



UNITED STATES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION III

STATEMENT OF BASIS

SAFETY-KLEEN SYSTEMS, INC.

TULLYTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

EPA ID NO. PAD 065 716 813

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I. Introduction

A. Facility Name

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has prepared this Statement of Basis (SB) for the Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc. facility formerly located at Building PP 9 River Road, Tullytown, Pennsylvania 19007 (hereinafter referred to as the Facility).

The Facility is subject to the Corrective Action program under the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) of 1976, and the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA) of 1984, 42 U.S.C. Sections 6901 to 6992k. The Corrective Action program is designed to ensure that certain facilities subject to RCRA have investigated and cleaned up any releases of hazardous waste and hazardous constituents that have occurred at their property.

Information on the Corrective Action program as well as a fact sheet for the Facility can be found by navigating <http://www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm>.

B. Proposed Decision

This SB explains EPA's proposed decision that Corrective Action is complete and no EPA enforceable land use controls are required for the Facility. EPA's proposed decision is based on a review of EPA and Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) files regarding the environmental history of the Facility. Most notably, EPA reviewed the closure work that Safety Kleen completed under PADEP oversight. Based on this review, EPA has concluded that there are no current or unaddressed releases of hazardous waste or hazardous constituents from the Facility as a result of PADEP's oversight and approval of soil and groundwater remediation.

However, some contamination will remain in the groundwater at the Facility slightly above unrestricted use concentrations. EPA's proposed final remedy considers this and has determined that this is not a threat to human health or the environment as described in The Summary of Site Conditions in Section IV, below.

This SB summarizes information that can be found in greater detail in the documents reviewed by EPA, which can be found in the Administrative Record (AR).

C. Importance of Public Input

Before EPA makes a final decision on its proposal for the Facility, the public may participate in the remedy selection process by reviewing this SB and documents contained in the AR for the Facility. The AR contains the complete set of reports that document Facility conditions, including a map of the Facility, in support of EPA's proposed decision. EPA encourages anyone interested to review the AR. The AR is available for public review at the EPA Region III office, the address of which is provided in Section VI, below.

EPA will address all significant comments received during the public comment period. If EPA determines that new information or public comments warrant a modification to the proposed decision, EPA will modify the proposed decision or select other alternatives based on such new information and/or public comments. EPA will approve its final decision in a document entitled the Final Decision and Response to Comments (FDRTC).

II. Facility Background

The Facility was located at Building PP 9, River Road, Tullytown Borough, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The Facility was a leased building on an approximately 0.5 acre of land. The Facility operated from May 1974 to April 1992. When operational, the Facility was a transfer station for the distribution of fresh solvent products and collection of used solvent wastes. Used mineral spirits were stored in a 12,000-gallon underground storage tank (UST). The on- and off-loading of fresh and used mineral spirits occurred at a return/fill dock area (wet dumpster). And a storage area for waste-containing drums was located in an aboveground brick building.

III. Summary of Environmental History

When operations ceased in 1992, interim status was terminated and implementation of an approved Closure Plan began. Hydrocarbon contamination was discovered during closure and the Closure Plan was modified. The modifications are detailed in the Addendum To The Approved Closure Plan which can be found in the AR.

Preclosure assessment soil borings were completed near the USTs as part of the Facility closure. Additionally, soil samples were collected from the excavated material below the wet dumpster and USTs. Soil samples were not required from the drum storage area since it was located inside the warehouse. Analytical results indicate that Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon

(TPH) was the only contamination above remediation standards. Low-levels of 1,2- 1,3- and 1,4-dichlorobenzene, chlorobenzene, methylene chloride, and tetrachloroethene were detected, but analytical results for all of these compounds were below EPA's current screening levels for residential soil.

To remediate the TPH, a soil vapor extraction (SVE) system was operated from 1995 to 1997. This was augmented by the addition of fertilizer/bionutrients being roto-tilled into the source area to further bioremediate any residual adsorbed impacts. PADEP approved cessation of the SVE system in 1997.

As part of the closure, five groundwater wells were installed to evaluate potential impacts from Facility operations. Quarterly monitoring began in 1997 until the approved Facility closure in 2006. Chlorobenzene, 1,1-dichloroethylene (DCE), tetrachloroethene (PCE), and vinyl chloride (VC) have all been detected in groundwater above their respective EPA drinking water Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). In 1998, PADEP approved the reduction in monitoring well sampling from five to three.

PCE, and 1,1-DCE have been not been detected in the groundwater since 1997 and 1996, respectively. However, chlorobenzene and VC had persistently remained above their MCLs of 100 ug/L and 5 ug/L, respectively. Oxygen Release Compound (ORC) "socks" were placed in each well to treat these residual dissolved impacts. VC concentrations decreased and have not been detected above the MCL since 2000. Chlorobenzene continued to sporadically remain slightly above the MCL in one well, MW-5, at concentrations ranging between 60 and 120 ug/L for the sampling events in 2006. Sampling ceased in September, 2006.

A Final Site Closure and Groundwater Monitoring Report was submitted by Shaw Environmental, Inc. (Shaw) to PADEP in August 18, 2006. The conclusions were that the Facility has been remediated and closed, is likely to remain as industrial use, groundwater results demonstrate the absence of impacts except for sporadic chlorobenzene results above residential standards, and proposes an alternative standard of 130 ug/L, which is based on EPA's National Water Quality Criteria, as more appropriate given the nature of the site and proximity to surface waters.

A September 22, 2006 letter from PADEP to Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc. regarding the review of the August 2006 Report specified the need for a more robust demonstration to develop the alternative standard. This letter resulted in a Final Site Closure and Groundwater Monitoring Report Revised October 31, 2006. The revisions focused upon addressing PADEP comments and documenting the selection of appropriate standards through screening contaminants using PADEP Act 2 Statewide Health Standards and deriving Site Specific Standards utilizing standard risk assessment practices. This report can be found as part of the AR.

A December 22, 2006 letter from PADEP indicated concurrence with the findings of the October 31, 2006 report, that the requirements of the Closure Plan have been met, and there was no need to conduct any further closure/post closure activities at the Facility.

IV. Summary of Site Conditions

Under this proposed decision, some concentrations of contaminants will remain in the groundwater at the Facility above levels appropriate for residential and domestic uses. In the event that a well were to be installed, the Bucks County Department of Health requires water analysis under its Rules And Regulations Governing Individual Residential Water Supply Systems And Construction Specifications which became effective March 1, 2007. The regulations will prevent exposure to Chlorobenzene if wells are installed in the proximity of the Facility. Groundwater use in this area is unlikely however since, even though it is not an ordinance or restriction, the Borough of Tullytown strongly discourages the installation of drinking water wells based on a conversation with the Borough Coordinator on March 17, 2009.

Considering these conditions together, EPA has determined that the concentrations of the contaminant remaining in the groundwater does not pose a threat to human health or the environment. If EPA, in its sole discretion, deems that additional controls become necessary to protect human health or the environment, EPA has the authority to require and enforce Institutional Controls (ICs). ICs are non-engineered instruments such as administrative and/or legal controls that minimize the potential for human exposure to contamination by limiting land or resource use.

V. Evaluation of EPA's Proposed Decision

This section provides a description of the criteria EPA uses to evaluate proposed remedies under the Corrective Action Program. The criteria are applied in two phases. In the first phase, EPA evaluates three criteria, known as Threshold Criteria. In the second phase, EPA sometimes uses seven balancing criteria to select among alternative solutions, if more than one is proposed. The Facility has demonstrated that the current conditions meet the threshold criteria established by EPA. Because EPA is not selecting among alternatives, a complete evaluation of the balancing criteria is not necessary. The following is a summary of EPA's evaluation of the Threshold Criteria:

1. Protect Human Health and the Environment - This proposed remedy protects human health and the environment from exposure to contamination. EPA's proposed decision meets this standard for current and anticipated land use. There is no exposure to soils as they have been delineated and remediated and can be utilized with unrestricted use. Groundwater for potable use is expected to be unlikely and no exposure pathway exists due to the Bucks County Department of Health water analysis requirements.

2. Achieve Media Cleanup Objectives - EPA's proposed remedy meets the appropriate cleanup objectives based on assumptions regarding current and reasonably anticipated land and water resource use. The Facility has historically and will likely continue to be used for industrial purposes based upon current land use, adjacent property usage and proximity to the Tullytown Landfill. Soils have been delineated and remediated and can be utilized with unrestricted use. Groundwater for potable use is expected to be unlikely and no exposure pathway exists due to the Bucks County Department of Health water analysis

requirements. The alternative standard of 130 ug/L for chlorobenzene which is based on EPA's National Water Quality Criteria, is protective of any potential surface water exposures.

3. Remediating the Source of Releases - In all remedy decisions, EPA seeks to eliminate or reduce further releases of hazardous wastes or hazardous constituents that may pose a threat to human health and the environment. The Facility has remediated the sources of releases by excavating impacted soils, performing soil vapor extraction, further bioremediating the source area by roto-tilling fertilizer and bionutrients into the soil, treating residual groundwater impacts through ORC socks, and monitoring to demonstrate the effectiveness of the remedial efforts.

VI. Public Participation

Interested persons are invited to comment on EPA's proposed decision. The public comment period will last thirty (30) calendar days from the date that notice is published in a local newspaper. Comments may be submitted by mail, fax, e-mail, or phone to Mr. Kevin Bilash at the address listed below.

A public meeting will be held upon request. Requests for a public meeting should be made to Mr. Kevin Bilash at the address listed below. A meeting will not be scheduled unless one is requested.

The Administrative Record contains all information considered by EPA when proposing a Corrective Action Complete without Controls determination for the Facility. The Administrative Record is available at the following location:

U.S. EPA Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Contact: Mr. Kevin Bilash (3LC30)
Phone: (215) 814-2796
Fax: (215) 814-3113
Email: bilash.kevin@epa.gov