

**United States Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Region IV**  
**POLLUTION REPORT**

**Date:** Thursday, October 26, 2006

**From:** David Dorian

**Subject:** Installation of Soil Vapor Extraction System

CTS of Asheville Superfund Site

235 Mills Gap Road, Asheville, NC

Latitude: 35.4933000

Longitude: -82.5063000

**POLREP No.:** 1 Site #: A4P5

**Reporting Period:** D.O. #:

**Start Date:** Response Authority:

**Mob Date:** Response Type: Time-Critical

**Demob Date:** NPL Status: NPL

**Completion Date:** Incident Category: Removal Action

**CERCLIS ID #:** Contract #

**RCRIS ID #:**

#### **Site Description**

The Site is located off Mills Gap Road, approximately 1 mile east of Skyland, Buncombe County, North Carolina and consists of approximately 9 acres of maintained grounds containing a large single-story building. In 1952, IRC, Inc. (IRC) bought the land for the Site and constructed the building which it then used for its electroplating operations. In 1959, IRC sold the Site to CTS, Inc. From 1959 until 1986, CTS operated an electroplating facility at the Site. The chemical compound trichloroethylene (a.k.a. trichloroethene or "TCE") was employed by IRC and CTS to clean and/or degrease metal objects prior to electroplating. In 1987, Mills Gap Road Associates (MGRA) purchased the Site and is the current owner.

The Site was identified during follow-up on a citizen complaint in July 1999, to the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR). High concentrations of chlorinated solvents were identified in two springs and one domestic well, located topographically down-gradient from the site. In August 1999, the NCDENR referred the Site to the U.S. EPA's Emergency Response and Removal Branch (ERRB) for removal eligibility consideration.

On August 20, 1999, the ERRB conducted a removal site evaluation in accordance with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 CFR §300.410 (Ref. 2). Conditions at the site, specifically contamination of potable drinking water supplies with chlorinated solvents, were found to pose a threat to public health or welfare or the environment. Consequently, bottled water was provided to the four households that had used the contaminated sources for potable water. Subsequently the affected residences were connected to the Asheville-Buncombe municipal water supply.

Analytical results derived from the samples collected from beneath the former CTS plant revealed elevated concentrations of VOCs (e.g. 830,000 micrograms/kg TCE), base neutral and acid extractable compounds (BNAs), and petroleum hydrocarbons, most likely #2 fuel oil. TCE was detected in all samples and was typically present at the highest concentrations relative to other chemical compounds identified. TCLP analysis of a selected sample collected from 32-34 feet below ground surface, near the watertable, resulted in a TCE result of 7.00 milligrams/liter (mg/L) compared to the regulatory level of 0.5 mg/L for the substance.

Following mitigation of the immediate threat posed by the contaminated springs and waterwell, EPA entered into negotiations with the identified Potentially Responsible Parties and executed an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) with CTS Corporation and Mills Gap Road Associates in January 2004. On-Site removal activities began in June 2004.

#### **Current Activities**

On June 12, 2006, the contractor for the PRP, MACTEC Engineering/Product Recovery Management,

began installation of the Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) system on the site.

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