NPL Site Narrative for Suffolk City Landfill

SUFFOLK CITY LANDFILL Suffolk, Virginia

Conditions at proposal (June 24, 1988): The Suffolk City Landfill covers 67 acres on Route 604 within the City of Suffolk, Virginia. The area is rural and agricultural. The landfill is owned by Suffolk City and managed by the Suffolk City Public Works Department. It operated during 1967-84 and is now being closed, which includes covering, grading, and planting.

According to the Public Works Department, the unlined landfill received primarily municipal solid waste. In 1983, it received a permit from the Virginia Department of Health to accept municipal wastes. Industries such as General Electric Co., Dixie Guano Co., and local peanut processing companies may also have contributed waste, according to Suffolk City records.

Of primary concern is the on-site disposal of highly toxic organophosphate pesticides. In 1970, according to the Public Works Department, Dixie Guano Co. disposed of an estimated 27 tons of cyanophos, disulfoton, and thimet into a portion of the landfill. EPA analyses in 1986 revealed disulfoton in on-site ground water and cyanide, cyanophos, and disulfoton in on-site soils and retention basins. An estimated 2,500 people obtain drinking water from private wells within 3 miles of the site. No other source of water is available.

Surface run-off from the site discharges into two unnamed tributaries to the Great Dismal Swamp, a major fresh water wetland.

The site is not completely fenced, making it possible for people and animals to come into direct contact with hazardous substances.

Status (February 21, 1990): On June 29, 1989, the City of Suffolk and the Virginia Department of Waste Management entered into an Administrative Order on Consent under CERCLA Sections 104 and 106. The order calls for the city to conduct a remedial investigation/feasibility study to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site and identify alternatives for remedial action.

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) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.