

Citra
US Highway 301 & State Road 318
Near Ocala, Florida
County: Marion
District: Central
Site Lead: Central District
Approved for Cleanup: May 26, 1987
Delisted: April 4, 1987
HWC # 069

Site Description and History

In October 1983, the Marion County Health Department (MCHD) reported several areas of potable water contaminated with gasoline to the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (FDER, now DEP). During February – July 1984, the FDER and MCHD conducted a well inventory and sampling program to characterize the contaminated sites. This program separated the sites into three groups: 1) areas with no contamination; 2) areas with contamination and an identified source; and 3) areas with contamination and an unidentified source. The Citra site was included in the second category.

Threat

The unconfined Floridan Aquifer in Marion County is extremely susceptible to infiltration of contaminants from the surface. Several private wells in Marion County and one municipal wellfield (Bellevue) have been contaminated by leaking underground storage tanks. Residents have been forced to drill new wells, use bottled water or obtain municipal water from uncontaminated areas.

Response Strategy and Status

The contaminated areas with an identified source are being pursued by FDER enforcement. The Bureau of Waste Cleanup authorized an investigation to identify the sources of contamination at four locations: Sparr, Citra, "Old 441", and "Camview Builders". During October 1985, the Bureau's assessment contractor conducted a geophysical survey to locate abandoned tanks in the vicinity of confirmed ground water contamination. A soil gas survey was conducted in December 1985, to determine the extent of contamination around the tanks. The tanks were excavated or properly abandoned in February 1986. In order to locate the source of contamination, monitoring wells were installed in April 1986. Several wells were geophysically logged and sampled to further define the zone of contamination. An Environmental Contamination Assessment report was submitted to FDER in February 1987. The results of this report were forwarded to the Central District for enforcement.