

EPA SUPERFUND UPDATE – HURRICANE HARVEY

Jones Road

Post-Hurricane Harvey conditions of groundwater and soil at the Jones Road Superfund site are consistent with historical site conditions that existed before the hurricane made landfall.

On September 13, 2017, groundwater samples were collected and analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) to evaluate the potential effects from Hurricane Harvey. No VOCs were detected in the groundwater samples. These results are consistent with the results from historic sampling.

The Jones Road Site is located in the northwest portion of Harris County, Texas. The source of the contamination is the former Bell Dry Cleaners (“Bell”) facility, which is located within the Cypress Shopping Center at 11600 Jones Road, approximately one-half mile north of the intersection of Jones Road and FM 1960, outside the city limits of northwest Houston, Texas. The hazardous substances present at the Site include tetrachloroethylene, also known as perchloroethylene (PCE), and related daughter products trichloroethylene (TCE), 1,2-dichloroethylene (DCE), and vinyl chloride (VC). The former Bell facility is located on property consisting of a rectangular parcel of land of approximately 2.1 acres in size improved with a one-story building (Cypress Shopping Center), which is about 30,870 square feet in size and contains approximately 10 tenant spaces. The former Bell facility was located on the western side of the building adjacent to Jones Road. The area around the Site is characterized by residential, commercial, and light industrial development. Commercial development is dominant along Jones Road with residential and limited commercial development along the side streets. Cypress Creek is located approximately one mile to the northwest of the Site, and White Oak Bayou is located approximately 3,500 feet to the south.

The First Five Year Review was completed on September 2017. 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.