

Barker Chemical Company (Former)
US Highway 17-98 and County Road 40
Inglis, Florida
County: Levy
District: Southwest
Site Lead: Waste Cleanup Program
Accepted for Cleanup: November 21, 2012
HWC # 188

Site Description and History

The former Barker Chemical Company (BCC) facility operated as a phosphate manufacturer from approximately 1904 to 1931. The former BCC facility is comprised of several dozen parcels over an area of approximately 124 acres, located mainly southwest of the intersection of US Rt. 17-98 & CR 40, near the Withlacoochee River Bridge, in Inglis, FL, Township 17S, Range 16E, Sections 02 & 03, at Latitude 29° 01' 47.4097" N, Longitude 82° 40' 27.8178" W. The number of parcels, area of the site, etc. are subject to change. The site used waste pyrite cinder for road construction and to keep grass from growing. This resulted in widespread soil contamination. The BCC facility went out of business and the property was subdivided into residential lots the mid-1930's. Due to the age of this site, operating records no longer exist and much of the information about the site is anecdotal.

Threat

As a result of the former phosphate processing facility and the use of the pyrite cinder for road base, the site has arsenic and lead soil contamination.

Response Strategy and Status (June 2016)

The Barker Chemical site has been the subject of a major EPA removal action which has taken place over a several year-long period. In spite of this, available information indicates that soil contamination continues to be present at this site in excess of Florida Soil Cleanup Target Levels for arsenic and lead. The site was referred to the Waste Cleanup Program and was accepted for State-funded cleanup on November 21, 2012.

In February 2015, the site was assigned to a DEP project manager and GHD Services Inc. was assigned as the remediation contractor. A Site Assessment Workplan and Pre-Assessment Evaluation was reviewed and approved by the DEP in September 2015. Because the site area is so large and there is extensive assessment and remediation information, the assessment and future remedial actions will be performed in a phased approach.

In October 2015 an initial phase of soil sampling began. During this phase 40 residentially zoned parcels were selected and prioritized for additional assessment. Based on this data sites were prioritized for Interim Source Removals (ISRs) also referred to as, limited soil excavations.

GHD and the DEP implemented two ISRs located in April 2016.

Schedule

In July 2016, GHD submitted the draft Remedial Strategy Plan. This plan is currently under review and will outline the department's strategy for continued assessment and ISR prioritization. DEP anticipates approval of the Remedial Strategy Plan in September 2016.

Additional soil assessment will continue as site access agreements are secured. As additional soil data is collected, properties that exceed the SCTLs will be included in the remedial strategy and prioritized for ISR. Currently, GHD is conducting soil sampling to assist in the delineation and design of ISR proposals. It is anticipated that two additional ISRs will be conducted in the fall of 2016.