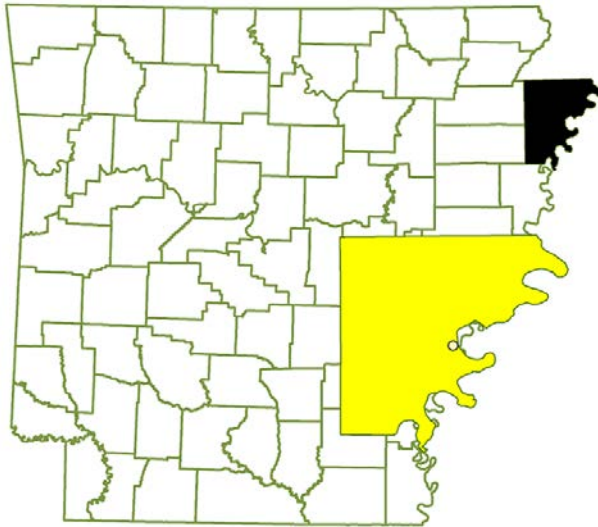


ARKANSAS WASTE-TO-ENERGY E.R. MOORE SITE

STATE PRIORITY LIST SITE OSCEOLA, ARKANSAS



ADEQ
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118



EPA RCRA ID No: Not Assigned
EPA CERCLA ID No: Not Assigned
AFIN: 47-00027
County: Mississippi
Arkansas Senate District: 15
Arkansas House District: 55
US Congressional District: 1

Current Status

The E.R. Moore site is a building associated with the Arkansas Municipal Waste-to-Energy (AMWE) operation that was subject to a series of emergency responses, removal actions, and cleanup operations beginning in 2003 and largely accomplished by 2005. The AMWE operation leased a municipal incinerator and the nearby Parsons Warehouse; medical and industrial wastes were improperly handled and stockpiled at both locations. The AMWE operation also leased the E.R. Moore building and used it to stockpile similar wastes.

The City of Osceola owns the E.R. Moore site, which has remained empty since the final removal and cleanup of medical and industrial wastes was completed in December 2003. The building remains boarded and all entrances locked; the north loading dock area is fenced. No additional investigations or actions are warranted or anticipated at this time. This site was removed from the State Priority List in January 2009.

State Priority List History

The Arkansas Remedial Action Trust Fund Act (A.C.A. 778-7-501 et seq.), or RATFA, provides authority and funding for identifying, investigating, and remediating hazardous substance sites throughout the State. The RATFA Hazardous Substances Site Priority List (SPL) identifies those hazardous substance sites eligible for State-funded investigation and remedial actions, if necessary, on a case-by-case basis; it is not an inclusive site inventory or historical list. All three AMWE facilities, including the E.R. Moore Building, were placed on the SPL in 2005 due to ongoing cleanup associated with the AMWE operation. This site was removed from the State Priority List in January 2009.

Site Description

Location: The E.R. Moore Building is located within the city limits of Osceola, Arkansas on the south side of town, one block south of the Parsons Warehouse. The geographic coordinates are 35° 41' 34.85" north latitude and 89° 58' 22.16" west longitude. Street address: 1025 Ohlendorf Road.

Population: Osceola has an estimated 9,175 residents.

Setting: The E.R. Moore Building is currently owned by the City of Osceola, and is situated in an area zoned as light industrial. The masonry block building of approximately 50,000-square feet in size on a concrete slab has loading docks located at opposite ends. The unoccupied building is subdivided into several separate areas including an office area and former production and shipping spaces. Land use within .25 miles of the site includes various commercial businesses, agricultural land, residences, a small apartment complex and a daycare center. A residential subdivision is within .5 mile to the north and east of the site.

Hydrology: The site lies at an elevation of approximately 240 feet above mean sea level and the topographical slope is less than 1 percent. Drainage for the entire area is provided by a series of man-made drainage systems. A significant portion of the ground covering is a combination of concrete and asphalt; no surface water impoundments or other features are present. Stormwater runoff flows into the drainage ditches along the site; this drainage system eventually discharges into the Mississippi River approximately 1 mile to the east. The site is not located in the 100-year flood plain.

Aerial Photo: AMWE Facilities - Osceola, Arkansas



Waste and Volumes

In early- to mid-2001, the municipal incinerator experienced a significant fire resulting in extensive downtime and reconstruction. During this period, AMWE-contracted materials, including medical and industrial waste, were diverted from the incinerator to the unoccupied E.R. Moore Building. The former manufacturing facility served as a temporary warehouse and staging area for these wastes. Due to the condition of the building roof, a large volume of the waste had been exposed to the elements; furthermore, several of the waste containers had degraded and released their contents to the interior of the building.

When City of Osceola officials became aware of the substantial volume of waste being stockpiled at the E.R. Moore Building, they requested immediate removal to the incinerator for processing. A contractor was retained to oversee and document removal activities from October through November 2002. Debris, consisting largely of medical waste, and spills were cleaned up in and around the building, and vacuum trucks were used to siphon decontamination water from truck wells.

The AMWE ceased waste removal and processing, as well as operation of the incinerator, in early 2003. The City of Osceola assumed control of the building and secured it from unauthorized access through boarding up and padlocking the loading bays and doors.

Health Considerations

No further activity has occurred at the E.R. Moore Building since December 2003; however, the type of wastes that had been removed from the site appears to have been identical to those found at the municipal incinerator and the Parsons Warehouse. The EPA Region 6 sampled and classified approximately 4,000 drums at the Parsons Warehouse in 2004. Results of tests for biological hazards showed no elevated risks for persons on or off site following proper containerization, cleanup of spills and uncontrolled medical wastes, and securing all materials within the warehouse. These actions eliminated the threat or potential threat of release of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants at the Parsons site. The ADEQ prepared a Preliminary Assessment (PA) Report for the municipal incinerator in July 2007. Based on the finding the incinerator site does not pose a threat to human health and/or the environment, the PA recommended no further action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. Given the similarity of waste associated with the other two AMWE facilities to the waste stored in the E.R. Building, the health determinations made for those facilities would be applicable to the E.R. Moore Building.

ADEQ Response Actions

The following chronology lists milestones and provides brief activity descriptions:

- Complaint Investigation, March 2003 – Site inspection in response to complaint that AMWE was receiving flammable materials for incineration and using a nearby warehouse for storage. Estimated 20,000 waste containers in storage in the Parson's warehouse.
- Waste Sampling and Profiling, March and April 2003 – Sampled containers and began waste categorization/segregation.

- Facilities and PRP Search, June 2003 – EPA Region 6 Criminal Investigation Division executed search warrant for all AMWE facilities; ADEQ began PRP search and contact, made arrangements for PRPs within State of Arkansas to remove their waste and dispose properly. ADEQ and ADH continued contacting PRPs and arranging additional removals.

ADEQ Anticipated Future Activities

The eventual status of the E.R. Moore Building was undetermined when it was placed on the SPL in 2005; however, the City of Osceola, in close cooperation with the ADH and EPA Region 6, assumed responsibility for completing the removal and cleanup operations and no additional assistance from ADEQ is anticipated. This site no longer presents a threat to either human health or the environment and was removed from the RATFA SPL in January 2009.

Site Contacts

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