



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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JAMES W. WARR

DIRECTOR

September 22, 2003

BOB RILEY

GOVERNOR

CERTIFIED MAIL # 7003 0500 0001 2707 2646

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Ronald J. Williams, Ph.D.
Vice President
Energy Research & Technology Applications
Tennessee Valley Authority
P. O. Box 1010
Muscle Shoals, Alabama 35662-1010

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**RE: Evaluation of Environmental Indicator (EI) Status
Tennessee Valley Authority-Power Service Center (TVA-PSC)
U.S. EPA I. D. No. AL2 640 090 005**

Dear Mr. Williams:

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM or the Department) has recently completed a qualitative evaluation of certain environmental conditions at Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA-PSC), in Muscle Shoals, Alabama. ADEM is pleased to provide you with a copy of this evaluation for your records.

While implementing the permitting requirements of the Alabama Hazardous Wastes Management and Minimization Act (AHWMMA) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended by the 1984 Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA), at TVA-PSC, ADEM is always cognizant of its role in protecting human health and limiting further migration of groundwater contamination. As such, the enclosed evaluation covers two specific issues regarding environmental contamination applicable to the facility and local community:

- 1) Plausible human exposure to soil, groundwater, air, and surface water contamination at or from the facility, and;
- 2) The continuing migration of contaminated groundwater, both on-site and off-site.

Please note that the purpose of this environmental indicator evaluation is solely to evaluate the status of the two environmental indicators discussed, and that it does not reduce or limit in any way the facility's obligation to perform any monitoring, maintenance, investigation, remediation, or other activity required pursuant to any applicable regulations, permits, or orders.

The enclosed environmental indicator evaluation should not be viewed as somehow separate and distinct from the corrective action activities at TVA-PSC. Rather, it is an evaluation of current environmental conditions and a focusing of efforts on potential concerns that ADEM, the facility and interested members of the public must work toward satisfying through implementation of the corrective action process at TVA-PSC. Therefore, every evaluation should conclude with a projection or outline of future actions to move the facility toward the point where human



Ronald J. Williams, Ph.D.
September 22, 2003
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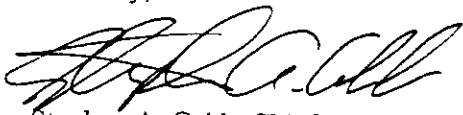
exposures and/or groundwater releases are controlled. It should be understood that the evaluations operate at the "facility level." In other words, **every area** at the facility must meet the control definition before human exposures or groundwater releases can be considered ^controlled.

To complete this EI memo, ADEM has based its evaluation on pertinent historical documents from the Department's TVA file. Because many different corrective action documents frequently exist at a facility, ADEM has tried to select the most pertinent documents from which to make its evaluation. The utilized source documents (titles and dates) are explicitly referenced in the evaluation to provide clarity and reproducibility. ADEM recognizes that the potential exists for current conditions at the facility to be somewhat different to that represented in the evaluation. Such discrepancies can be administratively managed during implementation of the ongoing corrective action process and subsequent re-evaluations.

In summary, the evaluation represents a "snap-shot" of the facility's environmental conditions at a particular point in time, and it is a dynamic document subject to revision. Because of the evaluation's focus on current environmental conditions, ADEM views the evaluation as an excellent resource for members of the public as well as the facility. ADEM hopes you find the evaluation useful and informative.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this evaluation, please contact Mr. Tim Wright of my staff at (334) 271-7789.

Sincerely,



Stephen A. Cobb, Chief
Governmental Hazardous Waste Branch
Land Division

SAC/STW/mal

Encl.: Environmental Indicator Memo

File: Land Div/Haz Waste/AL2640090005/TVA-PSC/Colbert County

MEMORANDUM

September 22, 2003

TO: Stephen A. Cobb, Chief *SAC*
Governmental Hazardous Waste Branch
Land Division

THROUGH: James W. Grassiano, Chief *JWG*
Engineering Services Section
Governmental Hazardous Waste Branch
Land Division

FROM: S. T. Wright *STW*
Engineering Services Section
Governmental Hazardous Waste Branch
Land Division

RE: Evaluation of status under RCRAInfo Corrective Action Environmental Indicator Event Codes (CA725 and CA750) for the Tennessee Valley Authority-Power Service Center (TVA-PSC) facility in Muscle Shoals, Colbert County, Alabama
USEPA Identification Number AL2 640 090 005

I. PURPOSE OF MEMO

This memo is written to formalize an evaluation of the status of TVA-PSC, in relation to the following corrective action event codes defined in the RCRAInfo database:

- 1) Current Human Exposures Under Control (CA725)
- 2) Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control (CA750)

Concurrence by the Governmental Hazardous Waste Branch Chief is required prior to entering these event codes into RCRAInfo. Your concurrence with the interpretations provided in the following paragraphs and the subsequent recommendations is satisfied by dating and signing at the appropriate locations within Attachments 1 and 2.

II. HISTORY OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR EVALUATIONS AT THE FACILITY AND REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

This particular evaluation is the third evaluation performed by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM or the Department) for the TVA-PSC Muscle Shoals facility. The previous evaluations were completed by ADEM on September 30, 1999 and September 6, 2002. The evaluation, and associated interpretations and conclusions on contamination, exposures and contaminant migration at the facility are based on information obtained from the following reference documents:

- *Power Service Center Groundwater Investigation, WR99-1-520-206, June 1999*
- Memo to TVA-PSC from ADEM dated December 10, 2001, *Groundwater Investigation Quarterly Report-SWMU 34*
- *RCRA Facility Assessment Report, TVA Muscle Shoals-Areas Not Previously Assessed* dated September 2000
- RCRA Permit, issuance date May 7, 2001, modified October 26, 2001 and October 15, 2002
- Interim Measure Work Plans, dated March 9, 2001 and November 26, 2001

- Interim Measure Reports, dated October 31, 2002, January 16, 2003 and September 15, 2003
- ADEM's approvals of IM corrective action remediation dated November 15, 2002, February 3, 2003 and September 22, 2003

III. FACILITY SUMMARY

Location

TVA-PSC is located just south of Wilson Dam on a 2,600 acre TVA reservation on the Tennessee River north of Muscle Shoals, Alabama. Muscle Shoals is located in northwestern Alabama in Colbert County and is about 100 miles northwest of Birmingham. The geographical location of the facility is 34° 47' 8.52" latitude and 87° 37' 32.31" longitude.

TVA-PSC is bounded on the north by the Tennessee River; on the east by Fleet Harbor embayment, River Road, and Wilson Dam Road; on the south by Alabama State Highway 184; and on the west by an L&N Railway right-of-way.

Site Description

At TVA-PSC, all operations (with exception of a machine shop located at Wilson Hydro Plant) reportedly take place within the secured confines of the facility. These activities consist of three separate TVA operations: Muscle Shoals Distribution Center (MSDC), Power Service Shops, and Power Systems Operations. The secured portion of TVA-PSC occupies approximately 70 acres and is located at the northeastern corner of the TVA reservation. To provide security and site access control, a six-foot high chain-link fence topped by three strands of barbed wire surrounds the entire contiguous TVA-PSC complex. All non-TVA personnel entering PSC are documented at a registration gate.

In addition, several TVA sites are located on roughly three acres situated outside of the current facility boundary. These sites are adjacent to the fenced PSC complex and were reviewed and noted in the September 2000 RFA Report. Specifically, these sites or areas include the Wilson Dam Powerhouse Area, Fleet Harbor, Heavy Equipment Division (HED), Rock Pile Park (camping area), and wooded areas.

TVA-PSC is located in a predominately urban setting. Land uses within one mile of the site include industrial, commercial retail, and residential. The nearest residences to the site are located about 500 feet to the east across Fleet Harbor embayment and about 500 feet south of the site on River Road.

TVA-PSC has 69 Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) and 8 Areas of Concern (AOCs) as defined in the RCRA permit. The primary contaminants of concern at the facility are PCBs, dielectric oils, metals, and paints/solvents.

IV. CONCLUSION FOR CA725

The appropriate status code to be entered for RCRAInfo event code CA725 (Current Human Exposures Under Control) is "YES". Based on the information documented in the September 2000 RFA Report, there were two SWMUs and one AOC that require confirmatory sampling (CS) to determine if contaminants of concern are present. Based on the Interim Measure Work Plans dated March 9, 2001 and November 26, 2001, TVA has completed corrective action remediation in these areas and documented these actions in the Interim Measure Reports dated

October 31, 2002, January 16, 2003 and September 15, 2003. Therefore, a "YES" status appears warranted at this time.

V. CONCLUSION FOR CA750

The appropriate status code to be entered for RCRAInfo event code CA750 (Migration of Groundwater Under Control) is "YES". In the *Power Service Center Groundwater Investigation-WR99-1-520-206* dated June 1999 and the final *Groundwater Investigation Quarterly Report for SWMU 34* dated November 26, 2001, TVA documented that there is no contaminated groundwater present on site nor is there an offsite contaminant plume. Therefore, a "YES" status appears warranted at this time.

- Attachments:
1. CA725: Current Human Exposures Under Control
 2. CA750: Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control

STW/TVA-PSC EI Memo

ATTACHMENT 1
DOCUMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR DETERMINATION
RCRA Corrective Action
RCRAInfo Event Code (CA725)
Current Human Exposures Under Control

Facility Name: Tennessee Valley Authority-Power Service Center
Facility Address: Muscle Shoals, Colbert County, Alabama
Facility EPA ID #: AL2 640 090 005

1. Has all available relevant/significant information on known and reasonably suspected releases to soil, groundwater, surface water/sediments, and air, subject to RCRA Corrective Action (e.g., from Solid Waste Management Units (SWMU), Regulated Units (RU), and Areas of Concern (AOC)), been considered in this EI determination?

If yes – check here and continue with #2 below,

If no – re-evaluate existing data, or

If data are not available skip to #6 and enter “IN” (more information needed) status code.

BACKGROUND

Definition of Environmental Indicators (for the RCRA Corrective Action)

Environmental Indicators (EI) are measures being used by the RCRA Corrective Action program to go beyond programmatic activity measures (e.g., reports received and approved, etc.) to track changes in the quality of the environment. The two EI developed to date indicate the quality of the environment in relation to current human exposures to contamination and the migration of contaminated groundwater. An EI for non-human (ecological) receptors is intended to be developed in the future.

Definition of “Current Human Exposures Under Control” EI

A positive “Current Human Exposures Under Control” EI determination (“YE” status code) indicates that there are no “unacceptable” human exposures to “contamination” (i.e., contaminants in concentrations in excess of appropriate risk-based levels) that can be reasonably expected under current land- and groundwater-use conditions (for all “contamination” subject to RCRA corrective action at or from the identified facility (i.e., site-wide)).

Relationship of EI to Final Remedies

While Final Remedies remain the long-term objective of the RCRA Corrective Action program the EI are near-term objectives which are currently being used as Program measures for the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, (GPRA). The “Current Human Exposures Under Control” EI are for reasonably expected human exposures under current land- and groundwater-use conditions ONLY, and do not consider potential future land- or groundwater-use conditions or ecological receptors. The RCRA Corrective Action program’s overall mission to protect human health and the environment requires that Final remedies address these issues (i.e., potential future human exposure scenarios, future land and groundwater uses, and ecological receptors).

Duration /Applicability of EI Determinations

EI Determinations status codes should remain in RCRAInfo national database ONLY as long as they remain true (i.e., RCRAInfo status codes must be changed when the regulatory authorities become aware of contrary information).

2. Are groundwater, soil, surface water, sediments, or air **media** known or reasonably suspected to be “contaminated”¹ above appropriately protective risk-based “levels” (applicable promulgated standards, as well as other appropriate standards, guidelines, guidance, or criteria) from releases subject to RCRA Corrective Action (from SWMUs, Rus or AOCs)?

Media	Yes	No	?	Rationale/Key Contaminants
Groundwater		X		
Air (indoors) ²		X		
Surface Soil (e.g., <2 ft)		X		
Surface Water		X		
Sediment		X		
Subsurface Soil (e.g., >2 ft)		X		
Air (outdoors)		X		

 X If no (for all media) - skip to #6, and enter “YE,” status code after providing or citing appropriate “levels,” and referencing sufficient supporting documentation demonstrating that these “levels” are not exceeded.

 If yes (for any media) - continue after identifying key contaminants in each “contaminated” medium, citing appropriate “levels” (or provide an explanation for the determination that the medium could pose an unacceptable risk), and referencing supporting documentation.

 If unknown (for any media) - skip to #6 and enter “IN” status code.

Rationale and Reference(s):

- *Phase I RCRA Facility Investigation Release Assessment Reports No. 1 and No. 2* dated August 1996 and March 1997, respectively
- *RCRA Facility Assessment Report, TVA Muscle Shoals-Areas Not Previously Assessed* dated September 2000
- RCRA Permit, issuance date May 7, 2001, modified October 26, 2001 and October 15, 2002
- Interim Measure Work Plans, dated March 9, 2001 and November 26, 2001
- Interim Measure Reports, dated October 31, 2002, January 16, 2003 and September 15, 2003
- ADEM’s approvals of IM corrective action remediation dated November 15, 2002, February 3, 2003 and September 22, 2003

¹“Contamination” and “contaminated” describes media containing contaminants (in any form, NAPL and/or dissolved, vapors, or solids, that are subject to RCRA) in concentrations in excess of appropriately protective risk-based “levels” (for the media, that identify risks within the acceptable risk range).

²Recent evidence (from the Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment, and others) suggest that unacceptable indoor air concentrations are more common in structures above groundwater with volatile contaminants than previously believed. This is a rapidly developing field and reviewers are encouraged to look to the latest guidance for the appropriate methods and scale of demonstration necessary to be reasonably certain that indoor air (in structures located above (and adjacent to) groundwater with volatile contaminants) does not present unacceptable risks.

3. Are there **complete pathways** between “contamination” and human receptors such that exposures can be reasonably expected under the current (land- and groundwater-use) conditions?

<u>Summary Exposure Pathway Evaluation Table</u>							
<u>Potential Human Receptors (Under Current Conditions)</u>							
<u>“Contaminated” Media</u>	<u>Residents</u>	<u>Workers</u>	<u>Day-Care</u>	<u>Construction</u>	<u>Trespassers</u>	<u>Recreation</u>	<u>Food¹</u>
<u>Groundwater</u>							
<u>Air (indoors)</u>							
<u>Soil (surface, e.g., <2 ft)</u>							
<u>Surface Water</u>							
<u>Sediment</u>							
<u>Soil (subsurface, e.g., >2 ft)</u>							
<u>Air (outdoors)</u>							

Instructions for Summary Exposure Pathway Evaluation Table:

1. For Media which are not “contaminated” as identified in #2, please strike-out specific Media, including Human Receptors’ spaces, or enter “N/C” for not contaminated.
2. Enter “yes” or “no” for potential “completeness” under each “Contaminated” Media -- Human Receptor combination (Pathway).

Note: In order to focus the evaluation to the most probable combinations some potential “Contaminated” Media - Human Receptor combinations (Pathways) do not have assigned spaces in the above table. While these combinations may not be probable in most situations they may be possible in some settings and should be added as necessary.

_____ If no (pathways are not complete for any contaminated media-receptor combination) - skip to #6, and enter “YE” status code, after explaining and/or referencing condition(s) in-place, whether natural or man-made, preventing a complete exposure pathway from each contaminated medium (e.g., use optional Pathway Evaluation Work Sheet to analyze major pathways).

_____ If yes (pathways are complete for any “Contaminated” Media - Human Receptor combination) - continue after providing supporting explanation.

_____ If unknown (for any “Contaminated” Media - Human Receptor combination) - skip to #6 and enter “IN” status code

Rationale and Reference(s):

¹Indirect Pathway/Receptor (e.g., vegetables, fruits, crops, meat and dairy products, fish, shellfish, etc.)

4. Can the **exposures** from any of the complete pathways identified in #3 be reasonably expected to be **“significant”**¹ (i.e., potentially “unacceptable” because exposures can be reasonably expected to be: 1) greater in magnitude (intensity, frequency and/or duration) than assumed in the derivation of the acceptable “levels” (used to identify the “contamination”); or 2) the combination of exposure magnitude (perhaps even though low) and contaminant concentrations (which may be substantially above the acceptable “levels”) could result in greater than acceptable risks)?

- _____ If no (exposures cannot be reasonably expected to be significant (i.e., potentially “unacceptable”) for any complete exposure pathway) - skip to #6 and enter “YE” status code after explaining and/or referencing documentation justifying why the exposures (from each of the complete pathways) to “contamination” (identified in #3) are not expected to be “significant.”
- _____ If yes (exposures could be reasonably expected to be “significant” (i.e., potentially “unacceptable”) for any complete exposure pathway) - continue after providing a description (of each potentially “unacceptable” exposure pathway) and explaining and/or referencing documentation justifying why the exposures (from each of the remaining complete pathways) to “contamination” (identified in #3) are not expected to be “significant.”
- _____ If unknown (for any complete pathway) - skip to #6 and enter “IN” status code

Rationale and Reference(s):

5. Can the “significant” **exposures** (identified in #4) be shown to be within **acceptable** limits?

- _____ If yes (all “significant” exposures have been shown to be within acceptable limits) - continue and enter “YE” after summarizing and referencing documentation justifying why all “significant” exposures to “contamination” are within acceptable limits (e.g., a site-specific Human Health Risk Assessment).
- _____ If no (there are current exposures that can be reasonably expected to be “unacceptable”)- continue and enter “NO” status code after providing a description of each potentially “unacceptable” exposure.
- _____ If unknown (for any potentially “unacceptable” exposure) - continue and enter “IN” status code.

Rationale and Reference(s):

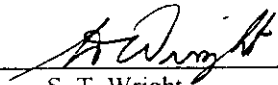
¹If there is any question on whether the identified exposures are “significant” (i.e., potentially “unacceptable”) consult a human health Risk Assessment specialist with appropriate education, training and experience.

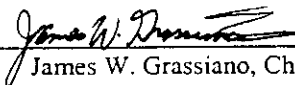
6. Check the appropriate RCRIS status codes for the Current Human Exposures Under Control EI event code (CA725), and obtain Supervisor (or appropriate Manager) signature and date on the EI determination below (and attach appropriate supporting documentation as well as a map of the facility):

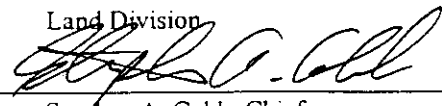
X YE - Yes, "Current Human Exposures Under Control" has been verified. Based on a review of the information contained in this EI Determination, "Current Human Exposures" are expected to be "Under Control" at the TVA-PSC facility, EPA ID # AL2 640 090 005, located in Muscle Shoals, Alabama under current and reasonably expected conditions. This determination will be re-evaluated when the Agency/State becomes aware of significant changes at the facility.

 NO - "Current Human Exposures" are NOT "Under Control."

 IN - More information is needed to make a determination.

Completed by: (signature)  (date) 9/22/03
S. T. Wright
Engineering Services Section
Governmental Hazardous Waste Branch
Land Division

Supervisor: (signature)  (date) 9/22/03
James W. Grassiano, Chief
Engineering Services Section
Governmental Hazardous Waste Branch
Land Division

Hazardous Waste:
Branch Chief (signature)  (date) 9/22/03
Stephen A. Cobb, Chief
Governmental Hazardous Waste Branch
Land Division

Location where References may be found:

Alabama Department of Environmental Management Main Office
1400 Coliseum Boulevard
Montgomery, Alabama 36110-2059
(334) 271-7700

Contact telephone number and e-mail address:

Tim Wright
(334) 271-7789
stw@adem.state.al.us

ATTACHMENT 2
DOCUMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR DETERMINATION
RCRA Corrective Action
RCRAInfo Event Code (CA750)
Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control

Facility Name: Tennessee Valley Authority-Power Service Center
Facility Address: Muscle Shoals, Colbert County, Alabama
Facility EPA ID #: AL2 640 090 005

1. Has all available relevant/significant information on known and reasonably suspected releases to the groundwater media, subject to RCRA Corrective Action (e.g., from Solid Waste Management Units (SWMU), Regulated Units (RU), and Areas of Concern (AOC)), been considered in this EI determination?

If yes - check here and continue with #2 below,

If no - re-evaluate existing data, or

If data are not available, skip to #8 and enter "IN" (more information needed) status code.

BACKGROUND

Definition of Environmental Indicators (for the RCRA Corrective Action)

Environmental Indicators (EI) are measures being used by the RCRA Corrective Action program to go beyond programmatic activity measures (e.g., reports received and approved, etc.) to track changes in the quality of the environment. The two EI developed to-date indicate the quality of the environment in relation to current human exposures to contamination and the migration of contaminated groundwater. An EI for non-human (ecological) receptors is intended to be developed in the future.

Definition of "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" EI

A positive "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" EI determination ("YE" status code) indicates that the migration of "contaminated" groundwater has stabilized, and that monitoring will be conducted to confirm that contaminated groundwater remains within the original "area of contaminated groundwater" (for all groundwater "contamination" subject to RCRA corrective action at or from the identified facility (i.e., site-wide)).

Relationship of EI to Final Remedies

While Final Remedies remain the long-term objective of the RCRA Corrective Action program the EI are near-term objectives which are currently being used as Program measures for the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, (GPRA). The "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" EI pertains ONLY to the physical migration (i.e., further spread) of contaminated ground water and contaminants within groundwater (e.g., non-aqueous phase liquids or NAPLs). Achieving this EI does not substitute for achieving other stabilization or final remedy requirements and expectations associated with sources of contamination and the need to restore, wherever practicable, contaminated groundwater to be suitable for its designated current and future uses.

Duration/Applicability of EI Determinations

EI Determinations status codes should remain in RCRAInfo national database ONLY as long as they remain true (i.e., RCRAInfo status codes must be changed when the regulatory authorities become aware of contrary information).

2. Is groundwater known or reasonably suspected to be "contaminated"¹ above appropriately protective "levels" (i.e., applicable promulgated standards, as well as other appropriate standards, guidelines, guidance, or criteria) from releases subject to RCRA Corrective Action, anywhere at, or from, the facility?

_____ If yes - continue after identifying key contaminants, citing appropriate "levels," and referencing supporting documentation.

 X If no - skip to #8 and enter "YE" status code, after citing appropriate "levels," and referencing supporting documentation to demonstrate that groundwater is not "contaminated."

_____ If unknown - skip to #8 and enter "IN" status code.

Rationale and Reference(s):

There is no contaminated groundwater onsite nor migrating offsite.
Power Service Center Groundwater Investigation WR99-1-520-206 dated June 1999
Final Quarterly Groundwater Investigation Report for SWMU 34 dated November 26, 2001
ADEM's approval of "no further action" memo to TVA-PSC dated December 10, 2001

3. Has the migration of contaminated groundwater stabilized such that contaminated groundwater is expected to remain within "existing area of contaminated groundwater"² as defined by the monitoring locations designated at the time of this determination?

_____ If yes - continue, after presenting or referencing the physical evidence (e.g., groundwater sampling/measurement/migration barrier data) and rationale why contaminated groundwater is expected to remain within the (horizontal or vertical) dimensions of the "existing area of groundwater contamination"⁶.

_____ If no (contaminated groundwater is observed or expected to migrate beyond the designated locations defining the "existing area of groundwater contamination"²) - skip to #8 and enter "NO" status code, after providing an explanation.

_____ If unknown - skip to #8 and enter "IN" status code.

Rationale and Reference(s):

¹"Contamination" and "contaminated" describes media containing contaminants (in any form, NAPL and/or dissolved, vapors, or solids, that are subject to RCRA) in concentrations in excess of appropriate "levels" (appropriate for the protection of the groundwater resource and its beneficial uses).

²"existing area of contaminated groundwater" is an area (with horizontal and vertical dimensions) that has been verifiably demonstrated to contain all relevant groundwater contamination for this determination, and is defined by designated (monitoring) locations proximate to the outer perimeter of "contamination" that can and will be sampled/tested in the future to physically verify that all "contaminated" groundwater remains within this area, and that the further migration of "contaminated" groundwater is not occurring. Reasonable allowances in the proximity of the monitoring locations are permissible to incorporate formal remedy decisions (i.e., including public participation) allowing a limited area for natural attenuation.

4. Does "contaminated" groundwater discharge into surface water bodies?

_____ If yes - continue after identifying potentially affected surface water bodies.

_____ If no - skip to #7 (and enter a "YE" status code in #8, if #7 = yes) after providing an explanation and/or referencing documentation supporting that groundwater "contamination" does not enter surface water bodies.

_____ If unknown - skip to #8 and enter "IN" status code.

Rationale and Reference(s):

5. Is the discharge of "contaminated" groundwater into surface water likely to be "insignificant" (i.e., the maximum concentration⁸ of each contaminant discharging into surface water is less than 10 times their appropriate groundwater "level," and there are no other conditions (e.g., the nature and number of discharging contaminants, or environmental setting) which significantly increase the potential for unacceptable impacts to surface water, sediments, or eco-systems at these concentrations)?

_____ If yes - skip to #7 (and enter "YE" status code in #8 if #7 = yes), after documenting: 1) the maximum known or reasonably suspected concentration⁸ of key contaminants discharged above their groundwater "level," the value of the appropriate "level(s)," and if there is evidence that the concentrations are increasing; and 2) providing a statement of professional judgement/explanation (or reference documentation) supporting that the discharge of groundwater contaminants into the surface water is not anticipated to have unacceptable impacts to the receiving surface water, sediments, or eco-system.

_____ If no - (the discharge of "contaminated" groundwater into surface water is potentially significant) - continue after documenting: 1) the maximum known or reasonably suspected concentration⁸ of each contaminant discharged above its groundwater "level," the value of the appropriate "level(s)," and if there is evidence that the concentrations are increasing; and 2) for any contaminants discharging into surface water in concentrations¹ greater than 100 times their appropriate groundwater "levels," providing the estimated total amount (mass in kg/yr) of each of these contaminants that are being discharged (loaded) into the surface water body (at the time of the determination), and identifying if there is evidence that the amount of discharging contaminants is increasing.

_____ If unknown - enter "IN" status code in #8.

Rationale and Reference(s);

¹As measured in groundwater prior to entry to the groundwater-surface water/sediment interaction (e.g., hyporheic) zone.

6. Can the **discharge** of “contaminated” groundwater into surface water be shown to be “**currently acceptable**” (i.e., not cause impacts to surface water, sediments or eco-systems that should not be allowed to continue until a final remedy decision can be made and implemented¹)?

_____ If yes - continue after either:

1) identifying the Final Remedy decision incorporating these conditions, or other site-specific criteria (developed for the protection of the site’s surface water, sediments, and eco-systems), and referencing supporting documentation demonstrating that these criteria are not exceeded by the discharging groundwater; OR

2) providing or referencing an interim assessment,² appropriate to the potential for impact, that shows the discharge of groundwater contaminants into the surface water is (in the opinion of trained specialists, including ecologists) adequately protective of receiving surface water, sediments, and eco-systems, until such time when a full assessment and final remedy decision can be made. Factors which should be considered in the interim assessment (where appropriate to help identify the impact associated with discharging groundwater) include: surface water body size, flow, use/classification/habitats and contaminant loading limits, other sources of surface water/sediment contamination, surface water and sediment sample results and comparisons to available and appropriate surface water and sediment “levels,” as well as any other factors, such as effects on ecological receptors (e.g., via bio-assays/benthic surveys or site-specific ecological Risk Assessments), that the overseeing regulatory agency would deem appropriate for making the EI determination.

_____ If no - (the discharge of “contaminated” groundwater can not be shown to be “**currently acceptable**”) - skip to #8 and enter “NO” status code, after documenting the currently unacceptable impacts to the surface water body, sediments, and/or eco-systems.

_____ If unknown - skip to 8 and enter “IN” status code.

Rationale and Reference(s):

7. Will groundwater **monitoring** / measurement data (and surface water/sediment/ecological data, as necessary) be collected in the future to verify that contaminated groundwater has remained within the horizontal (or vertical, as necessary) dimensions of the “existing area of contaminated groundwater?”

_____ If yes - continue after providing or citing documentation for planned activities or future sampling/measurement events. Specifically identify the well/measurement locations which will be tested in the future to verify the expectation (identified in #3) that groundwater contamination will not be migrating horizontally (or vertically, as necessary) beyond the “existing area of groundwater contamination.”

_____ If no - enter “NO” status code in #8.

_____ If unknown - enter “IN” status code in #8.

Rationale and Reference(s):

¹Note, because areas of inflowing groundwater can be critical habitats (e.g., nurseries or thermal refugia) for many species, appropriate specialist (e.g., ecologist) should be included in management decisions that could eliminate these areas by significantly altering or reversing groundwater flow pathways near surface water bodies.

²The understanding of the impacts of contaminated groundwater discharges into surface water bodies is a rapidly developing field and reviewers are encouraged to look to the latest guidance for the appropriate methods and scale of demonstration to be reasonably certain that discharges are not causing currently unacceptable impacts to the surface waters, sediments or eco-systems.

8. Check the appropriate RCRIS status codes for the Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control EI (event code CA750), and obtain Supervisor (or appropriate Manager) signature and date on the EI determination below (attach appropriate supporting documentation as well as a map of the facility).

X YE --Yes, "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater Under Control" has been verified. Based on a review of the information contained in this EI determination, it has been determined that the "Migration of Contaminated Groundwater" is "Under Control" at the TVA-PSC facility, EPA ID # AL2 640 090 005, located in Muscle Shoals, Alabama. Specifically, this determination indicates that the migration of "contaminated" groundwater is under control, and that monitoring will be conducted to confirm that contaminated groundwater remains within the "existing area of contaminated groundwater" This determination will be re-evaluated when the Agency becomes aware of significant changes at the facility.

___ NO - Unacceptable migration of contaminated groundwater is observed or expected.

___ IN - More information is needed to make a determination.

Completed by: (signature) S. T. Wright (date) 9/22/03
S. T. Wright
Engineering Services Section
Governmental Hazardous Waste Branch
Land Division

Supervisor: (signature) James W. Grassiano (date) 9/22/03
James W. Grassiano, Chief
Engineering Services Section
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Hazardous Waste:
Branch Chief (signature) Stephen A. Cobb (date) 9/22/03
Stephen A. Cobb, Chief
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Location where References may be found:

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