

DATE: February 27, 2019

FILE REF: 02-18-000275

TO: Note to File

FROM: Mae Willkom and Dave Rozeboom

SUBJECT: Eau Claire Well Fields (Deleted SF) 02-18-000275

After discussing this project with the RR Program Regional Supervisor, the following conclusions were made:

- The Eau Claire Municipal Well Field (ECMWF) consists of 15 municipal groundwater wells in two adjoining well fields (5 north and 10 south) that provide drinking water to approximately 60,000 residential and commercial users. In March 1981, TCE, 1,1-DCE, 1,1-DCA, and 1,1,1-TCE were detected in the north well field. Subsequent testing of nearby residential wells detected VOCs above WI groundwater standards. It was later determined that the contamination was caused by National Presto Industries (NPI), and NPI became a separate Superfund site.
- On June 10, 1985, U.S. EPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) that selected a packed column air stripper as an Interim Remedial Measure to address contamination at the ECMWF site. Following completion of a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, EPA issued a final ROD on March 31, 1988. The 1985 interim remedy and the 1988 final remedy included remedial measures intended to protect the municipal drinking water supply and to provide an alternate drinking water supply to contaminated or threatened private wells near the well field.
- Permanent municipal water supplies were provided to affected private well owners in the city of Eau Claire in 1991 and within the nearby Hallie Sanitary District in 1992. The NPI Remedial Investigation confirmed the presence of a continuous contaminant plume originating from waste disposal areas at the NPI site and extending to the ECMWF site. Remediation of off-site groundwater and on-site source areas of the NPI site were addressed in a final Feasibility Study. NPI implemented an interim action for on-site plume containment, preventing the off-site movement of contaminated groundwater through extraction and treatment. City ordinances and state administrative codes ensure the protectiveness of the NPI remedy.
- The city of Eau Claire has maintained the air stripper in constant operation since its completion in 1987. NR 140, Wisc. Adm. Code, contains the current groundwater quality standards which served as the groundwater cleanup goals for the ECMWF site. Recent data indicates that the levels of TCE in the plumes affecting the ECMWF have declined and are meeting the WI Enforcement Standard of 5 ppb. However, the City of Eau Claire has chosen to continue routine operation and maintenance of the air stripper and to monitor influent and effluent regularly to ensure continued compliance with health advisories and MCLs.
- In a July 17, 2012 five-year review of the ECMWF, EPA and DNR determined that the cleanup remedy at the ECMWF is protective of human health and the environment. The agencies therefore determined that no further response action by the responsible parties is appropriate, and the site was deleted from the NPL on May 27, 2014. Site deletion documents are available to the public in the site's information repositories.



Mae Willkom, Hydrogeologist2/27/2019

Date



Dave Rozeboom, West Central Region
Team Supervisor2/27/2019

Date