Current Status

A Work Plan for Additional Groundwater Assessment was approved on November 2, 2012, to implement a five-year groundwater monitoring plan at the property. On behalf of the General Dynamics Corporation, Brown and Caldwell submitted the Final 2016 Annual Report and Five-Year Data Review (Final Report) on March 30, 2017. ADEQ approved the Final Report on August 3, 2017. ADEQ concurs that monitored natural attenuation (MNA) has been demonstrated to be effective and no further remedy action is required under the condition that long-term monitoring of the contaminant plumes be continued and the plumes maintain a stable or decreasing trend.

State Priority List History

The ADEQ, through the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APC&EC), added the General Dynamics site to both the Investigative and Remediation categories of the State Priorities List on December 9, 2005. This measure was taken in order to investigate the extent of contamination and address and remediate any existing risks to human health and the environment, with the ultimate goal of returning the property to productive use.
Site Description

Location: The site is located within the city limits of East Camden, at the Airport Industrial Park. The address is 204 Ouachita 212, East Camden, Ouachita County.

Population: Estimated population of East Camden is 851.

Setting: The site is a vacant manufacturing facility located on approximately 52 acres. The current owner of the facility is Highland Industrial Park, also located in East Camden. The facility produced guidance and control sets for missiles and performed other electronic sub-assembly work. The facility was last operated by Hughes Missile Systems around 1994. General Dynamics sold the facility to the Ouachita County Public Facilities Board in 1995. The facility has remained vacant since that time.

Hydrology: The site is relatively flat and drains to the south/southwest into an unnamed stream which eventually drains into Blue Lake located to the south of the site.

Satellite Image of Facility
Waste and Volumes

Soil and groundwater at the site are contaminated (both on-site and off-site) primarily from TCE and 1,1-DCE. The extent of contamination in the groundwater is currently being monitored.

Health Considerations

Contaminant levels in groundwater exceeding the MCL could pose a potential risk to groundwater users in the area. Residents located near the facility may be exposed to organic vapors originating from the groundwater beneath their homes.

ADEQ Response Actions

ADEQ listed this site on the State Priority List to ensure the remediation of any risks to human health and the environment was conducted adequately. General Dynamics updated the risk assessment in February of 2012. ADEQ issued a Remedial Action Decision Document (RADD) in which discusses the selection of the most appropriate remedy for the General Dynamics site. No further action was selected for surface soils and subsoils based on the conclusions of the approved risk assessment determining that there is no risk to either human health or the environment. Deed restrictions prohibiting groundwater use and monitored natural attenuation (MNA) were selected as the groundwater remedies based on the conclusions of the risk assessment. A Consent Administrative Order (CAO) was entered into between General Dynamics and ADEQ on May 17, 2013 to implement the RADD. According to the CAO, General Dynamics would monitor the site for natural attenuation for five (5) years beginning in 2012. Annual groundwater reports were submitted to ADEQ. The Final Annual Report and Five-Year Review Data Evaluation were submitted on March 30, 2017. ADEQ approved the Final Report on August 3, 2017, and concurred to continue long-term monitoring until contaminant concentrations are below the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs).

ADEQ Anticipated Future Activities

Long-term groundwater monitoring will continue for TCE and 1,1-DCE at monitoring wells MW-16, MW-26, MW-27, and MW-29 starting in November 2018. Following the November 2018 event, if the data continue to demonstrate a stable or decreasing trend, the long-term monitoring plan will continue every four (4) years until concentrations of the contaminants are below the MCLs. In the event the data for the long-term monitoring suggest that the documented conditions have changed such that MNA does not maintain its effectiveness in groundwater, an evaluation will be made relative to the need for an alternative remedy for the Site and implementation of a contingency plan may be necessary.

Site Contacts

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Information Repository: None Officially Required