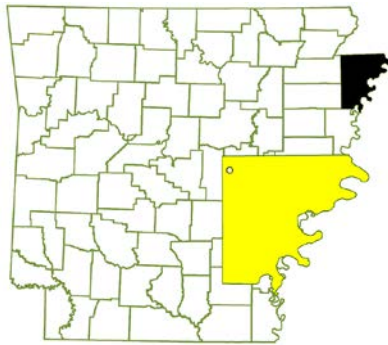


LEACHVILLE METAL PLATING

STATE PRIORITY LIST SITE LEACHVILLE, ARKANSAS



ADEQ
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118



EPA RCRA ID No: Not Assigned
EPA CERCLA ID No: AR0000012955
AFIN: 47-00272
County: Mississippi
Arkansas Senate District: 15
Arkansas House District: 77
US Congressional District: 01

Current Status

The Leachville Metal Plating site is an abandoned school building once used as an illegal dumping area for wastes generated by Withgo Metal Finishing, Inc. (Withgo). Upon inspection of the facility in February 1994, ADEQ determined that the presence of drums containing cyanide, heavy metals, acids, bases, and other incompatible wastes stored in close proximity should be handled under the EPA Region 6 Removal Program. The EPA Region 6 conducted an emergency action at the site in September 1994 to stabilize and segregate hazardous material and waste. The site was secured and fenced to prevent trespassing, and continued to be used for storage until final disposal was funded and accomplished in March 1999. The property has been cleaned up and is currently used for furniture storage; no further environmental actions are warranted or anticipated.

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 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. Leachville Metal Plating was placed on the SPL in February 2000 due to the indeterminate final status of the site at that time. This site was removed from the SPL in June 2010.

Site Description

Location: The Leachville Metal Plating site is located adjacent to 4th Street between Nelson Street and Lange Street within the city limits of Leachville, Arkansas. The geographic coordinates are 35° 56' 04" north latitude and 90° 15' 20" west longitude.

Population: The City of Leachville has about 1,981 residents.

Setting: The property is situated on approximately half an acre land within a residential area. The site is located 25 feet from the nearest residence; an estimated 61 people are housed and a daycare center is in operation within 200 feet of the site.

Hydrology: The northwestern part of Mississippi County, in which the site is located, is drained primarily by Buffalo Creek Ditch and the Right and Left Hand Chutes of Little River. The total population in Mississippi County depends exclusively upon ground water to meet their drinking needs. Overland drainage from the site flows into West Branch Buffalo Creek Ditch; thence the St. Francis River; thence the Mississippi River. The site lies within an area of minimal flood hazards.

Aerial Photo: Leachville Metal Plating, Leachville, Arkansas (2006).



Waste and Volumes

The types of hazardous waste and approximate volumes removed from the Leachville Metal Plating site included: 165 gallons of phosphorus acid; 1,010 gallons of liquid chromium; 340 gallons of solid chromium; 650 gallons of liquid chromic acid and solution; 480 gallons of solid chromic acid; 1,020 gallons of borax; 525 gallons of methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) and/or MEK mixed with ethanol and/or chloroform; 255 gallons of ethanol mixed with acetone; 85 gallons of sulfuric acid; and 55 gallons of sulfanic acid.

Health Considerations

Health considerations included the potential for direct contact with significant quantities of hazardous materials and wastes, as well as the risk of fire and/or explosion. The drums were in poor condition and many were leaking. The building, which was easily accessible through broken windows, had been

vandalized. The possibility of unauthorized individuals entering the site and coming into contact with the wastes and unknown compounds was of great concern, as was fire and/or explosion hazard posed by potential mixing of incompatible wastes. Given the close proximity of residents and the daycare facility, it was imperative that the site be secured and the hazardous materials and wastes stabilized and segregated. The EPA Region 6 Emergency Response Branch (ERB) ensured that this was accomplished by September 1994.

ADEQ Response Actions

ADEQ inspectors discovered the site in August 1992 while investigating the location of hazardous metal plating wastes from the defunct Withgo operation. The site owner was contacted and held responsible for removal and proper disposal of the hazardous materials and wastes. A follow up inspection by ADEQ in February 1994 revealed leaking containers of incompatible wastes inside the building; approximately 210 containers of metal plating waste were documented. ADEQ contacted the EPA Region 6 ERB, which sent a Technical Assistance Team to evaluate the site in August 1994. By September 1994, the site had been rendered inaccessible to the public.

ADEQ inspectors visited the site in June 1995 to assess the integrity of security measures implemented by the emergency response actions, check the containerized hazardous waste stored at the facility, and note overall site conditions. The facility had been enclosed with a 6-foot high chain link fence topped with barbed wire, and all building windows covered with corrugated tin sheeting.

ADEQ representatives met the EPA Region 6 ERB removal team onsite on March 9, 1999. The site was prepared for additional sampling, removal, and disposal activities. All operations and subsequent site demobilization was completed by April 1999. An ADEQ representative visited the site on June 13, 2008 to verify waste removal and ascertain current site conditions. The building was secure and being used for retail furniture storage.

ADEQ Anticipated Future Activities

The eventual status of the Leachville Metal Plating site was undetermined when it was placed on the SPL in 2000; however, the EPA Region 6 has completed a Superfund Site Strategy Recommendation form with a conclusion of No Further Remedial Action Planned. No additional assistance from ADEQ is anticipated. This site no longer presents a threat to either human health or the environment and the site was removed from the SPL in June 2010.

Site Contacts

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