

Spindrift – Whogas, Inc.
1520 Tallevast Road
Tallevast, Florida
County: Manatee
District: Southwest
Site Lead: Waste Cleanup Program
Approved for Cleanup: March 8, 2010
ERIC ID # 3945

Site Description and History

The 2.1-acre Spindrift – Whogas, Inc. site is located at 1520 Tallevast Road, Tallevast, FL in Township 35S, Range 18E, Section 31 at 27° 24' 11.6516" N, 82° 32' 45.4207" W.

Whogas, Inc. is the current property owner. Previous owners conducted plating operations at the site. During 1956-1960, the American Beryllium Corporation (ABC) conducted metal plating on the property, and then moved eastward to its present location. Spindrift One Designs/Spindrift Sails, Inc. (Spindrift), a sailboat manufacturer, operated a small electroplating shop at the site from 1968 until 1985, performing zinc and cadmium electroplating, followed by a chromate dying process. Boat manufacturing was also conducted at the site. The site is currently inactive. Surrounding commercial and residential properties include: Sarasota – Manatee Airport to the west, a Golf Course to the south, the American Beryllium Corporation (ABC) hazardous waste cleanup site to the east and single-family residences to the north, across Tallevast Road.

During 1993, an above-ground storage tank (AST) for fuel oil was removed from the site. An assessment of petroleum and fuel oil contamination was also conducted and approximately 25 tons of excessively contaminated soil was removed from the area of the tank. Soil was also removed to a depth of 5 feet below land surface (bls) in an area between existing onsite buildings. A contamination assessment report (CAR), CAR addendum and remedial action plan were developed by SRS Environmental for the former Spindrift facility in 1994, which concluded that groundwater remediation related to the former fuel oil AST was not necessary. In February 1996, DEP issued a Site Rehabilitation Completion Order (SRCO) for closure of the 5,000-gallon fuel oil AST formerly located south of the onsite Quonset hut.

In 2004, Manatee County hired Environmental Consulting and Technology, Inc. to perform a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA), prior to purchasing the property, as part of the Tallevast Road Improvement Project. The May 2004 ESA report included a figure from a 1996 report by SRS Environmental identifying a trichloroethylene concentration in ground water, which exceeded the 3 µg/L State groundwater cleanup target level (GCTL).

In June 2004, the DEP Site Investigation Section conducted assessment work in the Tallevast area including collection of nine groundwater samples using direct push sampling on the Spindrift – Whogas property. Samples were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs). VOCs were detected in two lower surficial aquifer samples with trichloroethene (TCE), 1,1-dichloroethane (DCA) and 1,1-dichloroethene (DCE) at concentrations below the State groundwater cleanup target levels.

In November 2004, Professional Services Industries, Inc. (PSI) conducted a Phase II ESA for the County, as part of a due diligence investigation prior to purchase of the property. Groundwater sampling results documented detections of arsenic, benzo(k)fluoranthene, cadmium, indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene, and TCE in groundwater with arsenic and TCE at concentrations exceeding GCTLs. Soil samples confirmed cadmium, copper, chromium, chlorobenzene, ethylbenzene, 1,4-dichlorobenzene, and total recoverable petroleum hydrocarbons (TRPH) at concentrations exceeding soil cleanup target levels (SCTLs) for direct contact or leachability to ground water. Two onsite septic tanks and drain fields were also identified.

Threat

The property is partially enclosed by a security fence. Contaminated soils pose a potential threat as a source of groundwater contamination and a potential health threat due to direct contact with soils under a residential land use scenario. Groundwater contamination has been confirmed in the surficial aquifer. Although there are private wells in the surficial aquifer, most are used for domestic supplies, lawn irrigation or livestock watering. Well surveys were performed in 2012 during the development of the contamination assessment work plan and in 2013 during the contamination assessment to determine if there are potable wells within the area that would result in exposure to site related contaminants. The 2012 survey identified 58 domestic potable and irrigation wells within a ¼ mile radius of the Spindrift – Whogas property. The report also noted that many of the private wells had been abandoned and area residents are currently supplied municipal water by Manatee County. The 2013 survey identified one active private potable well at the Airport Animal Hospital located approximately 1,000 feet north of the site. A second private potable well located 750 feet east of the site was identified as abandoned. The remaining 24 wells identified are listed as non-potable irrigation wells in the FDOH database program. Six of those wells are within ¼ mile of the site and 18 are within ½ mile.

Response Strategy and Status (December 2020)

The site was accepted for State-funded cleanup. A site assessment is underway to identify the current magnitude and extent of contamination at the site and determine if remedial action is necessary.

The site assessment work plan was submitted by the DEP contractor in September 2011 and included both soil and groundwater sampling. DEP reviewed and provided recommendations to the proposed scope of work. The final work plan was approved in June 2012.

The DEP contractor, Shaw Environmental, was tasked to complete the site assessment. Field work began in December 2012. Initial assessment included onsite soil sampling and groundwater sampling of existing onsite monitoring wells. Groundwater sampling results confirmed antimony, arsenic, cadmium and aluminum at concentrations above groundwater cleanup target levels (GCTLs). No volatile organic or semi-volatile organic compounds or TRPH were detected in groundwater samples in concentrations above GCTLs. Beryllium, chromium, copper and TRPHs were detected in some soil samples above soil cleanup target levels (SCTLs).

Based on those results, additional monitoring wells consisting of 11 shallow surficial aquifer wells and 2 deep surficial aquifer wells were installed and sampled to determine the extent of groundwater contamination. Soil sampling was also conducted in the vicinity of the former water treatment system located immediately south of the site property.

A site assessment report was submitted in September 2013. A revised report was provided in November 2013 in response to DEP review comments. Assessment data documented metals in groundwater, above groundwater cleanup target levels (GCTLs), in the shallow surficial aquifer including arsenic, cadmium, antimony, manganese and aluminum. No GCTL exceedances of organic compounds were observed. Soil contained arsenic, beryllium, chromium and copper, all below commercial soil cleanup target levels (SCTLs). TRPH levels were above commercial SCTLs in an oil water separator (sludge) sample. Neither volatile organic or semi-volatile organic compounds were detected in soil samples above SCTLs.

In April 2014, the DEP Contractor was tasked to conduct additional site assessment work including resampling of 23 existing monitoring wells and installation and sampling of an additional monitoring well, along with further soil sampling to evaluate potential source areas and support an interim source removal (ISR). Groundwater sampling results reconfirmed exceedances of GCTLs for several metals in site monitoring wells. SPLP testing of several soil samples showed one or more exceedances of GCTLs in test leachate, suggesting that some onsite soils could act as a source of metals contamination in groundwater. Results were incorporated into the September 2014 revised Draft Assessment report.

The final ISR Work Plan was approved in November 2014. The interim source removal will be conducted concurrently with the final soil remedy and will consist of removal of contaminated sediments from an onsite septic tank and the in-ground oil/water separator unit, to mitigate potential groundwater contaminant sources from these two areas.

The onsite building was demolished by the property owner in April 2015 under a permit issued to the property owner by Manatee County. The building foundation was left in place. A portion of the property perimeter remains unfenced where the original facility buildings were located.

A semi-annual groundwater monitoring event was conducted in November 2014 with a second event in June 2015, to monitor the extent and stability of the groundwater plume and support evaluation of a groundwater remedy. Additional soil sampling including leachability testing was also completed in June 2015 to determine if leachable soils are present on the site that need to be addressed as part of the site remedy. The data was incorporated into a revised site assessment report and submitted to DEP for review in August 2015. A revised final Site Assessment Report (SAR) was submitted in October 2015.

Data in the SAR indicates that onsite soil contamination is comprised of metals, specifically arsenic, beryllium and copper, above the DEP residential soil cleanup target levels (SCTLs), but below commercial SCTLs. Arsenic, beryllium, cadmium and chromium in soils are at levels above leachability criteria. The most recent groundwater monitoring data indicates that groundwater contamination above GCTLs is limited to metals, specifically aluminum, antimony, arsenic and

chromium. Manganese and cadmium also have been identified above GCTLs in one or more previous monitoring events. The groundwater contaminant plume extends a short distance offsite.

Additional onsite soil sampling, as well as installation of additional monitoring well(s) and an annual groundwater monitoring and, were conducted in the fall of 2016. Soil sampling results indicate that additional onsite sampling is necessary to complete delineation of those soils with metals contaminant concentrations which could be acting as an ongoing source of groundwater contamination. The November 2016 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report confirmed the continued presence of metals including antimony, cadmium, arsenic, manganese and aluminum in surficial aquifer groundwater above GCTLs at the site.

A “Supplemental Soil Assessment Report” was received by DEP in June 2017 and reviewed in July 2017. The additional soil and groundwater monitoring data, along with soil and groundwater contamination identified in the SSAR, will be used by DEP in the evaluation and selection of a final site remedy.

An interim source removal (ISR) was completed in March 2018. The ISR addressed potential sources in the onsite septic tank and former oil/water separator.

DEP has determined that the aluminum in the site groundwater is ubiquitous to this area and, therefore, the site qualifies for conditional closure under Chapter 62-780, FAC, and has negotiated a Declaration of Restrictive Covenants (DRC) with the current owner on October 10, 2019.

Schedule

The DRC would restrict land use to commercial/industrial uses and restrict the installation of groundwater wells on the site to monitoring wells approved by DEP. Pending the potential for further sampling for Per- and Poly-Flouroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and upon issuance of the SRCO, site restoration should be completed including, if appropriate, the proper abandonment of Department installed remediation and monitoring wells