

Dubose Oil Products Company
County Road 97, 1 mile north of County Road 184
Cantonment, Florida
County: Escambia
District: Northwest
Site Lead: EPA
Placed on National Priorities List: October 15, 1984
Delisted: October 1, 2004
ERIC ID # 3784
HWC # 011

Site Description and History

The Dubose Oil Products site is located in Escambia County, west of Cantonment, Florida in Section 08, Township 01N, Range 31W at 30° 37' 03.9932" N, 87° 22' 36.3196" W. The site is in a rural residential area with some agricultural and forest land use. The site is currently inactive, consisting of five diversion berms creating two detention ponds for erosion control and a surface water pond. The southern portion of the Dubose property is up gradient and contains several residences. The northern edge of the site is a low-lying area forming the headwaters of Jacks Branch, which is a tributary of the Perdido River.

The site was used for oil and hazardous waste storage and recycling from early 1979 until 1982. Waste materials handled at the site included, but were not necessarily limited to, waste oils, petroleum refining waste, wood treatment process waste, spent solvents, spent "pickle liquor" and various paint wastes.

Threat

This site was declared an imminent hazard to groundwater by the Escambia County Circuit Court on September 16, 1983. The soils, surface water, and groundwater contained varying levels of volatile and semi-volatile organics. As of July 2003, the site met the requirements for "no further action" and was delisted on October 1, 2004.

Response Strategy and Status

This site first came to the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation's (FDER, now DEP) attention in September 1980 when Earl Dubose submitted an interim status application to EPA-Region IV. Dubose submitted a closure plan in March 1982. Following numerous requests by Dubose and his consultants for time extensions, the closure permit application was denied on October 29, 1982.

The FDER and Dubose were not able to agree on remedial and restoration activities, and Dubose conducted limited remedial work against FDER advice. FDER filed for a temporary injunction to require Dubose to cease restoration work. The Preliminary Injunction was ordered by the court in September 1983. This order declared the site an imminent hazard and required the FDER to conduct an investigation to determine areas of gross contamination.

O.H. Materials conducted the court-ordered site investigation for the FDER. The final report was submitted in January 1984, and delineated high levels of contamination in soils, shallow groundwater, and surface water at the site. During the investigation, Dubose excavated approximately 100 drums, which he subsequently transported to an approved hazardous waste landfill.

In November 1984, the FDER and Dubose signed a stipulation, which detailed a mutually acceptable approach to handling wastes, contaminated soils, sediments and water at the site. Tasks completed in Phase I, as described in the stipulation, included: construction of a lined storage vault; excavation of grossly contaminated soils and sediments with relocation into the vault; excavation, sampling and proper disposal of 64 drums; surface water treatment; and ground water assessment. The stipulation also established a technical committee to direct cleanup consisting of representatives from the FDER, NASA, EPA, USGS, FDNR and Earl Dubose. In March 1985, the committee determined that a comprehensive feasibility study was necessary before further action could be taken toward final cleanup.

Upon identification of potentially responsible parties (PRPs) from manifest records, a number of the PRPs formed a Steering Committee, and the technical committee was dissolved. The Steering Committee retained a contractor to develop a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) work plan, which was approved by the FDER in January 1987. In October 1987, the FDER and the PRPs entered into a Consent Order, which detailed the PRPs responsibilities and included a time schedule for conducting the RI/FS. The RI/FS was initiated in February 1988. The RI was completed in April 1989, and analytical results indicated that limited contamination remained on and around the site. It appeared that much of the contamination had been isolated in the storage vault.

The final FS was submitted in February 1990, and results indicated that only the vault-contaminated soils and several other isolated areas of soil contamination posed unacceptable health risks. The FS indicated that bioremediation of contaminated soils by composting/windrowing was the most feasible remedial alternative. This alternative was then incorporated into the Record of Decision.

In September 1989, the FDER conducted extensive site rehabilitation, which included replacement of the vault cover, drum containment and erosion control. In March 1990, the EPA prepared a draft Record of Decision (ROD) that specified composting and windrowing as the primary components for remedial action. EPA began Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA) negotiations with the PRPs for the development of a Consent Decree.

In June 1990, the FDER transferred lead management role of the site to EPA to accommodate the Superfund process. A Consent Decree was signed by the PRPs on September 28, 1990, and was entered into the court on June 18, 1991. On June 27, the EPA approved the PRP's selection of Engineering Science (ES) to draft the remedial design. ES submitted an Interim Maintenance Tasks Work Plan in July 1991. The Remedial Design Work Plan was submitted in August 1991.

In November 1991, the PRPs conducted soil sampling for evaluation of dioxin contamination on the site. In February 1992, the EPA determined that dioxin and furan concentrations were below action levels and directed the PRPs to proceed with the schedule for remedial activities. In October 1992, a 90% Prefinal Remedial Design was submitted to the EPA and FDER for review. Review comments were sent to correct deficiencies in the design report. In February 1993, the EPA and FDER approved the Final Remedial Design.

Construction of the bioremediation facility by Waste Abatement Technology Ltd. (WATEC) began in July 1993. Construction of the bioremediation facility and wastewater treatment system was completed in November 1993.

In June 1994, WATEC removed the bottom liner of the vault upon successfully completing excavation of the vault soils. Bioremediation of soils was completed in September 1994. WATEC dismantled the bioremediation facility in November 1994. Final grading of the site was completed in March 1995. A final inspection of site conditions was conducted in May 1995, and the restoration activities were not approved pending proper growth of grass for storm water and erosion control. An erosion control and implementation plan was developed for the site and approved by the DEP in May 1996. Construction of the erosion control measures began in June 1996, and was completed in August 1996. The Escambia Soil and Water Conservation District (ESWCD) inspected the construction of the erosion control measures and approved the measures, as constructed, in September 1996.

ES conducted quarterly groundwater sampling and inspection/maintenance of the erosion control measures. The Five-Year Review was submitted in late September 1998, and the groundwater and surface water met all current state and federal standards. The DEP reviewed and approved the Five-Year Quarterly Sampling Report.

The Groundwater and Surface Water Annual Summary Report was submitted to the DEP in January 2001. In March 2001, DEP submitted comments to the EPA. PCE concentrations of 34 µg/L were detected at monitoring well SF-1, which is above the groundwater standard of 3 µg/L. The DEP noted that monitoring of well SF-1 should continue until data for the perched water table achieve compliance with the groundwater standard.

A meeting was held in February 2002 with the EPA, DEP and the PRPs to discuss the remnant levels of PCE remaining at the site and available alternatives for remediation. It was agreed that two more additional monitoring events would be conducted prior to the upcoming EPA 5-year review. If the PCE contamination continued to remain above the State of Florida groundwater standard after the 5-year review, additional monitoring would need to be conducted.

In September 2002, Parson's Engineering submitted a Groundwater Monitoring Report for the July 2002 groundwater monitoring event. A review by DEP concluded that PCE concentrations had attenuated below the State of Florida Drinking Water Standard of 3 µg/L. The DEP recommended that a round of groundwater samples be analyzed as part of the September 2003 five-year review in order to confirm satisfactory groundwater quality. Parson's Engineering completed confirmation groundwater sampling in June 2003. The July 2003 Groundwater

Monitoring Report confirmed that PCE and TCE concentrations remained below the State of Florida Drinking Water Standard. The DEP agreed with the EPA proposal to commence the deletion of the Dubose Oil Superfund Site from the National Priorities List.

In March 2003, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) was contracted by the EPA to complete a 5-Year Review of the Dubose Groundwater Monitoring Remedial Action. A site inspection of the Dubose site by the EPA, DEP and USACE occurred on July 10, 2003.

The USACE's 5-Year Review Report was submitted and reviewed in September 2003.

According to the Federal Register dated October 1, 2004, the EPA announced the deletion of Dubose Oil from the NPL.