

Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund 2019 Annual Report



Land Division
Environmental Services Branch

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Overview of the Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund

The Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund (AHSCF) was established in 1989 by act of the Alabama Legislature (Code of Alabama 1975, §22-30A) to provide a mechanism for ADEM to investigate, remediate, and monitor hazardous substance sites. These sites may potentially endanger human health and the environment, but may not qualify to be addressed by other federal or state cleanup programs.

Generally, sites addressed under AHSCF are not qualified for or are unlikely to receive cleanup funding under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), commonly referred to as "Superfund". AHSCF 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, 385 sites have been addressed, with 335 sites remediated to a point where no further action is required.

The Act allows the staff to respond to citizen complaints regarding improper disposal of hazardous substances and other toxic materials and provides right of entry in order to perform these investigations. After initial response to a site, remediation may occur under Superfund, the Hazardous Waste Program, or AHSCF, depending on the specific site conditions. If an initial response was performed under AHSCF, site activities are subsequently summarized in this report to ensure closure of each location.

Initial response actions are usually performed under the general management category. In addition to initial responses, other activities which fall under this category include, but are not limited to, personnel and travel costs associated with conducting complaint investigations of sites that are not assigned a specific site number, initial complaint investigations prior to having specific site numbers assigned to a site, administrative support for the purchase and repair of equipment utilized on all sites, and field sampling equipment and safety supplies. General administrative functions associated with research and clerical support are also included in this category. Two sites were addressed under the general administrative fund during Fiscal Year 2019.

Funding for AHSCF activities is generated by fees from hazardous waste disposal at the Chemical Waste Management hazardous waste landfill in Emelle, Alabama, and reimbursements from potentially responsible parties (PRPs). For fiscal year 2019, fee revenue were \$172,670.37.

2019 Response Activities

AHSCF General Management

Initial investigation of complaints prior to assigning site numbers, administrative support, field sampling, and acquisition of sampling and safety supplies are some of the activities performed under the general management category. Several sites were initially investigated utilizing the Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund (AHSCF). An initial site inspection was conducted for the New Harvest Church Drum site located at 4701 Virginia Loop Road, Montgomery, AL. A complaint was also investigated regarding a site in Brent, Alabama. The Brent Industries, a manufacturer of work gloves, burned several years ago and a concerned citizen complained that there might be hazardous materials on the site. The investigation verified that the EPA oversaw the initial cleanup of the site after the fire and no hazardous materials were left on the site. A solid waste issue regarding disposal of the former building materials is currently the subject of litigation between the owner and insurance companies.

Site Specific Information

AHSCF GENERAL MANAGEMENT

Statewide

Reference # 348-9000

Several sites were initially investigated under the auspices of the general management fund code. This fund code allows investigators to perform initial surveys of the sites to determine whether assigning a site specific fund code is applicable or if the site would be better managed under another program due to the prevailing circumstances. One such site investigated this past fiscal year was the New Harvest Church Drum site. This is a church which found a drum of unknown materials while cleaning up underbrush along their property line. The drum had no markings and appeared to be in relatively sound condition with no leaks. The site was referred to the Assessment Section personnel for sampling and further processing (see separate write-up). The second site, Brent Industries was a glove manufacturer located in the town of Brent, Alabama. A concerned citizen complained that people from the community were falling ill and blamed the former glove factory. The factory burned and has been under litigation between the owners and the insurance company. The US EPA provided oversight to the initial cleanup of the facility when the fire happened. Sampling was performed after the cleanup to ensure no residual contaminants were left in place. A solid waste issue exists with the debris of the former metal buildings, but no hazardous materials remain on the site.

Coliseum Boulevard Plume

Montgomery County

Reference #348-9273

The Coliseum Boulevard Plume (CBP) site, which encompasses 682 acres in north Montgomery, has experienced underlying groundwater contamination resulting from historic solvent usage by local commercial and industrial facilities. The site is bound by Lower Wetumpka Road on 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 the related compounds resulting from its degradation. The impacted groundwater is at a depth of 25 to 45 feet below ground surface and was found to be entering a surface water ditch.

Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) continues to conduct monitoring for TCE in surface water emanating from the west and main branches of the Kilby ditch. ALDOT also continues to perform groundwater monitoring to ascertain current levels of the

contamination and monitor natural attenuation progression. Finally, the Community Outreach group continues to meet on a regular basis. ADEM continues to provide oversight and reviewing of groundwater and surface water sampling performed by contractors for ALDOT at the CBP site.

New Harvest Church Drum Site Montgomery County Ref #348-9657

The New Harvest Church is located at 4701 Virginia Loop Road on the south side of Montgomery, Alabama. The church was cleaning and clearing off a fence line along the northern side of the property and found an unknown drum in the underbrush. Initial investigation included locating and observing the drum, checking for leaks, photographing and making sure it was not in danger of imminent release of materials. Assessment personnel along with Field Operations personnel took samples of the material in the drum. The materials were determined to be paint thinner type materials and currently bids are being solicited for removal and disposal at an appropriate disposal facility.



EXPENDITURES AND COST RECOVERY

AHSCF funds are used to investigate and remediate abandoned hazardous substance sites. If the responsible party is unwilling or unable to conduct an investigation or cleanup, funds from AHSCF may be used, and cost recovery and punitive damages may be pursued after the cleanup is complete. Total expenditures from the AHSCF were \$45,504.93 from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

Site Name	Action Taken	Cost
AHSCF General Management	Administrative, clerical support, initial investigations, equipment	\$34,697.80
9273 – Coliseum Boulevard Plume	Oversight of annual monitoring and report reviews	\$9,309.95
9657 – New Harvest Church Drum Site	Initial investigation, sampling of drum, coordination of removal	\$1,497.18
Total Cost	-----	\$45,504.93

Site Location Map

