

Pioneer Sand Company
Saufley Field Road, ½ mile west of Blue Angel Parkway
Pensacola, Florida
County: Escambia
District: Northwest
Site Lead: EPA
Placed on National Priorities List: October 23, 1981
Delisted: February 8, 1993
HWC # 025
ERIC ID # 3798

Site Description and History

The Pioneer Sand Company is located on Sauflay Field Road, five miles west of Pensacola, Florida in Section 02, Township 02S, Range 31W at 30° 27' 32.3257" N, 87° 19' 39.9583" W, and operated from 1972 to 1981. The site is approximately 11 acres in size and consists of two small surface impoundments and an adjacent fill area. The fill area was used for the disposal of construction debris, shredded automobile parts and various industrial sludges and resins. This landfill also received metal plating sludge from the Pensacola Naval Air Station, as well as phenols and resin compounds from Newport Industries (now Reichold Chemical Company). A number of partially buried and exposed empty 55-gallon drums were located near the surface impoundments. The drums were unmarked and in varying degrees of damage and decay. Several leachate streams existed at the base of the fill area. The surface impoundments, which were adjacent to the fill area, were being contaminated by the leachate stream. The two impoundments were a total of four acres in size. The excavation pit extends to a depth of about 40 feet, somewhat below the water table in the area.

Threat

Soils and sludges in the landfill are contaminated with metals and volatile organic compounds. On-site groundwater is contaminated; however, contamination does not appear to have moved off-site. Affected areas of the site were treated by stabilization/solidification and capping. All surrounding wells, including private wells, are free of contamination. The site was delisted in June 1993.

Response Strategy and Status

The Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (FDER, now DEP) signed a Cooperative Agreement with EPA in April 1984 to take the lead management role for performing the remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS). In October 1984, the firm of Woodward-Clyde Consultants was awarded the contract to do the RI/FS at this site.

The RI began in January 1985, and fieldwork was completed in March. The final report was received in June 1985. The investigation revealed gross contamination, including heavy metals

and organic compounds (copper, lead, chromium, ethylbenzene, toluene, etc.), in the landfill area itself; however, no offsite contamination was found. Additional onsite soil and groundwater sampling was initiated in August 1985 to assist in developing remedial alternatives. In February 1986, EPA conducted an audit of the reanalysis Contract Laboratory for Pioneer Sand. The audit revealed inconsistencies in the PCB data, and the PCB soil samples were reanalyzed. The reanalysis of the PCB samples was completed, and the data was validated.

A fence was installed in April 1986 to secure the contaminated area at the site. The final FS was completed in July 1986. A public meeting to discuss the FS and remedial alternatives was held in July 1986. The responsiveness summary and preliminary design report were completed in September 1986.

The owner, Walter Dugger, the FDER and EPA, signed a consent judgment. The judgment states that the owner agrees to help with the RI/FS in any way he can, and upon completion the site will be sold and proceeds used to pay for the cleanup. The EPA had the enforcement lead for cost reimbursement. In negotiations with EPA, the Navy had agreed to pay its share of the RI/FS costs. Reichold Chemical Company signed a Consent Decree with EPA to fund remedial action. The Navy signed a separate agreement with Reichold to fund its portion of the cleanup. The Record of Decision (ROD) was completed and signed by EPA in September 1986. The state and EPA agreed upon an alternative that included: 1) long-term monitoring; 2) grading and capping of the landfill, and 3) leachate collection system. The PRP's recommended solidification of the sludge lagoon, in situ immobilization of light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid and upgrading cover material from clay to synthetics. The total cost of this alternative is approximately \$700,000. The PRPs accepted the remedial design and cleanup responsibilities for the site.

The Remedial Design work plan was approved December 1988. Field work was completed in February 1989. The Remedial Design was completed in April 1990. A Remedial Action contractor was selected in July 1990. The construction of the remedial action was begun in November 1990, and was completed in July 1991. In October 1992, EPA and Responsible Parties entered into a Conservation Easement that will protect the remedy. EPA proposed and FDER concurred with the delisting this site from the NPL in February 1993.

The US Army Corps of Engineers conducted Five-Year Reviews for the EPA in August of 1999 and September 2004. Only minor discrepancies were reported. The Review found that the remedy remains effective and continues to be protective of human health and the environment. Long term Operation and Maintenance of the remedy will be conducted until July 2011.