



COMMUNITY UPDATE INFORMATION SHEET

CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site

Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina

June 2015

EPA is committed to keeping the community informed about activities related to the CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site. Community Updates will be published as needed and will summarize the present status, future activities, and community involvement opportunities. Historical information has been presented in previous editions.

Page 1:

- **Springs Removal Action Update**

Page 2:

- **Figure 1 - TCE Concentrations in Air Sampling**
- **Figure 2 - Springs Area Sampling Locations**

Page 3:

- **NAPL FFS**
- **Water Line Construction**
- **Future Sampling**
- **Conceptual Site Model**

Page 4:

- **Contact Information**

The CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site (CTS site) is located on Mills Gap Road in Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina, and also includes the areal extent of contamination. It is in an area known as Skyland, which is approximately 5 miles south of Asheville. The former facility is bordered by Mills Gap Road to the north, and by residences and undeveloped land to the east, south, and west. The primary contaminant associated with the CTS Site is trichloroethene (TCE).

SPRINGS REMOVAL ACTION UPDATE

EPA required CTS Corporation to conduct a removal action at the springs area east of the CTS Site to reduce the concentrations of TCE in the air. The remediation system includes a combination of air sparging and vapor extraction. Air sparging pumps air into the surface water and subsurface at 7 locations. These vapors are extracted using vacuums at 12 locations and then treated by carbon canisters. The area was covered with a low density polyethylene liner to increase the system's efficiency. EPA has made [A Citizen's Guide to Soil Vapor Extraction and Air Sparging](#) available on the internet that further describes those processes.

CTS's contactor, AMEC, began construction of the system on September 10, 2014 and the system has been operational since October 21, 2014. The system has been very effective at reducing the TCE concentrations in air. Figure 1 (page 2) shows the reductions in air concentrations pre- and post-system operation at 8 monitoring locations in the springs area. The air monitoring locations are shown on Figure 2 (page 2). While the system was primarily designed to reduce TCE concentrations in air, the system has also greatly improved the surface water quality. TCE concentrations in the surface water coming out of the springs area were approximately equal to 30,000 parts per billion (ppb) before the remediation system was installed. TCE concentrations in surface water exiting the remediation system now are approximately 30 ppb, a 99.9% reduction. After 6 months of operation, the remediation system has removed approximately 42 lbs of volatile organic compounds from the environment.

Indoor, crawlspace and outdoor air monitoring was conducted in the springs area in November 2014; and in January, February, March and April of 2015. All analytical results show that the vapors in the air are below EPA's action level of 2 ug/m³, which is protective of human health. Air monitoring at the springs area will now be done on a quarterly basis, rather than monthly. The next air monitoring event is scheduled for July 2015. The remediation system is also monitored to ensure all equipment continues to operate properly.

**TCE Concentrations in Air Samples Collected in the Area of the Springs
Mills Gap Road Groundwater Contamination Site
Asheville, North Carolina
Amec Foster Wheeler Project 6690-03-9450**

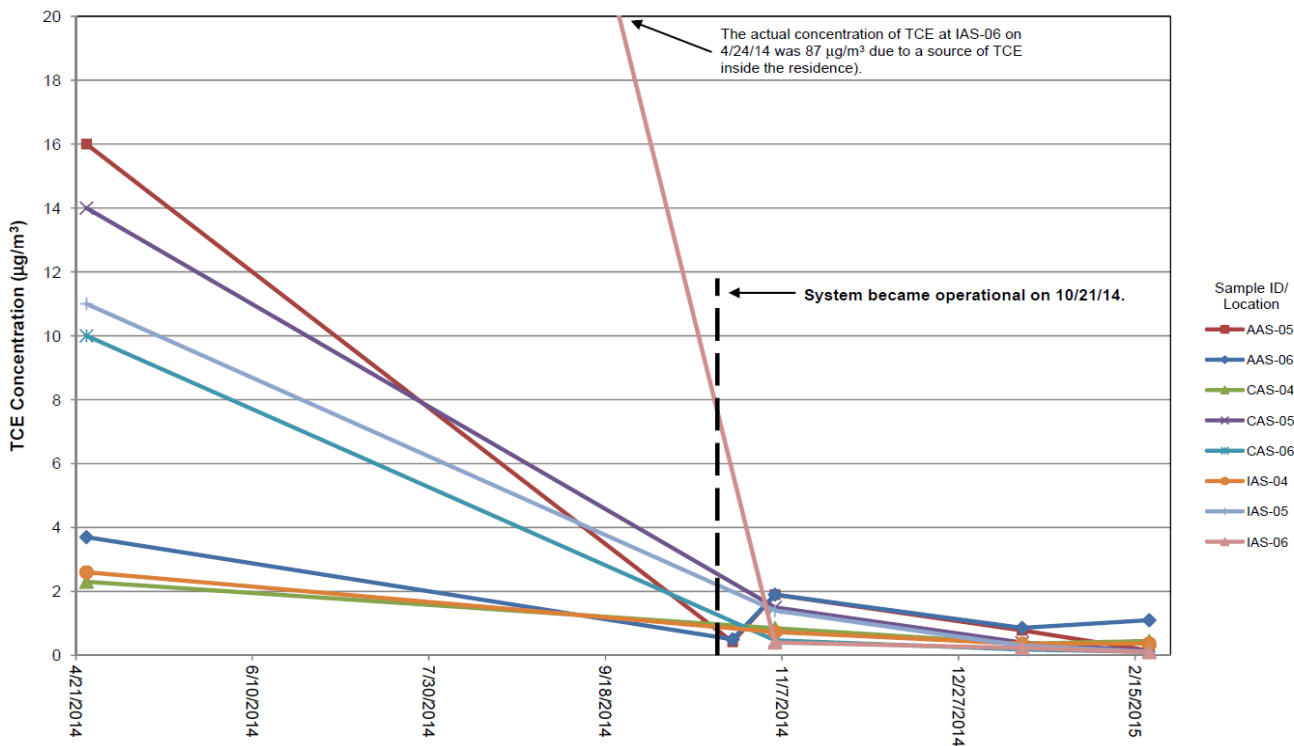


FIGURE 1

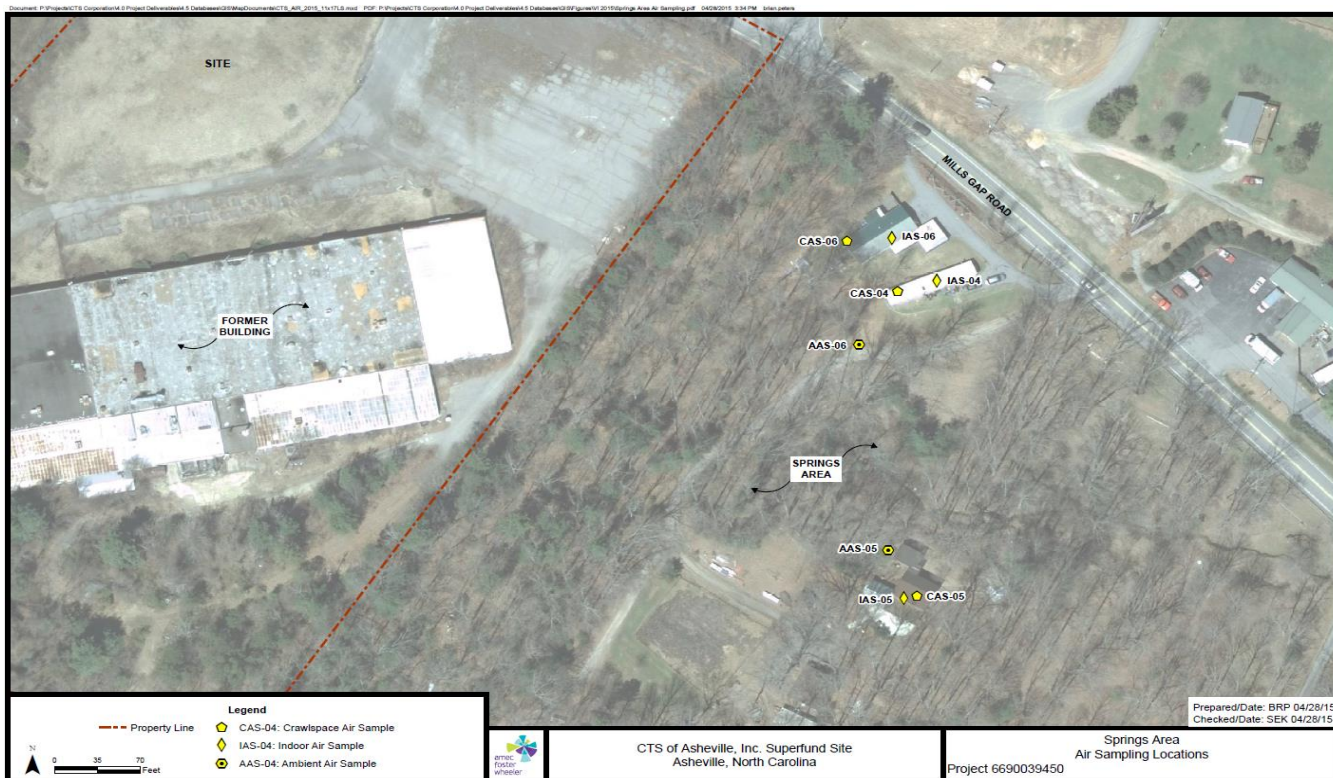


FIGURE 2

NAPL AREA FOCUSED FEASIBILITY STUDY

The Focused Feasibility Study (FFS) effort deals with the residual Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (NAPL) source material present in the groundwater underneath the approximate 9 acre CTS site. The FFS will evaluate 4 cleanup strategies for TCE that have proven successful at other sites. In general, these remediation alternatives involve: 1) NAPL and groundwater recovery/treatment; 2) In-Situ Chemical Oxidation; 3) Surfactant Flushing; and 4) Electrical Resistance Heating. For further information on these technologies please visit:

http://www.epa.gov/tio/download/citizens/citizens_guide_to_cleanup_technologies.pdf. Site specific data has been collected to evaluate the potential success of these remedies at the CTS site. AMEC will submit the FFS to EPA in July 2015. Once EPA reviews and approves the FFS, EPA will release the FFS and a Proposed Plan for the public to review. The Proposed Plan will notify the public of EPA's preferred cleanup alternative. EPA will hold a public meeting to discuss the Proposed Plan and solicit public comments on this plan. EPA expects to issue the Proposed Plan for the NAPL source area during the Fall of 2015. After the comment period, EPA will finalize the selected remedy in a Record of Decision (ROD) that is anticipated in Winter 2015/2016. Depending on the technology selected, design and construction of the NAPL source area remedy could begin as early as Spring 2016. **Please note that dates may change from previous projected schedule.**

WATER LINE CONSTRUCTION/WELL WATER SAMPLING

Buncombe County completed construction of the CTS Water Line Extension in March 2015. As homes were connected to the municipal water supply, AMEC and Culligan coordinated with home owners to remove the whole-house well water filtration systems that were previously installed. Fourteen home owners within the one-mile radius of the site declined to be connected to the municipal water supply. These homes will remain on the filtration systems, and their well water will continue to be tested annually. Treated water from the home filtration systems continues to show that volatile organic compounds including TCE have not been detected above drinking water standards. The next drinking water well sampling event is scheduled for July 2015.

FUTURE SAMPLING - WESTERN AREA SITE INVESTIGATION

EPA issued a letter to the Southside Village (SSV) Homeowners Association on March 9, 2015, that concluded EPA does not believe that contamination associated with the CTS site poses unacceptable risks to residents of SSV. This finding was based on existing data for the western side of the CTS site and portions of SSV. EPA requested that CTS expedite additional data collection from the western area and SSV to fill any data gaps. CTS agreed and submitted a proposal to EPA in early April for additional sampling of air, groundwater, surface water, and sediments. AMEC followed up with a complete work plan submittal to EPA in late May. Access authorizations to collect this additional data have been received from SSV and an adjacent property owner. Field work is tentatively scheduled to start the week of June 29, 2015, with the collection of air, surface water and sediment samples. Rapid characterization of the groundwater will follow using a more mobile direct push rig. Permanent monitoring wells will be installed in July/August, pending drill rig availability. **Please note that dates may change from previous projected schedule.**

CONCEPTUAL SITE MODEL

EPA has released a Conceptual Site Model (CSM) for the CTS Site. A CSM provides a "big picture" graphic illustration of the important contaminant sources and transport pathways in the environment. The complete EPA CSM is attached to this community update. The CSM shows the suspected TCE (NAPL) source areas and distribution of the dissolved phase TCE plume in the subsurface **based on currently existing information**. It is important to note that a CSM is dynamic, and the development is iterative. A CSM will change as new data is collected, and our understanding of the site increases.

Contact Information

EPA

Angela Miller

Community Involvement Coordinator
404.562.8561 (office)
678.575.8132 (cell)
MILLER.ANGELA@EPA.GOV

Craig Zeller

Remedial Project Manager
404.562.8827 (office)
404.273.7072 (cell)
ZELLER.CRAIG@EPA.GOV

NCDENR

Nile Testerman

919.707.8339
NILE.TESTERMAN@NCDENR.GOV

NCDHHS

Sandy Mort

919.707.5912
SANDY.MORT@DHHS.NC.GOV

Buncombe County

Mandy Stone

Assistant County Manager
828.250.5587
MANDY.STONE@BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG

Mike Goodson

(Managing CTS Water Line Extension Project)
828.250.4854
MIKE.GOODSON@BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG

Culligan

828.251.2420
CULLIGANWNC@BELLSOUTH.NET

Community Groups

Concerned Citizens for Mills Gap Cleanup

Glen Horecky
GEH4@MSN.COM

TAG Recipient:

POWER Action Group

Lee Ann Smith
UPTHISHILL@BELLSOUTH.NET

Information Repository

EPA has established an information repository for the public to review some of the documents related to the Site and the Superfund program. The local repository does not include all documents related to the Site. Additional documents may be made available by EPA upon request. The local information repository is located at the:

Pack Memorial Library
67 Haywood Street
Asheville, North Carolina 28801-2834

EPA Website

EPA has a website specifically for the CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site. The website address is:
<http://www.epa.gov/region4/superfund/sites/npl/northcarolina/millsgapnc.html>

NCDHHS Website

The State Center for Health Statistics of the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services has completed an updated cancer study for the community within 1-mile radius of the CTS NPL site. The report will be available soon at http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/oe/hace/by_site.html#cts.

Websites created by community members

- Clean Asheville: <http://cleanasheville.info>
- POWER Action Group: <http://poweractiongroup.org>

Previous Community Updates include historical information. Updates published from May 2012 until the present are available upon request