

NPL Site Narrative for South Jersey Clothing Co.

SOUTH JERSEY CLOTHING CO. Minotola, New Jersey

Conditions at proposal (June 24, 1988): The South Jersey Clothing Co. site is in a mixed residential, commercial, and light industrial area in the Minotola section of Buena Borough, Atlantic County, New Jersey. The surrounding area is predominantly rural and one of New Jersey's prime agricultural regions. Since the 1940s, the company has manufactured clothing on Central Avenue 500 feet from Garden State Cleaners Co., which is also proposed for the NPL at this time.

In 1981, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) inspectors observed a black liquid on the soil behind the South Jersey Clothing Co. building. Subsequent analysis revealed trichloroethylene concentrations as high as 940,000 parts per billion (ppb) in soil and 16,000 ppb in a private drinking water well.

Off-site monitoring wells downgradient of South Jersey Clothing and Garden State Cleaners contain up to 78,000 ppb of trichloroethylene and 6,600 ppb of tetrachloroethylene, according to analyses conducted in 1984 by the companies. These concentrations have forced closing of private wells and construction of a new municipal water supply system. Approximately 9,000 people obtain drinking water and 3,800 acres of farmland are irrigated from wells within 3 miles of the site.

In 1984, South Jersey Clothing signed an Administrative Consent Order with NJDEP requiring the company to intensify monitoring and take measures to restrict migration of contaminants in ground water.

Status (October 4, 1989): EPA is currently preparing a workplan for 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) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.