agents, as well as PCB/organic wastes, to an EPA-regulated hazardous waste facility. Contaminated soil was covered with a synthetic liner and gravel to prevent migration of contamination off-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.