

# MINTON PROPERTY

## STATE PRIORITY LIST SITE ALEXANDER, ARKANSAS



ADEQ  
5301 Northshore Drive  
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118



EPA CERCLA ID No: ARR000011106  
AFIN: 63-00462  
County: Saline  
Arkansas Senate District: 22  
Arkansas House District: 29  
US Congressional District: 02

### **Current Status**

---

In an area immediately upon entering the crawl space (door facing west), DDT soil contamination is present above risk based screening levels. To address this, control measures have been installed to restrict access to crawl space entry. In addition, a Declaration of Restrictive Covenant was filed in Saline County circuit court on February 9, 2010. Appropriate actions have been taken and this site was removed from the Stat Priority List on August 12, 2012.

### **State Priority List History**

---

In September 2002, a complaint was filed with the Arkansas State Plant Board (ASPB) regarding possible pesticides under the crawl space of the residence. Upon investigation by the ASPB and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), the crawl space was found to contain several damaged bags of DDT. Jurisdictional uncertainty perpetuated the lack of remediation at the Minton property, regarding the removal of the pesticides.

In October 2002, the well water at the residence was tested and found to have 57 ppb DDT in the water (Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services). The allowable level of DDT in residential drinking water is 0.2ppb to 2 ppb.

Prior to the aforementioned test, approximately 1600 pounds of 50 percent wettable DDT were discovered under the crawl space of the house. It is believed the previous owner, now deceased, stored the banned hazardous substances at the residence. Recently (January 22, 2007), the DDT (DDT, U061), along with two 30-gallon drums (chlordane, D002 and U036) found after inspection of the property in 2002, was removed from the property and taken to Clean Harbors in El Dorado for disposal. This was done at the owner's expense.

Inspection of the property January 25, 2007 confirmed said removal of the aforementioned hazardous substances. Debris still remains under the crawl space, and residual levels of powdery substances can be seen on the ground inside the crawl space. The drums, and other empty containers have been picked up around the area in back of the pond.

On April 17, 2007 a soil sampling event was conducted by ADEQ. The Risk Section, within the Hazardous Waste Division of ADEQ, found the area north of the pond to be remediated, but determined the crawl space to have unacceptable concentrations of DDD and DDT.

On April 24, 2007 a water well sampling event was conducted by the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH). The well water was found to contain no cancer-causing contaminants.

On June 6, 2007 a letter was sent to Mrs. Dana Minton with instructions regarding the removal of surface soil and debris from within the crawl space of the residence. ADEQ received no response from Mrs. Minton.

On October 11, 2007 a second letter (certified) was sent to Mrs. Dana Minton. This time, ADEQ received a letter of response from Mrs. Minton. In the letter, dated October 28, 2007, Mrs. Minton explained the financial limitations associated with immediate compliance of the ADEQ recommendations as laid out in the June 6, 2007 ADEQ letter. In the letter, Mrs. Minton also explained that January through April were peak months for her business, and that a delay would allow her to generate the income necessary to fulfill the ADEQ recommendations.

On November 21, 2007 a third letter (also certified) was sent to Mrs. Dana Minton. In this letter, we extended the ADEQ deadline for removal of surface soil and debris from within the crawl space of the residence. Mrs. Minton did not meet this deadline. Thus, ADEQ added the Minton Property to both the Investigative and Remediation categories of the State Priorities List on January 14, 2008. This measure was taken in order to investigate the extent of contamination and address and remediate any existing risks to human health and the environment, with the ultimate goal of returning the property to productive use. The residence was listed on the SPL in February 2009 so state funds would be available for remediation.

ADEQ retained the services of Waste Services, Inc. (WSI) to remove contaminated soil and debris, to clean the sidewalls and support pillars adjacent to the DDT contaminated area, and to obtain verification samples. WSI performed these tasks on August 18, 2009. Verification samples revealed that the excavation was not sufficient and that DDT contaminated soil was still present. In addition, DDT was still present on the sidewalls and support pillars. To check the water quality, a water sample was taken from the kitchen faucet. This sample also revealed DDT contamination.

To address DDT contamination in the drinking water, ADEQ submitted the water sampling data to the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) on October 15, 2009. In ADH letter dated October 20, 2009, the tenant was informed that elevated levels of the pesticide DDT were found in water samples taken from the kitchen faucet. ADH gave recommendations on limiting or discontinuing use of the water.

ADEQ tasked WSI to remobilize on December 2, 2009 to further excavate from the DDT contaminate area. WSI excavated approximately three (3) inches from the original excavated area. In addition, the sidewalls and support pillars adjacent to the excavation area were coated with a protective sealant as a precaution against exposure to DDT. Confirmation samples from the excavated area were taken.

On December 15, 2009, confirmation sample results were delivered and revealed that residual DDT is still present above risk based screening levels. In ADEQ letter dated January 7, 2010, Ms. Minton was required to limit access to the crawl space, inform anyone accessing the crawl space that there is residual DDT contamination in the soil and special precautions should be taken to avoid potential exposure, and to either file a deed notice in the property records of Saline County or to pursue efforts to excavate the remaining DDT contaminated soil.

A Declaration of Restrictive Covenant was filed in Saline County circuit court on February 9, 2010. The site was removed from the SPL on August 12, 2012.

## **Site Description**

---

**Location:** The Minton Property is located northwest of the city of Alexander city at 7125 Anderson Road, Alexander, Saline County, Arkansas. The Minton Property is solely residential in nature, and is located on approximately 17 acres of land in extreme Saline County.

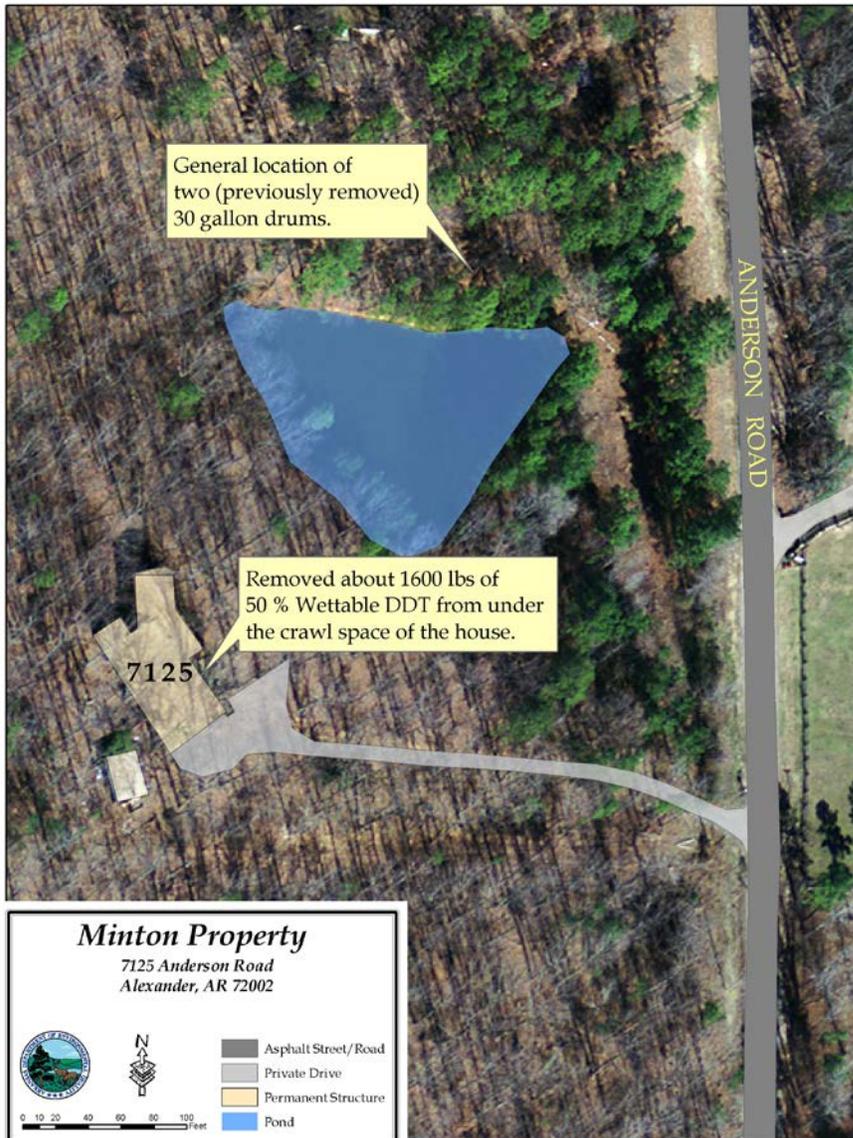
Latitude: 34° 39' 38.30" N  
Longitude: 092° 28' 47.39" W

**Population:** About 614 residents are in the City of Alexander, Arkansas.

**Setting:** The Minton Property is located within a rural residential area and is not supplied by municipal drinking water. The property is located on an approximately 17-acre tract of land northwest of the city limits of Alexander, Arkansas.

**Hydrology:** The Minton Property is located in the Ouachita Mountains physiographic region of Arkansas, which is characterized as mostly Paleozoic sandstones, shale and novaculites. The most prominent hard rock mineral is quartz crystal for which this region is known.

A private well located on the property is the sole source for drinking water and household water use. There are four (4) other residential wells within a quarter-mile radius of the property.



Aerial Photo: Minton Property, Alexander, Arkansas (2006).



Frontal House Photo: Minton Property.

## **Waste and Volumes**

---

**Area of Concern:** These areas include the north side of the pond, and the crawl space of the home.

**Principal Pollutants:** DDT (U061) and chlordane (D020 and U036).

**Volume:** 1600 pounds of 50 percent wettable DDT were located under the crawl space of the residence.

Two (2) 30-gallon drums of an unknown substance (but, perhaps chlordane) were located north of the pond. On January 22, 2007 these source contaminants were removed from the property by Waste Services Inc.

On August 18, 2009, Eleven (11) 55-gallon drums were filled with soil and debris from the crawl space and were labeled hazardous waste.

On December 2, 2009, Four (4) 55-gallon drums of soil from the crawl space and one (1) drum of PPE and visqueen were collected and labeled as hazardous waste.

## **Health Considerations**

---

Per the November 21, 2007 ADEQ letter to Mrs. Dana Minton:

- Padlocks on the crawlspace doors remain in place and access is restricted until the removal of debris, and further testing is completed.
- Anyone that does end up needing access during this time must be thoroughly informed of the presence of DDD and DDT in the crawlspace.

Private well water samples, collected at the Minton Property by the Arkansas Department of Health, on April 24, 2007, showed no cancer-causing contaminants in the drinking water.

A Declaration of Restrictive Covenant was filed in Saline County circuit court on February 9, 2010.

## **ADEQ Response Actions**

---

Complaint – 09/2002 (to the ASPB)

Removal – 01/22/2007 (at owner's expense)

Site Investigation – 04/17/2007 (soil sampling: ADEQ lead)

Site Investigation – 04/24/2007 (well water sampling: ADH lead)

Addition of Site to SPL – February 2009

Removal – 08/18/2009 (SPL funding)

Removal – 12/01/2009 (SPL funding)

Removal from the SPL – August 12, 2012

## **ADEQ Anticipated Future Activities**

---

This site was removed from the State Priority List on August 12, 2012.

## **Site Contacts**

---

Contact:                      Clay McDaniel                      (501) 682-0836