

ALABAMA HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE  
CLEANUP FUND

2003 ANNUAL REPORT



Alabama Department of  
Environmental Management

January 2004

## 2003 Response Activities

- **AHSCF General Management** Investigation and cleanup at six non-specific sites throughout the State.
- **Finley Road Battery Company** Administrative review.
- **Catalytic** Quarterly groundwater sampling and long-term monitoring activities.
- **Southern Tree Experts** Hydrogeologic review.
- **Aerovox M** Groundwater sampling and long-term monitoring activities.
- **Coliseum Boulevard Plume** Soil vapor and ambient air investigation, long-term groundwater monitoring, community outreach efforts.

## Enforcement, Expenditures and Cost Recovery

The recovery of cleanup and remediation cost for a site from the potentially responsible party is a major part of the Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund (AHSCF). Response actions at hazardous substance sites may be conducted by the potentially responsible party (PRP) with oversight by ADEM. However, if a PRP is unwilling or unable to conduct a cleanup, funds from the AHSCF may be used and cost recovery and punitive damages may be pursued after the cleanup is complete. In fiscal year 2003, cost recovery efforts from PRPs total \$62, 165.98. Total expenditures from the AHSCF were \$104, 096.87 from October 1, 2002 through September 30, 2003.



# About the Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund

The Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund (AHSCF) was established in 1989 by the Alabama Legislature to provide a mechanism for ADEM to investigate, remediate, and monitor hazardous substance sites. These sites may be an endangerment to human health and the environment, but may not be addressed by another federal or state cleanup program.

Generally, sites addressed utilizing AHSCF funds either are not qualified for, or are unlikely to receive cleanup funding under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, commonly referred to as "Superfund". Funding may also be used for long term maintenance and monitoring of sites which have historically been addressed under CERCLA. Since the inception of AHSCF, almost 300 sites have been addressed, with approximately 250 sites remediated to a point where no further action is warranted.

Funding for AHSCF activities is generated by legislative appropriations, fees from hazardous waste disposal at the Emelle hazardous waste landfill, and reimbursements from potentially responsible parties (PRPs). For fiscal year 2003, legislative appropriations and tax revenue totaled \$138,964.97.



# Site Specific Information

## **AHSCF GENERAL MANAGEMENT**

**Reference # 9000**

Functions not directly accountable to a specific site are contained in this category. These include, but are not limited to, the personnel and travel costs associated with conducting complaint investigations of sites which are not to be assigned a specific site number, administrative support for the purchase and repair of equipment utilized on all sites, and field sampling and safety supplies. General administrative functions, which address research and clerical support, are encompassed in this category, as are activities associated with the first reporting of potential sites. In addition, six small sites with waste streams compatible with larger sites were managed under this fund code. These six sites are as follows: Mobile county near Wilmer, Elmore county near Titus, as well as small drum or complaint sites in Sumter county near York, Washington county near Chatom, Madison county near Huntsville, and Calhoun county near Eastaboga.

## **FINLEY ROAD BATTERY COMPANY**

**Jefferson County**

**Reference # 9035**

The Finley Road Battery Company, also known as Key Battery Shop, is located at 1109 Finley Road, Birmingham, AL. This company bought used batteries and sold them to a secondary lead smelter known as Carley Lee Lead. Funds expended by the AHSCF were for administrative oversight.

## **CATALYTIC**

**Shelby County**

**Reference # 9107**

The Southern Company Drums/Catalytic Site is located on a four-acre site near Highway 25 North in Wilsonville, Alabama. The facility is adjacent to both the Gaston Electric Generating Plant and the Southern Company Services Power Systems Development Facility.



The facility operated from 1974 to 1992 performing research pilot testing for the production of a clean burning coal-derived liquefied fuel. Operations at the facility resulted in subsurface soil and groundwater contamination. The main contaminants found included volatile organic compounds and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons.

Site remedial activities for subsurface soils began in September 1997 and were completed in April 1998. Soil remediation was accomplished using a Low Temperature Thermal Desorption Rotary Kiln. Since the site posed a potential risk to area groundwater resources used for municipal drinking water supplies, a groundwater-monitoring plan detailing monitoring well placement, sampling methods, and sampling schedule was approved in December 1998. The groundwater-monitoring plan objective is to gather sufficient data to determine if natural attenuation of the groundwater contamination is a viable remedial option. ADEM received the first annual performance evaluation for the attenuation remediation plan in March 2003 and continues to review the long-term groundwater data.

## **SOUTHERN TREE EXPERTS**

**Jefferson County**

**Reference # 9241**

The Southern Tree Experts Company site is located at 340 Industrial Lane in Birmingham, Alabama. The site is located on approximately five acres of land, and consist of three main buildings. The bankrupt company operated as a tree surgery facility and also repaired lawn equipment and trucks. In July of 1998, ADEM inspected the closed facility and discovered numerous 55-gallon steel drums located at the rear of the facility within the property boundaries. The AHSCF provided funds to sample and characterize the materials for appropriate disposal. It also provided funds to install temporary groundwater monitoring wells to determine if groundwater contamination that had occurred at the site. A potential purchaser of the property provided for disposal of the drums and has conducted additional groundwater monitoring as stipulated in the Settlement Agreement for this site. Funds expended by the AHSCF this fiscal year were for administrative oversight.

## **AEROVOX M (AERO M, COOPER INDUSTRIES)**

**Madison County**

**Reference # 9269**

Aerovox M is a manufacturer of a specialty aluminum foil used in the fabrication of electrolytic capacitors. It is located at 2615 Memorial Parkway SW, Huntsville, Alabama on a six-acre property in the downtown area. Present owners of the property are the parent company, Cooper Industries. Cooper Industries is currently sampling twenty (20) deep and shallow wells located on the Aero M property to determine the presence of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in site soil and groundwater. The AHSCF supports monitoring and provides oversight of Cooper Industries sampling events, and the collection of samples from three (3) wells not located on site, but adjacent to it.



## **COLISEUM BOULEVARD PLUME**

**Montgomery County**

**Reference # 9273**

The Coliseum Boulevard Plume site encompasses 682 acres in north Montgomery experiencing underlying groundwater contamination resulting from historical solvent use by local commercial and industrial facilities. The site is generally bounded by Lower Wetumpka Road to the west, Emory Folmar Boulevard to the east, Northern Boulevard to the North, and CSX



Railroad to the south. The contaminant of concern is trichloroethylene (TCE) and related compounds resulting from its degradation. The impacted groundwater is at a depth of 25 to 45 feet and was found to be entering a surface water ditch.

During the past year Interim Corrective Measures for the East Coliseum Ditch Area were implemented. As part of the Interim Corrective Measures, the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) continues to conduct quarterly monitoring for TCE in surface water emanating from the west and main branches of the Kilby ditch. It appears that the Interim Corrective Measures are working as TCE concentrations in the Kilby ditch have decreased.



Also, ALDOT has completed its investigation on the Probe Hole 12 area, the most contaminated area in the site. ALDOT is currently studying alternatives for the remediation of TCE contamination in the Probe Hole 12 area, to include a pilot study test scheduled to begin by Spring 2004.

Additionally, the soil vapor investigation was completed at the site. The investigation entailed the placement of soil vapor and ambient air collection devices in the crawlspaces, soil and yards of 30 homes throughout the 682 acre area. Samples were analyzed for TCE and related breakdown products with no

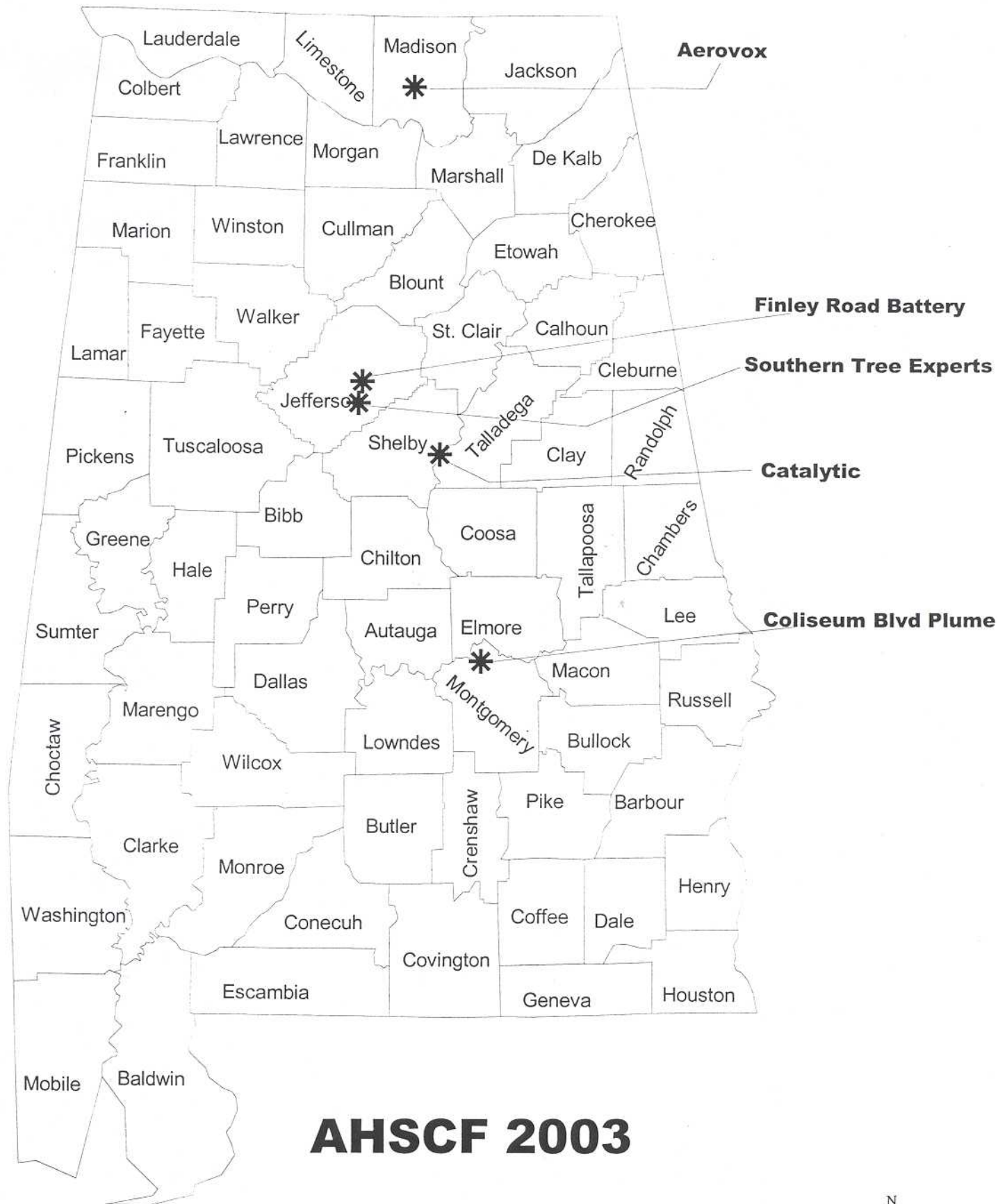
significant concentrations of TCE detected. No significant concentrations of TCE were detected in crawlspaces, soils or yards. Based upon the results of this investigation, soil vapors do not appear to be a problem at the site at this time.

Finally, the Community Outreach Group continues to meet on a regular basis. Three new replacement members were added during the past year.

AHSCF expenditures for 2003 are summarized below:

| <b>Site Name</b>         | <b>Action Taken</b>  | <b>Cost</b>         |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------|
| AHSCF General Management | Administrative, six non-specific sites   | \$23, 433.58        |
| Finley Road Battery      | Administrative review  | \$126.36            |
| Catalytic                | Groundwater sampling and long term monitoring  | \$263.11            |
| Southern Tree Experts    | Hydrogeologic review   | \$71.46             |
| Aerovox                  | Groundwater sampling and long term monitoring  | \$816.78            |
| Coliseum Blvd. Plume     | Soil vapor and ambient air investigation, groundwater monitoring, and community outreach | \$62, 546.35        |
| Laboratory Cost- Total   |  | \$16,839.23         |
| <b>Total Cost</b>        |  | <b>\$104,096.87</b> |





# AHSCF 2003



\* Alabama Hazardous Substance Clean Up Fund Site  
 □ Counties