

EPA SUPERFUND UPDATE – HURRICANE HARVEY

Sol Lynn/Industrial Transformers – Groundwater

Post-Hurricane Harvey condition of groundwater at the Sol Lynn/Industrial Transformers site is consistent with historical site conditions that existed before the hurricane made landfall.

On September 9, 2017 groundwater was collected and analyzed for volatile organic compounds to evaluate the potential effects from Hurricane Harvey. The compounds trichloroethylene, cis-1,2-dichloroethene, and vinyl chloride were detected at locations and concentrations consistent with historical (pre-Hurricane Harvey) sample data. Ongoing groundwater monitoring and five-year reviews are conducted. The site remedy is operating as intended, and the remedy will be protective of human health and the environment in the long term provided operation and maintenance activities, including the groundwater monitoring program.

The Sol Lynn/Industrial Transformers site (Sol Lynn site) is located at 1415, 1417, and 1419 South Loop West in Houston, Texas. The Sol Lynn site is the location of a former electrical transformer salvage and recycling company which operated between 1965 and 1975, and a chemical recycling and supply company which subsequently operated at the same location from 1979 through 1980. Soil and groundwater contamination resulted from operations conducted at these former companies. The remediation of contaminated soils at the Sol Lynn site was completed in April 1993. Following cleanup, operation and maintenance activities and monitoring have been ongoing.

The next site evaluation will be 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 last Five-Year Review for this site was completed in September, 2015. CERCLA also requires that EPA report to Congress regarding these sites. A Superfund Five-Year Review Report to Congress is prepared each fiscal year.