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Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for Maywood, New Jersey



U.S. Department of Energy



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION II

JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10278-0012

FEB - 3 1995

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Mr. Andrew T. Fede, Esq.
Contant, Scherby & Atkins
33 Hudson Street
Hackensack, NJ 07601

Dear Mr. Fede:

Thank for your letter of December 19, 1994, on behalf of the Mayor and Council for the Borough of Maywood expressing concern for the drummed materials currently located on various properties of the Maywood Superfund Site within the Borough. These materials resulted from remedial investigation activities performed by CH2M Hill on behalf of Stepan Company on several properties of the site.

The drums contain materials typical to most site investigations such as: drill cuttings, groundwater removed from wells during development and sampling, used personnel protective equipment, water and trace amounts of materials (methanol and dilute nitric acid) used to decontaminate field equipment, and disposable sampling equipment.

As authorized by Stepan Company, CH2M Hill constructed container storage areas for the drums located on the Sears and SWS/AMP properties. Details of the construction are enclosed. The purpose of the container storage area program is to secure the containers in a manner that will prevent releases to the environment. Additionally, these areas have been enclosed by a five-foot high chain-link with a locking gate to prevent inadvertent access. Placards reading "Keep Out - Authorized Personnel Only" have been placed on each fence.

Containers from investigations on the Stepan facility itself are stored on concrete and asphalt covered areas. As you are aware, this property is completely fenced and maintains 24 hour security.

Materials previously stored on the Gulf property have been removed and disposed of, apparently by the property owner.

Management of the remaining materials on the Sunoco and Federal Express properties are under discussion with the affected property owners.

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Based on the above, EPA does not believe that these drums "pose an obvious health hazard" as you state. The storage program is temporary in nature, and, in the interim, is sufficient to prevent releases of materials to the environment and to protect public health until final removal of the drums which will be best addressed during future remedial actions.

If you have any questions, or wish further assistance from EPA in this matter, please let me know or contact Robert J. Wing, Chief, Federal Facilities Section at (212) 264-8670.

Sincerely yours,

Kathleen C. Callahan, Director
Emergency and Remedial Response Division

Enclosure

cc: Congressman Robert G. Torricelli
William P. Schuber, Bergen County Executive
T. Grumbly, DOE
Hon. John A. Steuert, Jr. and Council
N. Marton, NJDEP
J. Bartlett, Stepan Company
D. Adler, DOE

Container Storage Area
Construction Details

- Areas for construction were cleared of debris and stones and a two-inch thick lift of stone dust was placed on the prepared surface;
- A geotextile fabric was placed on the prepared surface and a secondary containment area consisting of bolted, wooden landscape ties was constructed;
- Once the containment area was constructed, the containers were placed within the containment area covered with a polypropylene tarp. The tarp was secured to the top of the landscape ties to prevent the accumulation of rainwater within the containment area.
- A perimeter, five-foot high chain-link fence equipped with a locking gate was installed around each container storage area. Placards reading "Keep Out - Authorized Personnel Only" have been placed on each fence.