



## State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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March 24, 2006

Ms. Jane Patarcity  
Beazer East, Inc.  
One Oxford Centre, Suite 3000  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-6401

Subject: Comments on Koppers Inc., Superior, Wisconsin Facility  
BRRTs: 02-16-000484

Dear Ms. Patarcity:

The Department has reviewed the Post-Remediation Human Health Risk Assessment (AMEC, 2004) Appendix A of the Focused Corrective Measures Study dated March 2004. This letter is to comment on the use of Theissen Polygons and forward iterative human health risk assessment methods as proposed. As you are aware, this is the first time that a proposal for this method of risk assessment has been presented for our review. The document indicates the process area is the only area which will be addressed by remediation.

At this time we do not feel that the method proposed for the onsite risk assessment is approvable under Wisconsin environmental regulations. The risk assessment method proposed divides the exposure duration amongst several polygons. We believe that some current and future workers at the property will most often spend their work day in specific areas or even specific polygons. Therefore, we do not feel that it is appropriate to assume that workers exposure duration can be divided amongst several polygons at the site (Will the announcement that Koppers will be closing the Superior operations change the reference future workers. Since the shutdown was to be effective April 19, there are will beno current other than those who will dismantle the operations to be exposed. It would seem the concern would be other uses the property will be put to in the future.)

In addition, there is no mechanism for controlling present or future work locations such that the assumption that the worker will divide their time between the various polygons making the application of the risk assumptions highly tenuous.

We also believe the method proposed use of the Theissen Polygons inappropriately leaves hotspots unaddressed which pose uncertain exposure risks. We are willing to review statistical averaging at the unit level after hot spots are addressed.

We do not believe the method proposed fits into the regulatory framework of the NR 700 Wis. Adm. Code Series. In particular Ch. NR 720 Wis. Adm. Code outlines specific procedures for responsible parties to follow when developing residual contaminant levels for soil.

As an alternate to the proposed method of human health risk assessment we suggest a unit specific residual contaminant level for each unit or a performance standard such as a cap or soil cover. Examples of units at the site include the Straw Bales Area or the Lead Track Area.

If you wish to propose a residual contaminant level we request that it be performed at each individual unit and not site wide. We would continue to allow the agreed upon rates for ingestion of soil, and days per year of exposure. Averaging of soil concentrations would be allowed such that the average cumulative excess cancer risk does not exceed  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  within units, and as long as any hotspot location does not exceed  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  cumulative excess cancer risk, assuming the standard risk assumptions allowed in NR 720.19 Wis. Adm. Code or the aforementioned agreed upon exposure assumptions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this report, should you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me at 715-392-0802.

Sincerely,  
NORTHERN REGION

James A. Hosch  
Hydrogeologist

Cc: John Robinson – Rhinelander  
Mark Gordon – RR/3  
Jeff Holden- BBL  
Brian Magee – AMEC  
Vicky Drake - Douglas County Health Department  
Bob Egan - EPA Region 5