

EPA SUPERFUND UPDATE – HURRICANE HARVEY

EVR-Wood Treating/Evangeline Refining Company

Post-Hurricane Harvey conditions of soil and groundwater at the EVR-Wood Treating/Evangeline Refining Company Superfund site is consistent with historical site conditions that existed before the hurricane made landfall.

On September 12, 2017, groundwater and soil samples were collected and analyzed for semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) and metals to evaluate the potential effects from Hurricane Harvey. Acetophenone, Benzaldehyde, Di-n-butyl phthalate, and Phenol were the only semi-volatile organic compounds detected in soil at 13 µg/kg, 67 µg/kg, 8.3 µg/kg, and 16 µg/kg, respectively. These values are below or within the range of values identified during recent Remedial Investigation (RI) sampling. Metals detected in soil were below or within the range of concentrations identified during recent RI sampling. No SVOCs were detected in the groundwater samples. The metals detected in groundwater samples were below or within the range of concentrations identified during recent RI sampling.

The site includes areas once occupied by the EVR-Wood Treating Company (EVR-Wood) and the Evangeline Refining Company (Evangeline). EVR-Wood operated a wood-treating facility preserving timber products (e.g., fence posts and lumber) from the 1940s into the 1980s. Refinery processes at Evangeline began in the late 1930s and ceased in the early 1980s. The site is a combination of contaminant sources and releases from operations that occurred at these facilities. Historical records indicate that some areas were utilized by both wood-treatment and refinery operations.

The site is currently in the Remedial Investigation (RI) stage. A complete investigation report along with a final Feasibility Study (FS) will be completed in December 2017 which will evaluate potential cleanup alternatives. The contaminants of potential concern include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), metals, and dioxins. EPA is currently working with the State of Louisiana to complete the RI/FS and develop a Proposed Plan and Record of Decision (ROD) that will outline the remedial alternative that will address the contaminants present at the site.

If the future remedy leaves contamination at the site, it will be evaluated during the Superfund Five-Year Review. EPA is responsible for reviewing Superfund remedial actions at least every five years where hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants will remain on-site above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) requires that EPA report to Congress regarding these sites. A Superfund Five-Year Review Report to Congress is prepared each fiscal year.