

Beggs Lane/FDC Holdings
10 Spruce Street
Pensacola, Florida
County: Escambia
District: Northwest
Site Lead: Waste Cleanup Program
Accepted for Cleanup: October 27, 2014
ERIC ID # 3956

Site Description and History

The Beggs Lane/FDC Holdings site is located east of North Palafox Street in the Brent area of Pensacola about three miles north of downtown Pensacola in Township 01S, Range 30W, Section 47 at 30° 27' 36.0285" N, 87° 14' 03.6406" W. Land use in the immediate vicinity of the site is primarily commercial/industrial with a few residences. The site is roughly bounded by Mason Lane to the north, the CSX rail yard to the east, Beggs Lane/Spruce Street to the south and Palafox Street to the west. The former Escambia Arms Apartments and Escambia Wood Treating NPL site are just south of the site.

During the early to mid-1900s, the site was mostly residential or undeveloped except for commercial enterprises along Pace Boulevard and North Palafox Street to the west, the former Escambia Treating Company to the south, and the CSX rail yard to the east. The FDC facility, located just to the west of CSX, opened in the mid-1950s and manufactured 55-gallon steel drums. The Escambia Arms Apartment complex was located between Beggs Lane and the Escambia Treating Company property. A Pensacola City Directory search indicates several former and current businesses related to automotive repair were/are located near the intersection of Pace Boulevard and North Palafox Street during the past 40 years. Boswell's Furniture Refinishing and Repair shop was located at 24 Mason Lane (to the north of Beggs Lane) from the late 1950s/early 1960s to the mid-1980s. A private residence along the northern side of Beggs Lane was observed to perform automobile restoration by SIS during the 1993 investigation.

Since the SIS work was performed in the 1990s, some changes to the site have occurred. The former Escambia Treating Company facility is currently under United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) Superfund remediation, that has caused the US government to purchase much of the property along the southern boundary of the site including the former Escambia Arms Apartment complex and portions of an undeveloped, wooded area to the southwest of a storm water holding pond on FDC property. The route of Beggs Lane was altered to accommodate the US EPA activities for the Escambia Treating Company cleanup and now extends to the south and east of its former location along the former northern boundary of the Escambia Arms Apartments. The former eastern end of Beggs Lane is now US government property and is separated from the undeveloped, wooded area by a chain link fence. FDC has ceased drum manufacturing operations at their plant and the facility has been leased since 2001 by Gulf States Recycling, LLC for collection, separation, and eventual transport of recyclable home refuse (i.e., plastic, steel, cardboard, and aluminum). The two supply wells located at the FDC property were properly abandoned in the early to mid-1990s.

Threat

Three investigations by DEP SIS have documented trichloroethene (TCE) and 1,2- dichloroethane (1,2-DCE) ground water contamination above MCLs/GCTLs. Other COCs at the site are 1,1,1-trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA) and tetrachloroethene (PCE). Although no source of contamination could be identified, not all potential sources have been assessed; however, they will be, due to the groundwater contamination by chlorinated solvents, the proximity of the site to ECUA supply wells and the large population served by the ECUA system.

Response Strategy and Status (December 2020)

Despite soil sampling at four potential Areas of Concern, no soil contamination source was identified during the June 2014 ESI. TCE was detected in one groundwater sample above the State of Florida Groundwater Cleanup Target Level (GCTL) and federal maximum contaminant level (MCL). This monitor well from which the sample was collected is open to deeper portions of the Sand-and gravel aquifer. As such, this site was evaluated as a groundwater plume site.

TCE exhibits a moderate toxicity on the USEPA's Superfund Chemical Data Matrix. In addition, a number of Emerald Coast Utility Authority (ECUA) supply wells, open to the Sand and gravel aquifer, are within 4-miles of the site. However, the occurrence of TCE above the GCTL and/or MCL was restricted to just one sample. In addition, the ECUA wells are some distance from the site. Therefore, based on the findings of the ESI, this site does not meet the USEPA's criteria for further CERCLA assessment. The contamination detected at the site likely represents a violation of Chapter 376 and/or Chapter 403 of the Florida Statutes. No further federal remedial action is planned at this site.

The site assessment was started in December 2014 and completed by Tetra Tech EC, Inc. in December 2015. Only two monitoring wells, MW-9S and MW-10D, had exceedances of TCE (4.58 and 35 µg/L, respectively). MW-9S is located upgradient of the site, therefore the NW District was informed of this result for further investigation. MW-10D is located on the south edge of the Beggs Lane property, near the Spruce St. right-of-way. Offsite notice was completed per Chapter 62-780, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), and an additional Point-of-Compliance monitoring well was installed on the east side of the property. The well was sampled and the lab report indicated TCE above the GCTL. Considering the area east of the site is a delineated area under Chapter 62-524, F.A.C., no further action is anticipated other than groundwater monitoring.

Three groundwater monitoring events have occurred since site assessment, the most recent in September 2018. The results from this 2018 event indicated TCE above the GCTL in two of the three monitor wells sampled, at concentrations of 24 ug/L and 29 ug/L. The relatively small plume of low level TCE suggests monitoring attenuation with continuing groundwater monitoring.

Schedule

Groundwater is being monitored on a biennial basis. The 2021 sampling event has been completed.