FACILITY DESCRIPTION

On September 15, 1989, EPA and AT&T Technologies, Inc., now known as AT&T Microelectronics (AT&T), entered into a Consent Order pursuant to Section 3008(h) of RCRA. The agreement required AT&T to complete an on-site and off-site investigation to determine the nature and extent of contamination from the Richmond Works facility and to conduct a study to evaluate cleanup alternatives.

The facility covers approximately 120 acres in a mixed residential, commercial, and industrial area. AT&T produces printed circuit boards with manufacturing processes including electroless/ electroplating, etching, and coating. Solvents used in manufacturing are stored at an on-site tank farm and collected in a solvent recovery area.

The facility is underlain by two water bearing zones. The upper aquifer is approximately 15-30 feet below ground surface. This zone is not used as a water supply. A 200 foot thick clay layer separates the upper and lower aquifers. The deeper aquifer is part of a productive aquifer in the Patuxent formation, and is used as a municipal water supply. Contamination from the facility operations has impacted the upper aquifer, but has not impacted the lower aquifer.

Ground-water from the facility discharges into Gillie Creek. Gillie Creek flows generally from east to west away from the site. An intermittent seep is located in the sidewall of a natural drainage way to Gillie Creek that receives storm water runoff from the facility.

AT&T has completed Phases I, II, and III of its Hydrogeologic Investigation, which included the installation of 35 on-site and 2 off-site ground-water monitoring wells. EPA approved AT&T’s Phase I, II, and III Hydrogeologic Investigation as the equivalent of an RFI/CMS.

EXPOSURE PATHWAYS

Actual or threatened releases of hazardous constituents from the facility, if not addressed, may present a current or potential threat to human health and the environment. The area adjacent to Gillie Creek has been designated as wetlands. The investigation revealed that this sensitive environment has not been adversely affected by activity at the facility.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public comment period on EPA’s proposed remedy extended from May 28, 1991 to June 26, 1991. Approximately 10 people,
NEXT STEPS

If after 5 years of ground-water pumping and treatment, concentrations of TCA, DCE, MEC, and DCA in ground water have reached an equilibrium above the cleanup goals, AT&T may petition EPA to revise the cleanup goals. In the event that EPA requires AT&T to perform additional studies and/or modifications to the selected remedy, EPA will provide an opportunity for public comment prior to the initiation of changes to the existing remedy.

KEY WORDS
ground water, surface water, soil; ingestion; 1,1-DCA, 1,1,1-TCA, 1,1-DCE, MEC; air stripping, carbon absorption, reinjection, monitoring

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