

RCRA FACILITY FACT SHEET

FMC Corporation – Former Coke Plant, Kemmerer, Wyoming

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FACILITY BACKGROUND

FMC Corporation (FMC) operates a closed hazardous waste landfill containing 57,660 cubic yards of K087 hazardous waste covering approximately 4.3 acres at the former Kemmerer Coke Plant, owned by Astaris LLC. This closed hazardous waste landfill is a RCRA regulated unit and operates under Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) Permit for Hazardous Waste Management Facility – Post Closure Care and Corrective Action Permit No. WYD069811404, first issued to FMC on October 8, 1997. A renewal permit was issued in December 2005.

In 1960 FMC purchased approximately 700 acres of undeveloped land in rural Lincoln County 5 miles south of Kemmerer, Wyoming and built a facility to manufacture metallurgical coke from western sub-bituminous coal using a propriety process. The raw material used (non-coking coal), the methods used and the resulting waste products were unlike those normally associated with coke formation. During the plants active phase, the plant generated 100,000 tons of coke per year for use offsite.

The process produced a hazardous waste, K087 decanter tank sludge, until the process was modified to eliminate this waste stream. Decanter tank sludge had been disposed on site in Waste Material Management Units (WMMUs) until 1988, when the hazardous wastes were consolidated into a Hazardous Waste Landfill in the southeastern portion of the property. The Hazardous Waste Landfill was subsequently closed in 1989. The closed Hazardous Waste Landfill is a RCRA regulated unit requiring the WDEQ Permit for a Hazardous Waste Management Facility.

In April 2000, FMC transferred its property and production assets to Astaris LLC, a limited liability Corporation in which FMC owns 50% of the stock. Astaris operated the proprietary coke production process until 2001, when Astaris ceased operation. Astaris began demolition of the production units on July 01, 2002 and completed removal of all above grade production equipment on September 30, 2002.

While Astaris continues to own the property, FMC has continued to operate the closed Hazardous Waste Landfill and be responsible for compliance associated with the Hazardous Waste Management Facility. A RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) report was submitted to the WDEQ in April 2000. Subsequently, FMC applied to WDEQ on March 26, 2003 and requested participation into the State of Wyoming's Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) for the former Kemmerer Coke Plant. FMC was accepted into the VRP program on June 13, 2003. The current VRP area encompasses 283 acres of land potentially impacted by coke processing areas and active plant areas. Excluded from the VRP are the open buffer zones of natural undisturbed space and an industrial landfill that is administrated separately under a Solid Waste Permit. In September 2003,

As of 2007, FMC and the WDEQ are currently working cooperatively on finalizing site characterization activities. Once final site characterization activities have been completed, a final Risk Assessment Work Plan and a final Site Characterization Report will be submitted to WDEQ for review.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Chemicals of concern have been identified in several areas around the site. Contaminated soil and groundwater areas have been confirmed in the former process area, former tarry water pond, run-off diversion ditches, waste water pond along with possible off-site contamination located on the Pittsburg and Midway property located east of the former plant site. Chemicals of concern identified include phenolic compounds, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), trichloroethane, catechols and select metals. Currently, FMC is nearing completion of the site characterization activities and has demonstrated compliance with the post closure and corrective action requirements specified in the permit. A final Site Characterization Report will be submitted in September 2008.

CORRECTIVE ACTION OVERVIEW

Investigative and remedial efforts at the site have been conducted pursuant to both the State of Wyoming's VRP and RCRA. The chronology of these efforts is summarized as follows:

1960 - FMC purchased approximately 700 acres of undeveloped land in Lincoln County, Wyoming five miles south of the town Kemmerer and built a metallurgical coke facility. The process produced a hazardous waste, K087 decanter tank sludge, until the process was modified to eliminate the waste stream. Waste was collected in the tarry water pond for evaporation.

1984 - FMC altered the manufacturing process to eliminate the generator of K087 hazardous waste and proceeded with plans for closing the upper and lower tar pits and the tarry water pond under RCRA interim-status guidelines (40 CFR 265, Subpart G).

1985 - A closure plan for the tarry water pond and tar pits was submitted for review to EPA Region VIII

1987 - EPA modified and approved FMC closure plan. FMC completed the initial design for the construction of the Hazardous Waste Management Unit (HWMU).

1988-1989 - Closure activities for the tar pits and tarry water pond were completed and closure was certified by the resident engineer and independent professional engineer on December 04, 1989.

1992 - EPA Permit, ID No: WYD069811404 - Post Closure and Corrective Action Permit issued to FMC for a Hazardous Waste Management Facility.

1993 - EPA Permit, ID No: WYD069811404 issued to FMC for a Hazardous Waste Management Facility. Issuance of the 1993 Permit supersedes EPA Permit issued 1992.

2000 - Draft Final RFI Report submitted to the WDEQ for WMMU 8, WMMU 9 and WMMU 10.

2003 - EPA Post Closure and Corrective Action Permit expires.

2004 - Permit Application for the Hazardous Waste Management Facility, Post Closure and Corrective Action submitted January 2004.

2005 - WDEQ Permit Reissuance for the Hazardous Waste Management Facility, Post Closure Care and Corrective Action. Includes provisions with the VRP program and the preliminary Remediation Agreement (PRA)

VRP Phase I Technical Memorandum received to the WDEQ.

2006 :Phase II Technical Memorandum submitted to the WDEQ for site investigation around the former process area and potential off site contamination.

- April 2006: Draft CAMU Application submitted to the WDEQ.
- February 2007: 2006 Annual Groundwater Report received.
- May 2007: Off-site soil investigation was completed on May 11, 2008
- May 2007 :WDEQ Conditional Approval of the March 2000 RFI Report
- May 24, 2007: WDEQ review comments for the Phase 2 Tech Memo Review Comments
- August 2007: FMC submits Work Plan addressing proposed changes to groundwater monitoring for the fall 2007 monitoring event.
- August 2007: FMC submits Work Plan to investigate TCE contaminated groundwater under the former process area.
- October 2007: off-site soil investigations in Section 7 and TCE source area investigation take place.
- January 2008: Draft 2007 RCRA Annual Groundwater Report received. WDEQ review comments were mailed on March 18, 2007.
- May 2008: The public hearing for the UCA designation was completed. The UCA was enacted by the Lincoln County commissioners at the May 07, 2008 public hearing.
- September 2008: The final Site Characterization Report and Draft Risk Assessment Work Plan are planned to be submitted to WDEQ in September 2008.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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