

FDER Bills Road
Bills Road and Emerson Street
Jacksonville, Florida
County: Duval
District: Northeast
Site Lead: Bureau of Waste Cleanup
Approved for Cleanup: March 15, 1991
Delisted: March 8, 1996
HWC # 089

Site Description and History

The Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (FDER, now DEP) Northeast District operated a water quality analysis laboratory from 1970 to 1990 at Bills Road, Jacksonville, FL in Section 32, Township 02S, Range 27E at 30° 17' 27.7337" N, 81° 37' 06.6295" W. The primary function of the laboratory was the analysis of surface water and sewage plant effluent. The analytical methods utilized by laboratory personnel required the use of some volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Included among these compounds were hexane, ethanol, acetone, methanol and chloroform.

Laboratory wastes generated during the analytical process were discharged to a dedicated underground holding tank for future disposal. In 1988, policies were placed in effect that required laboratory wastes to be containerized and removed from the facility for proper offsite disposal.

In the summer of 1990, the FDER Northeast District Office relocated from the Bills Road location. From May 1990 to October 1990, the FDER Site Investigation Section (SIS) conducted a ground water investigation of the Bills Road location. In December 1990, SIS released the ground water investigation report, identifying VOCs above allowable concentrations. On March 18, 1991 the Bureau of Waste Cleanup accepted the lead for the FDER Bills Road Site.

Threat

Volatile organic compounds threaten contamination of the surficial aquifer and surface water on and adjacent to the site. The tank and surrounding soils were removed and a groundwater treatment system was installed. Subsequent testing indicated that the site met cleanup target levels and the site was delisted in March 1996.

Response Strategy and Status

In March 1991, a file review was completed and a contractor was selected to perform the Contamination Assessment. The Contamination Assessment was completed in July 1991, and noted benzene at a concentration of 3.5 µg/L, which is above the allowable concentration of 1 µg/L. The department selected groundwater recovery and treatment for the remedial action.

In December 1991, the department's contractor, OHM Corp., excavated the underground holding tank and installed a groundwater recovery system. The system operated for 20 days when analytical data revealed that groundwater concentrations were below detection limits.

The system was removed and the site was returned to original condition in February 1992. Compliance monitoring to verify cleanup was initiated by Woodward Clyde Consultants Inc. in February 1992 and was completed in December 1994. The only well that exhibited any contamination was overdrilled and replaced during November 1995 fieldwork. This well was sampled and revealed no contamination above site cleanup criteria. The Department delisted the site in March 1996, and closure of all 11 remaining wells at the site took place in April 1996.