

Emerson Electric
440 Plumosa Avenue
Altamonte Springs, Florida
District: Central
Site Lead: Bureau of Waste Cleanup
Approved for Cleanup: May 14, 1987
Delisted: January 15, 1989
HWC # 045

Site Description and History

The Emerson Electric Company manufactured and assembled various electric components for the US Department of Defense and other aerospace customers at its Miller Street facility, located in Altamonte Springs, Florida in Section 07, Township 21S, Range 30E at 28° 40' 47.0157" N, 81° 21' 00.8332" W. Activities at this site included: flow soldering, resin spray coating, assembly, oven drying, metal treating, spray painting and machining.

From January 1980 until November 1981, wastewater from metal filming operations at the facility was discharged to a septic tank-tile drain field for disposal. In October 1981, the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (FDER, now DEP) inspected the site and directed Emerson to halt discharge, develop proper waste treatment and disposal systems and study current ground water conditions at the site. Emerson halted discharge in November 1981. Subsequent ground water sampling and analysis showed the shallow aquifer to be contaminated with volatile organic compounds.

Threat

The ground water is no longer contaminated with chlorinated and non-chlorinated solvents, acetone, xylenes and other contaminants. No public or private drinking wells are located within 2,000 feet of the site.

Response Strategy and Status

The FDER and Emerson Electric Company entered into a Consent Agreement in September 1984. The agreement stipulated that Emerson must construct an FDER approved ground water recovery and treatment facility, ensure its operability and turn it over to FDER for operation and maintenance.

In December 1984, Emerson turned the recovery system over to FDER. The FDER also received \$7,000 from Emerson to pay for operation and maintenance for the one year estimated to be required for cleanup. Operation & maintenance has exceeded the one year estimate and has been paid for from the Water Quality Assurance Trust Fund. Monitoring data now show contaminant levels to be below state and federal limits. The recovery system has been shut down and quarterly monitoring has begun.

The first quarterly ground water analysis showed all contaminants to be below detection limits with the exception of benzene. Benzene was present at a concentration of 1.5 ppb, but appears to have been the result of sampling error. The second quarterly ground water analysis, again, showed all contaminants to be below detection limits, including benzene. The site was delisted in January 1989 based on non-detection of contamination during one year of quarterly monitoring.