

October 2, 2017

Industrial Road/Industrial Metals

Sampling

On September 12, 2017, surface soil was collected and analyzed for chemicals of concern (COCs) associated with the site to evaluate potential effects from Hurricane Harvey. The COCs at the site include metals and poly-chlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The analytical results for the soil were either below detection levels or below applicable protective concentration levels. The remedial action for the site is operating as intended and site conditions are protective of human health and the environment.

Site Background

The Industrial Road/Industrial Metals site in Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas operated from 1937 to mid-1980 as a metal salvage facility that dealt mainly in lead acid batteries and copper coils removed from electrical transformers.

In 1981, an investigation at the site revealed piles of cracked batteries, whole batteries, and lead stored in an area of one to two acres in size. At that time, the county health department recommended that the old acid neutralization pit be covered or drained, battery cases removed, and the site sampled for heavy metals. The sampling revealed high levels of both lead and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) that impacted approximately 1,500 cubic yards of soils.

A closure plan was approved by the State of Texas that called for the removal of contaminated soil and construction of clay and concrete caps over the remediated areas. Responsible parties completed the cleanup in 1990. During subsequent soil investigations, high concentrations of lead were discovered in the soil on an adjacent railroad right-of-way. In 2014, the TCEQ performed an immediate removal action consisting of excavation and offsite disposal of approximately 1,853 cubic yards of lead-contaminated soils. The excavated areas were then backfilled with clean soil.

Next steps

All remedial action has been completed at the site. TCEQ will continue to conduct maintenance inspections to verify the integrity of the containment cells and caps and the surrounding fence.