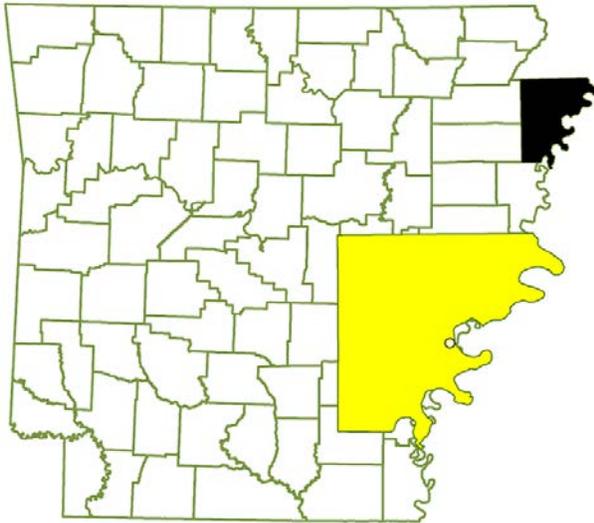


# ARKANSAS WASTE-TO-ENERGY INCINERATOR SITE

## STATE PRIORITY LIST SITE OSCEOLA, ARKANSAS



ADEQ  
5301 Northshore Drive  
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118



EPA RCRA ID No: ARR000011684  
EPA CERCLA ID No: ARN000606748  
AFIN: 47-00509  
County: Mississippi  
Arkansas Senate District: 15  
Arkansas House District: 55  
US Congressional District: 1

### **Current Status**

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Uncontrolled medical, municipal, and non-hazardous industrial wastes were identified and subsequently removed from the Arkansas Waste-to-Energy Incinerator site, commonly known as the Osceola Incinerator, in 2003. All cleanup and disposal activities were finished by early 2004. ADEQ submitted a Preliminary Assessment (PA) Report for the Osceola Incinerator to EPA Region 6 in July 2007. The PA Report made a recommendation of No Further Action Planned (NFRAP) for this site. EPA Region 6 concurred with the recommendation and completed a Superfund Site Strategy Recommendation Form to provide public notification of the NFRAP decision in May 2010.

### **State Priority List History**

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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 State 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.

The Osceola Incinerator was one of three sites where medical, municipal, and industrial wastes had been improperly stored by the former owner of the Arkansas Municipal Waste-to-Energy (AMWE) operation. The AMWE leased the incinerator facility and surrounding property from the City of Osceola, and was also using two nearby warehouses to improperly store wastes intended to be burned at the incinerator complex. All three AMWE facilities, including the Osceola Incinerator, were placed on the SPL in 2005 due to ongoing cleanup activities associated with the AMWE operation. This site was removed from the State Priority List in June 2010.

## **Site Description**

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**Location:** The 1.5-acre property is situated on the southeast edge of City of Osceola, Mississippi County, Arkansas. The geographic coordinates are 35° 41' 24.16" north latitude and 89° 58' 05.77" west longitude. Street address: 100 Incinerator Road.

**Population:** Osceola has an estimated 9,175 residents.

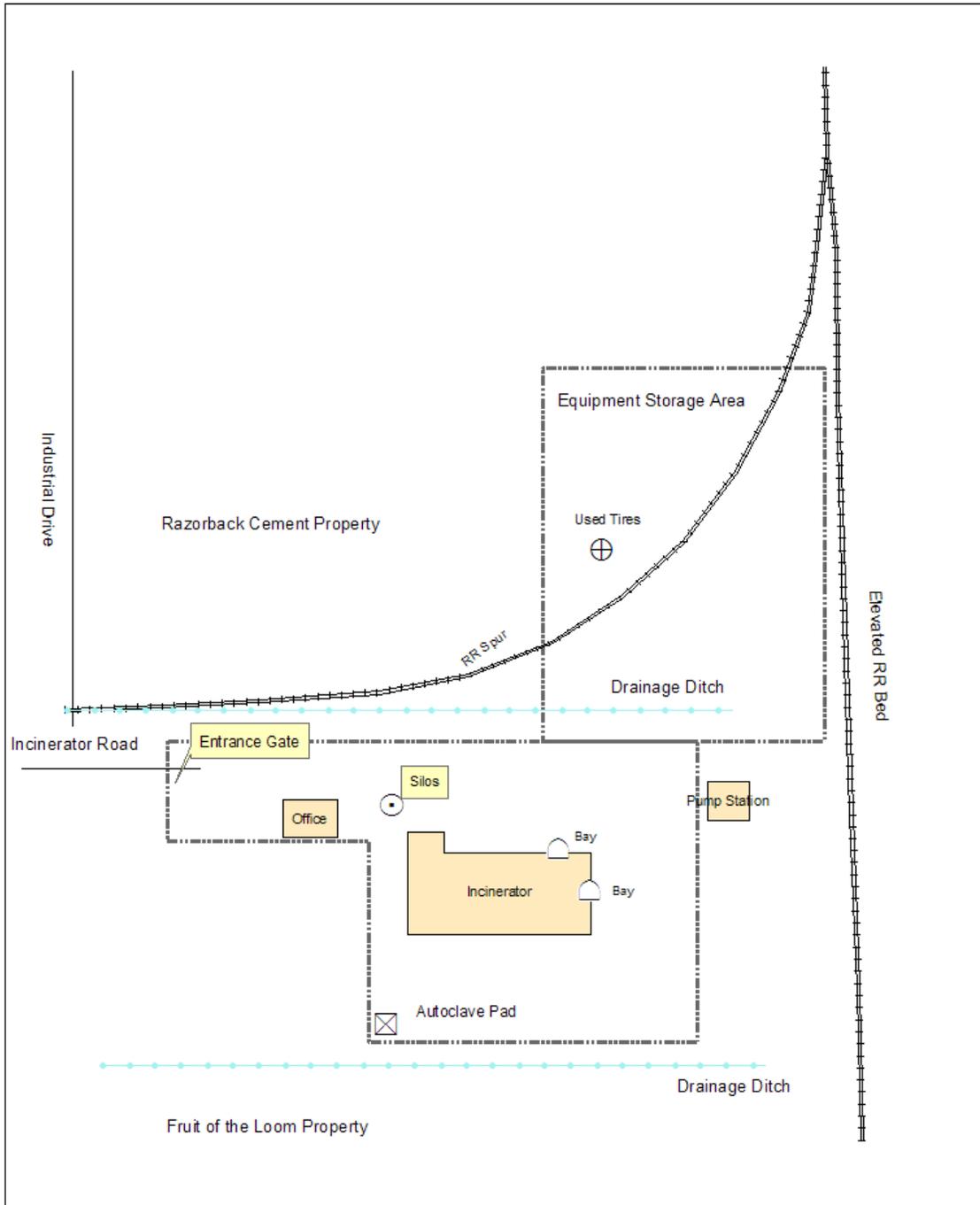
**Setting:** The Osceola Incinerator site is owned by the City of Osceola and is situated in an area zoned as light industrial. The incinerator facility itself has been inoperable since 2002 and the site is currently used as a municipal waste transfer facility. Land use within .25 miles of the site includes 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. Three grated stormwater drains are located in the road access/truck parking area north of the main building, and the paving is a combination of gravel, eroding asphalt, and patches of compacted soil. 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 within the 100-year or 500-year flood plain.

Aerial Photo: Incinerator Site One-Mile Radius, Osceola, Arkansas



# Site Diagram: Incinerator Site and Surrounding Property



(Map Not to Scale)



Site Photo: Osceola Incinerator Site – March 2003



Site Photo: Osceola Incinerator Site – June 2007



## **Waste and Volumes**

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February 2003 citizen complaints about AMWE waste management practices at both the Osceola Incinerator and the two associated warehouses instigated a series of investigations and activities by ADEQ, ADH, EPA Region 6, and City of Osceola representatives. The most significant threats to human health and the environment were presented by the warehouse contents and conditions.

After the initial site visits and investigations, City of Osceola representatives and the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) assumed responsibility for the cleanup of the Osceola Incinerator site. Although the property served as a staging facility for containerized wastes during characterization and cleanup/disposal activities at the warehouses; the removal and cleanup efforts for the Osceola Incinerator site involved primarily medical and municipal waste. The total waste volumes removed from the site were estimated to be several tons.

## **Health Considerations**

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The PA evaluated risks to human health and the environment. The 2007 field investigations and record reviews indicated no evidence of hazardous waste, pollutant, or contaminant sources at the site, and confirmed that the cleanup activities had successfully mitigated potential health risks. Additionally, the ADH prepared a Health Consultation Report in 2005 for the AMWE facilities. The Report concluded that present and future exposure pathways for air, soil, water, and biota pose no apparent health hazard.

## **ADEQ Response Actions**

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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 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, arranging for PRPs within State of Arkansas to remove their waste and dispose properly. ADEQ and ADH continued contacting PRPs and arranging additional removals.
- Assistance Request, June 2004 – ADEQ requested the assistance of the EPA Region 6 Emergency Response Branch due to volume of substances remaining at the AMWE facilities, the poor condition of both containers and warehouses, and proximity of a daycare facility.
- PA Investigation and Report, February through July 2007 – Conducted site visits, record and document reviews, interviews, and report preparation to recommend NFRAP.
- NFRAP Recommendation, May 2008 – EPA’s Superfund Site Strategy Recommendation recommending NFRAP received by ADEQ.

## **ADEQ Anticipated Future Activities**

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The status of the removal and cleanup operations conducted by City of Osceola representatives and the ADH at the Osceola Incinerator site was undetermined when the site was placed on the SPL in 2005. The PA prepared in 2007, however, determined that this site no longer presents a threat to either human health or the environment. The site was removed from the RATFA SPL in June 2010.

## **Site Contacts**

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