NPL Site Narrative for 29th & Mead Ground Water Contamination

29TH & MEAD GROUND WATER CONTAMINATION Wichita, Kansas

Conditions at proposal (June 24, 1988): The 29th & Mead Ground Water Contamination Site covers approximately 1,440 acres in a highly industrialized area of Wichita, Sedgwick County, Kansas. The intersection of 29th and Mead Streets is at the approximate center of the site. Among contaminants detected in significant concentrations in ground water are trichloroethylene, carbon tetrachloride, toluene, benzene, ethylbenzene, methylene chloride, trans- and/or cis-1,2-dichloroethylene, vinyl chloride, and 1,1,1-trichloroethane. The compounds were identified in investigations conducted by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the U.S. Geological Survey from 1983 to 1986. The actual boundary and extent of contamination have not been clearly defined. An estimated 3,300 people obtain drinking water from public and private wells completed in the shallow aquifer within 3 miles of the site.

The site is in the drainage basin of Chisolm Creek, which is used for recreational activities.

KDHE has identified more than 70 potentially responsible parties (PRPs) associated with the contamination, among them currently operating facilities and others no longer operating. In 1987, the parties organized the Wichita North Industrial District (WNID) PRP group and formed a steering committee to negotiate future investigation and remedial activities.

Status (February 21, 1990): In September 1989, 12 members of the WNID PRP group and KDHE signed a Consent Agreement for a remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site and identify alternatives for remedial action. The agreement includes an approved workplan for the RI/FS, which is now in progress.

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.