

Escobio Contamination Site
1907 Saint John Street
Tampa, Florida
County: Hillsborough
District: Southwest
Site Lead: Bureau of Waste Cleanup
Approved for Cleanup: April 18, 1991
Delisted: March 26, 1993
ERIC ID # 3862
HWC # 090

Site Description and History

The Escobio Site is located at 1907 St. John Street in a residential area approximately ¼ mile southeast of the Hillsborough River in Section 14, Township 29S, Range 18E at 27° 57' 52.6954" N, 82° 28' 44.4239" W. In early 1990, the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (FDER, now DEP) Emergency Response Team responded to a citizen complaint and observed mercury in the soil. The owners excavated three 55-gallon drums of visibly contaminated soils and delivered the filled drums to the Amnesty Program site in Winter Haven, Florida in February 1990. FDER personnel subsequently sampled the soil at the base of this excavation, and laboratory analysis revealed mercury at a concentration of 81 mg/kg.

Threat

In September 1990, the FDER received a report from Enviropact with documented mercury contamination in the ground water with a concentration of 292 µg/L and in the soil at 81 mg/kg. An air sample indicated a mercury vapor concentration in the air of 0.012 mg/m³. A site assessment was performed and no further action with institutional controls was recommended (to be controlled by the Southwest Florida Water Management District [SWFWMD]). The site was delisted in March 1993.

Response Strategy and Status

In April 1991, the site qualified for state-funded cleanup. In April, FDER tasked a state contractor, Woodward-Clyde Consultants (WCC), to conduct confirmation analysis and a Contamination Assessment (CA). An initial site visit was completed to confirm the nature of contamination. In July 1991, WCC conducted additional field work to confirm the extent of the mercury contamination. Preliminary results received in August 1991 indicated no further mercury contamination of soils at the site. The CA was extended to September 1991, to allow for conducting a limited risk assessment of the soils. The limited risk assessment (October 1991) concluded that soils were not a problem, but elevated levels of several metals in the groundwater called for further analysis. WCC was tasked to collect filtered/unfiltered groundwater

samples and to install an additional temporary well downgradient from the site. Results received in December 1991, indicated that metals detected in the groundwater were not in the dissolved phase, but resulted from clay/silt material in the groundwater samples. The final report received in January 1992, recommended that no further actions be taken at the site. FDER evaluated this recommendation and initiated institutional controls with SWFWMD. The site was delisted on March 26, 1993.