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# SUPERFUND PROPOSED PLAN FACT SHEET

## ABC ONE-HOUR CLEANERS OPERABLE UNIT #2: SOIL JACKSONVILLE, ONSLOW COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

May 1994

### INTRODUCTION

This fact sheet is one in a series designed to inform residents and local officials of the ongoing cleanup efforts at the ABC One-Hour Cleaners Superfund Site. Most words appearing in **bold** print are defined in a glossary at the end of this publication.

This Proposed Plan fact sheet has been prepared by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region IV (EPA) to propose a cleanup plan, referred to as a preferred alternative, to address soil contamination at the ABC One-Hour Cleaners Superfund Site (the Site) located in Jacksonville, North Carolina. As the lead Agency EPA has worked in conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources (NCDEHNR) for oversight of the remedial activities at the Site. In accordance with Section 117(a) of the **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, SARA 1986,** EPA is publishing this Proposed Plan to provide an opportunity for public review and comment on all of the cleanup options under consideration for the Site.

**The purpose of this Proposed Plan is to:**

1) Summarize the results of the **Remedial Investigation (RI);**

2) Describe the remedial alternatives considered in the **Feasibility Study (FS)** Report;

3) Identify the preferred alternative for the remedial action at the Site and explain the reasons for the preference;

4) Encourage public review of and solicit comments on all the remedial alternatives described during a 30-day public comment period (5/16/94 - 6/15/94); and

5) Provide information on how the public can be involved in the remedy selection process.

*[This fact sheet has been prepared as a method of providing information concerning on-going activities at the Site, not as a technical document.]*

### PUBLIC MEETING FOR ABC ONE-HOUR CLEANERS SITE

The EPA will hold a public meeting to discuss EPA's Proposed Plan for cleanup at the ABC One-Hour Cleaners Superfund Site. The meeting will begin at 6:30 on May 24, 1994 and will be held at the Onslow County Public Library, 58 Doris Avenue East, Jacksonville. Representatives from EPA will present EPA's preferred alternative and the other alternatives considered in the FS Report. After the presentation, these officials will be available to answer any questions or concerns the public may have regarding the preferred alternative, other alternatives considered in the FS Report or other concerns related to the cleanup of this Site. Please plan to attend.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**
**MAY 16, 1994 THROUGH**
**JUNE 15, 1994**

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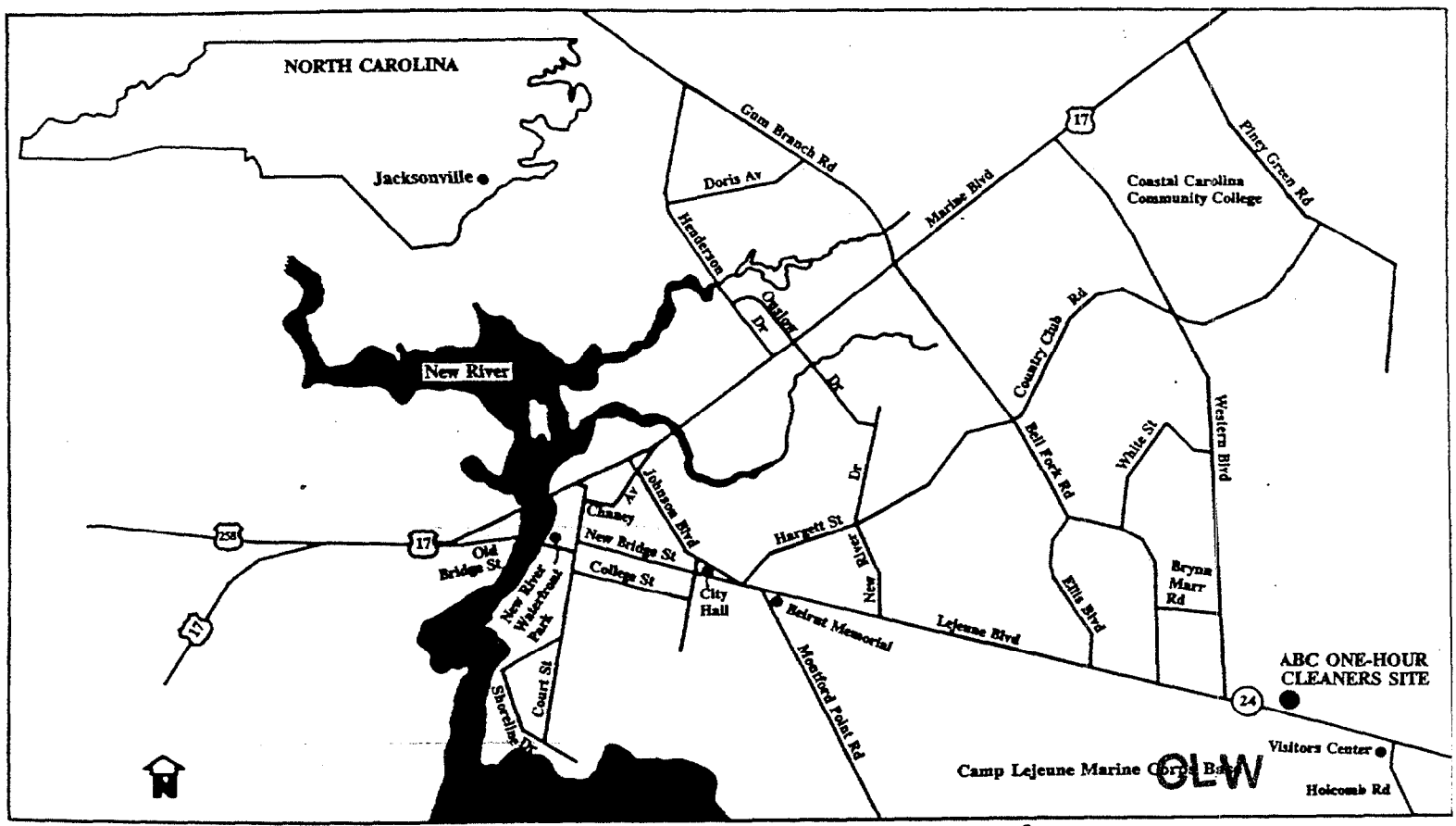
## SITE BACKGROUND

The ABC One-Hour Cleaners is located at 2127 Lejeune Boulevard, Onslow County, Jacksonville, North Carolina (Figure 1). The Seaboard coastline railroad tracks and Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base are located south of the Site. Approximately 4,400 feet southeast of the Site the Northeast Creek flows in a southwesterly direction to the New River. The Site is located in a business district and is situated on one acre of land. The cleaners is classified as a small generator under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

ABC One-Hour Cleaners has been operating as a dry cleaner at this location since 1954. The chemical *tetrachloroethylene (PCE)* has been used at the facility to dry clean clothes since operations began. The PCE was stored in a 250-gallon above-ground tank in the rear of the facility. Used PCE is reclaimed through a filtration-distillation process in the building. "Still bottoms" generated from the recycling process are the only known hazardous waste generated at the Site. "Still bottoms" is the sludge/residue that accumulates in the bottom of the tank over a period of time as a result of the recycling process. In the past, this waste was disposed of on Site, and was reportedly sometimes used to fill potholes. For the last eight years the "still bottoms" have been transported off-site for disposal. ABC One-Hour Cleaners used a septic tank-soil absorption system located in the back of the facility for the disposal of wastewater. The system consisted of an underground concrete tank with a concrete lid, situated within four feet of the PCE tank.

In 1984 the U.S. Marine Corps collected samples from 40 of the Base community supply wells. Organic contaminants were detected in three drinking water supply wells that were located near two off-base dry cleaning facilities on Lejeune Boulevard. The North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development (NRCD), now the Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources (DEHNR) was asked to identify the source of contamination. NRCD drilled three monitoring wells. PCE was found in **groundwater** samples from the monitoring wells and the three supply wells. (Soil samples were not taken at this time.) Through this study it was determined that the source of contamination was coming from the ABC One-Hour Cleaners.



Inspection of the PCE storage area by NRCD determined that PCE could have entered the septic tank-soil absorption system, and thus, gradually seeped into the underlying groundwater. When groundwater is contaminated the source usually stems from contaminated materials being deposited in or on soils. Contamination migrates downward through the soil as rain/snow/ice soaks the earth carrying the contamination with it, and eventually reaches the underground water system.

The three affected community wells were part of the Tarawa Terrace (Camp Lejeune base housing) well field, which furnished drinking water to 6,274 people in the area. In February 1985, the wells were disconnected from the system, as the federal drinking water quality standard of 5 ppb had been exceeded. A water line was installed from Camp Lejeune's Holcomb Boulevard drinking water system to supplement the water supply. Camp Lejeune has had an ongoing program for monitoring for the presence of contaminants in its water supply wells.

NRCD applied the **Hazard Ranking System (HRS)** to the situation at the Site and nominated the Site for inclusion on the Superfund **National Priorities List (NPL)** of uncontrolled hazardous waste sites in 1987. Sites with HRS scores of 28.5 or greater are listed on the NPL. ABC One-Hour Cleaners Site scored a 29.11. The Site was proposed for the NPL listing in June 1988 and was placed on the final list in March 1989. Following the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study and public meeting/comment period, the Record of Decision selecting the groundwater remedy for Operable Unit 1 was signed on January 26, 1993.

To better study and characterize this Site, in June 1992 the Site was split into two Operable Units (OUs): OU1-groundwater and OU2-soil.

This Proposed Plan concerns only Operable Unit #2.

## REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION FOR OPERABLE UNIT 2 (SOIL INVESTIGATION)

The **Remedial Investigation** (RI) for OU2 examined the source of contaminants and the nature and extent of contamination in soils. Data collected during the OU2 study were used to develop a Risk Assessment that addresses public health and environmental risks associated with soil contamination detected at the Site. Field activities began in September 1993 and were completed in November 1993. Major field activities conducted as a part of the soil investigation included:

Collecting and analyzing 65 surface and subsurface soil samples within and adjacent to the ABC facility to characterize the vertical and horizontal extent of **Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)**.

Collecting and analyzing a sample of the septic tank contents at ABC to support data collected from previous investigations and to further characterize the suspected source area.

### Key Findings

* Samples collected from soil borings installed in the interior of the ABC building indicate that *PCE* (tetrachloroethylene), *TCE* (trichloroethene), and *1,2-DCE* (1,2-dichloroethane) are primary contaminants in the unsaturated soil profile (from 0 to 15 feet below ground surface (bgs).

* Chloroform, 1,1-DCE, vinyl chloride, and were also detected.

* Typically, the highest levels of volatile organic compound contamination were detected in the 0- to 2-foot interval beneath the floor of the ABC building.

* The soil samples collected from beneath the building at depths greater than 2 feet below ground surface also contained volatile organic compound concentrations above those detected from samples at similar intervals outside the building perimeter.

* Exterior to the ABC building, volatile organic compound concentrations in soil are much lower than concentrations in soil from beneath the building (except for the samples collected from a soil boring located in the east driveway).

* Volatile organic compound contamination extends in 0- to 15-foot intervals below ground surface in areas outside the building.

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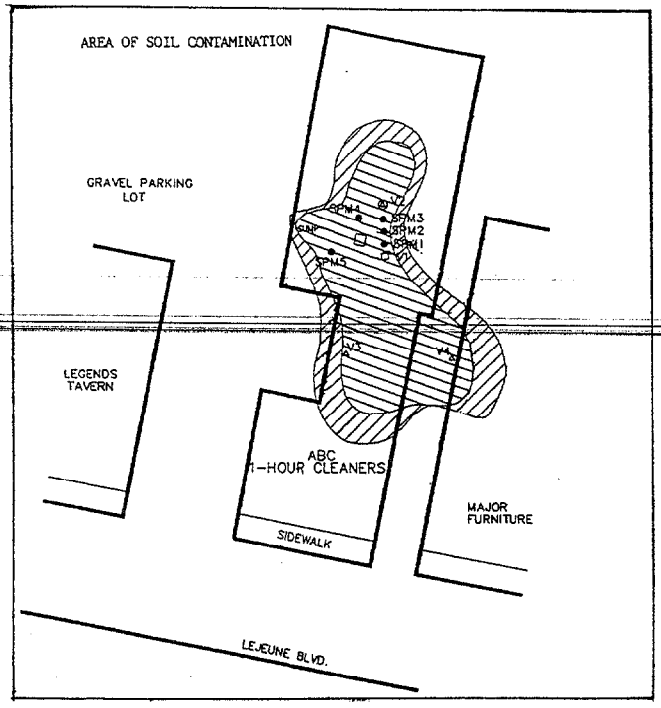
* Free product was not detected in any of the soil sampling locations.

* The OU2 septic tank sludge sample had an estimated PCE concentration of 240,000,000 parts per billion.

* The sludge was removed from the septic tank, and the interior of the tank was cleaned during the OU2 Remedial Investigation activities.

Based on all the data collected during the OU2 investigation, the ABC Site is the primary source of volatile organic compounds, including PCE, TCE, 1,2-DCE, and vinyl chloride in soils underlying the ABC facility and hydraulically downgradient groundwater. Volatile organic compounds may have been introduced into the soil via the septic tank, direct spills onto soil, and deposits of still bottoms. The diagram below indicates estimated location of soil contamination.




## Treatability Study Results

As part of the work performed under the OU2 Remedial Investigation, a Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) treatability study was conducted at the ABC Site. The treatability study consisted of a laboratory study conducted at WESTON's (EPA's contractor) Environmental Technology Laboratory (ETL) in Lionville, Pennsylvania during November 1993, and a pilot-scale study conducted at the ABC Site during September and October 1993. The findings of the study are discussed in the "Soil Vapor Extraction Treatability Study Report". Based on the results of the treatability study EPA believes that the SVE technology will be applicable and effective in remediating the soil at the ABC Site.

Additional information about the RI findings and supporting documents are available at the **information repository** in the Onslow County Public Library.

## SCOPE AND ROLE OF RESPONSE ACTION

The response action at this Site was divided into two operable units (OU) which are:

- **OU1 - Groundwater Contamination**

Since the Record of Decision for OU1 was signed on January 28, 1993, the Agency has been developing the remedial design for treating the groundwater. Once the design has been completed, we will prepare a fact sheet presenting the design with a description of how the design will operate. We will also conduct a public meeting at that time to present this information to the public and respond to questions and/or concerns expressed.

- **OU2 - Soil Contamination**

The intent of this response action for OU2 is to remove the principal threat remaining at the Site by treating the contaminated soils. Treating the soil will also prevent the contaminants from further adversely impacting the groundwater.

The remedial alternatives under consideration are summarized in this fact sheet. The Feasibility Study Report presents a more thorough description and evaluation of these alternatives. A copy of this and other documents are available for public reading at the information repository.

Based on new information or public comments, EPA, in consultation with the NCDHENR, may modify the

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preferred alternative or select another response action presented in this Proposed Plan and the Feasibility Study Report. The public is encouraged to review and comment on all alternatives identified.

## SUMMARY OF SITE RISKS

During the OU2 Remedial Investigation, an analysis was conducted to estimate the human health or environmental problems that could result if the soil contamination at the Site is not cleaned. This analysis is known as the **Baseline Risk Assessment** (BRA) and focused on the potential health effects from long-term, direct exposure to the soil contaminants found at the Site. The three different exposure scenarios evaluated in the assessment are:

- Current worker - The exposure pathway for the current worker scenario group includes the dermal (skin) contact with and the incidental ingestion (eating, drinking, breathing) of contaminants in surficial soils at the ABC Site.

- Future resident - Exposure to surface soils was assumed for the future child, youth, and adult resident based on dermal contact and incidental ingestion.

- Future construction worker - This scenario considers dermal contact with and incidental ingestion of contaminants in surficial and subsurface soils.

Of the three risk-based exposure scenarios evaluated, only one ("future resident") produced unnacceptable risks. The only compounds found at concentrations above acceptable risk levels were PCE and TCE. Chemical specific clean up levels were developed for these compounds and this scenario.

Chemical specific clean up levels based on protection of groundwater were also developed. Two different scenarios were evaluated. The first scenario considers the present ground surface area which is exposed to precipitation and current infiltration processes existing at the Site (building and pavement in place). The second scenario assumes that the whole Site area would be vacant (no building or pavement) and would be subjected to infiltration of precipitation into the unprotected soil in the future which would continue to spread contamination.

Clean up levels calculated for protection of groundwater were selected as the appropriate remediation goals for the contaminated soils at the Site.

Actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances not addressed by the preferred alternative or one of the other alternatives considered may present a current or potential threat to public health, welfare or the environment.

The Remedial Investigation (RI) report contains more detailed information about the Base Risk Assessment and calculations of the remediation levels. The RI is available for review in the information repository.

### Ecological Considerations

There are no habitat areas of high quality in the immediate vicinity of the Site. It is also unlikely that the Site would attract any threatened or endangered species.

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF EPA'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

EPA's selection of the preferred cleanup alternative for this Site, as described in this Proposed Plan, is the result of a comprehensive evaluation and screening process. The Feasibility Study was conducted to identify and analyze the various alternatives considered for addressing soil contamination at the Site. The Feasibility Study describes the alternatives considered, as well as the process and criteria EPA used to narrow the list of potential remedial alternatives. (Refer to the OU-2 FS for details on the screening methodology.)

EPA uses a standard set of nine criteria to evaluate all of the alternatives identified in the Feasibility Study. Although overall protection of public health and the environment is the primary objective of the remedial action, the remedial alternative(s) selected for the Site

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must achieve the best balance among these nine evaluation criteria considering the scope and relative degree of contamination present. The criteria are grouped into three categories:

**"Threshold Criteria"**: These two statutory requirements must be met by the alternative and are described as follows:

1. **Overall Protection of Human Health and the Environment** addresses how an alternative as a whole will protect human health and the environment. This includes an assessment of how the public health and environmental risks are properly eliminated, reduced, or controlled through treatment, engineering controls, or controls placed on the property to restrict access and (future) development.

2. **Compliance with Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs)** addresses whether or not a remedy complies with all state and federal environmental and public health laws and requirements that apply or are relevant and appropriate to the conditions and cleanup options at a specific site. If an ARAR cannot be met, the analysis of the alternative must provide the grounds for invoking a statutory waiver.

**"Primary Balancing Criteria"**: These are five considerations used to develop a decision as to which alternative would be best to use.

3. **Long-Term Effectiveness and Permanence** refers to the ability of an alternative to maintain reliable protection of human health and the environment over time once the cleanup goals have been met.

4. **Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility, or Volume** are the three principal measures of the overall performance of an alternative. The 1986 amendments to the Superfund statute emphasize that, whenever possible, EPA should select a remedy that uses a treatment process to permanently reduce the level of toxicity of contaminants at the site; the spread of contaminants away from the source of contamination at the site.

5. **Short-Term Effectiveness** refers to the likelihood of adverse impacts on human health and the environment that may be posed during the construction and implementation of an alternative until the cleanup goals are achieved.

6. **Implementability** refers to the technical and administrative feasibility of an alternative, including the availability of materials and services needed to implement the alternative.

7. **Cost** includes the capital (up-front) cost of implementing an alternative, as well as the cost of operating and maintaining the alternative over the long term, and the net present worth of both capital and operation and maintenance costs.

**"Modifying Criteria"**: These two considerations are used to determine the acceptability of the alternatives to the public and local officials.

8. **State Acceptance** addresses whether, based on its review of the documents prepared for the Site, the State concurs with or opposes the alternative EPA is proposing as the remedy for the site.

9. **Community Acceptance** addresses whether the public concurs with EPA's Proposed Plan or prefers another remedy. Community acceptance of this Proposed Plan will be evaluated based on comments received at the upcoming public meeting and during the comment period.

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## SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES

The following section is a summary of the alternatives which were developed to address the soil contamination at the ABC Site. The Feasibility Study Report contains a more detailed evaluation of each alternative and is available for review in the information repository.

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## REMEDIAL ALTERNATIVES TO ADDRESS SOIL CONTAMINATION

Five alternatives were developed to address soil contamination at the Site. The soil alternatives are

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listed and described below.

**ALTERNATIVE - 1: No Action**

The CERCLA law governing Superfund clean up actions requires that the "No Action" alternative be considered. The no action alternative provides the baseline for comparing existing site conditions with those resulting from other proposed alternatives. It is also used to estimate the potential risk to humans or the environment in the risk assessment.

Under this alternative, no additional remedial actions would be initiated beyond the groundwater remedial actions which are covered under the OU-1 Record of Decision signed in January 1993. Costs included under this alternative cover sampling activities to be conducted every 5 years for a 30 year period.

**ALTERNATIVE - 2: Institutional Controls**

Under this alternative, the institutional controls which would be implemented include property deed restrictions and land use restrictions. Proper deed notation involves annotating the site deed for affected properties to alert prospective buyers to the presence of hazardous substances on-site. These notations would be written to restrict future use of the property to non-residential use. The restrictions would remain in place unless and until contaminant concentrations were sufficiently reduced by natural processes to allow for unrestricted use of the property.

**ALTERNATIVE – 3: Capping**

Under this alternative, a cap consisting of an asphalt cover would be placed over the contaminated soils that are above the cleanup levels present on the Site. The existing buildings will remain in place. Along with the asphalt cap, a concrete seal would be placed over the floor inside the ABC cleaners building to seal the cracks in the floor and to close the existing opening to the in-ground sump. This seal would prevent further contamination from entering the sump and/or the ground from the dry cleaning activities in the building.

The asphalt cap would be constructed to prevent contact with the contaminated soils on the ABC property and along the driveway between ABC Cleaners and Major Furniture. Although there is currently an asphalt cover over the driveway between the two buildings, there are several cracks and holes, and the integrity of the cover is minimal. The asphalt cap would also prevent the infiltration of rainwater from the surface into the ground, thus further reducing movement of contaminats into the groundwater.

Since this alternative does not reduce the contaminant concentrations in the soils, deed restrictions and land use limitations are also included as part of this option to ensure that the building and asphalt covers remain as effective barriers. Continued up-keep of this cap will be necessary to ensure its integrity.

**ALTERNATIVE - 4: Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE)**

The SVE alternative is the process which physically removes contaminants by inducing air flow through soils contaminated with volatile organic compounds. Flowing air strips the volatile organic compounds from the soils and carries them to extraction wells. The volatile organic compound-laden vapor removed from the soil through the extraction wells is collected and treated using an off-gas system. [This system is set up on the same functioning principle as the vaccum cleaner for pulling dirt from carpet and depositing the dirt into a filter bag.]

Sealing for the concrete floor inside the ABC building, as mentioned in Alternative 3, has been included as part of this alternative. The cap could consist of a 4-inch concrete slab poured directly over the existing flooring to cover the cracks in the flooring and close off the opening to the sump. This would help prevent further contamination of the soils and groundwater due to new process area spills or leaks. In addition, the cap would provide a continuous barrier to air flow in the SVE treatment zone to reduce "short-circuiting."

The SVE technology will reduce contaminants concentrations below the remediation goals

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calculated for potential direct exposure and protection of groundwater. SVE may not reduce contaminant concentrations to the levels calculated for protection of groundwater if the buildings are removed in the future. Therefore property deed restrictions and land use restrictions, as described in alternative 2, will also be included as part of this alternative.

The estimated volume of contaminated soil is 2,887 cubic yards. The implementation time frame was estimated to take 12 months.

**ALTERNATIVE - 5: Demolition, Excavation and Low Temperature Thermal Desorption(LTTD)**

Alternative 5 involves excavation and treatment of contaminated soils. It consists of three principal steps. Demolition of the existing structures, excavation of the contamination and treatment of the contaminated soils using a low temperature thermal desorption (LTTD) unit.

Following treatment, the soils would be tested for TCLP (Toxicity Characteristic Leachate Procedure) characteristics and for total volatile organic compounds to determine the appropriate handling method for the soils. Based on typical operations of the low temperature thermal desorption system, and knowledge of the contaminants present at the Site, it is anticipated that the treated soils will have residual concentrations low enough to allow the placement of the treated soils back into the excavated area. Once the area has been backfilled and the treatment equipment demobilized, the area will be seeded and left as an open field, suitable for development.

The estimated volume of soil to be excavated is 4,210 cubic yards. The project span was estimated at approximately 1 year.

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## EVALUATION OF ALTERNATIVES FOR SOIL REMEDIATION

A comparative analysis using the nine evaluation criteria was performed on the five remedial alternatives developed. The alternatives were compared to identify the alternative with the best balance among these nine criteria.

### Threshold Criteria

**1. Overall Protection of Human Health and the Environment**

Alternative 1 does not eliminate any exposure pathway, does not reduce the level of risk and does not protect the groundwater.

Alternative 2 does not provide for protection of human health if institutional controls fail to prevent future higher risk site development. In addition, it will result in continued migration of contaminants to groundwater.

Alternative 3 is designed to reduce exposure to the contaminated soils, and to reduce the migration of contaminants to the groundwater.

Alternatives 4 and 5 provide protection of human health and the environment through treatment of the soils. Adequate protection will be provided during remediation activities.

Since alternative 1 does not eliminate, reduce or control any of the exposure pathways and is not protective to the groundwater; and alternative 2 is not protective to groundwater, they are therefore not protective to human health and the environment and will not be considered further in this analysis.

**2. Compliance with Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs)**

ARARS will be met under Alternatives 3, 4 and 5.

### Primary Balancing Criteria

**3. Long-Term Effectiveness and Permanence**

Alternative 3 will require long-term maintenance of the cap, deed notations and land use restrictions, since the contamination will remain virtually unchanged.

Alternatives 4 and 5 offer the long-term effectiveness and permanence through treatment of the contaminated soils.

Alternative 4 will require deed restrictions until natural

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reduction occurs and contaminant concentration levels decrease to allow unrestricted property use.

Alternative 5, once the treatment is completed, long-term maintenance and deed notations will not be required.

**4. Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility, or Volume Through Treatment**

Alternative 3 will reduce the mobility of soil contaminants as long as the cap is intact, but not its toxicity or volume.

Alternatives 4 and 5 offer contaminants toxicity reduction through treatment of the contaminated soils. There would be no significant risk remaining at the Site due to the volatile organic compound concentrations in the soils upon completion of the remedial actions.

**5. Short-Term Effectiveness**

Alternatives 3 and 4 may require some dust suppression measures during construction due to possible particulate emissions.

Alternative 5 offers the lowest degree of short term effectiveness due to the intrusive soil removal activities.

**6. Implementability**

Alternatives 3 and 4 offer a relative high degree of implementability with some possible access limitations. Alternative 5 offers major limitations due to the nature of the treatment activities. Demolition activities would require cessation of the business and acquisition of the adjacent property.

**7. Cost**

The total Present Worth Costs for the alternatives evaluated are as follows:

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|---|---|
| Alternative 1: | $ 170,000 |
| Alternative 2: | $ 232,500 |
| Alternative 3: | $ 375,717 |
| Alternative 4: | $ 521,463 |
| Alternative 5: | $3,372,633 |

**Modifying Criteria**

**State Acceptance**

The NCDEHNR has assisted EPA in the review of reports and Site evaluations. The State has reviewed and tentatively agrees with he proposed remedy and is awaiting public comment before final concurrence.

**Community Acceptance**

Community acceptance/concerns of the various alternatives will be evaluated during the public comment period. The Agency will prepare a response to each comment received which will be provided in the Responsiveness Summary which is a part of the Record of Decision for the Site.

## EPA'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

After conducting a detailed analysis of all the feasible cleanup alternatives and based on the criteria described in the preceding section, EPA is proposing a cleanup plan for soil contamination at the Site. The EPA preferred alternative is:

**SOIL REMEDIATION**

**ALTERNATIVE - 4: SOIL VAPOR EXTRACTION (SVE)**
**Total costs: $ 521,463** (approximately 1 year of treatment)

Based on current information, the alternative appears to provide the best balance of trade-offs with respect to the nine criteria that EPA uses to evaluate alternatives. EPA believes the preferred alternative will satisfy the statutory requirements of Section 121(b) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9621(b), which provide that the selected alternative be protective of human health and the environment, comply with ARARs, be cost effective, and utilize permanent solutions and treatments to the maximum extent practicable. The selection of the above alternative is preliminary and could change in response to public comments.

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

EPA has developed a community relations program as mandated by Congress under Superfund to respond to citizen's concerns and needs for information, and to enable residents and public officials to participate in the decision-making process. Public involvement activities undertaken at Superfund sites are interviews with local residents and elected officials, a community relations plan for each site, fact sheets, availability sessions, public meetings, public comment periods, newspaper advertisements, site visits, and Technical Assistance Grants, and any other actions needed to keep the community informed and involved.

EPA is conducting a **30-day public comment period from May 16, 1994 to June 15, 1994,** to provide an opportunity for public involvement in selecting the final cleanup method for this Site. Public input on all alternatives, and on the information that supports the alternatives is an important contribution to the remedy selection process. During this comment period, the public is invited to attend a public meeting on May 24, 1994, at the Onslow County Public Library, 58 Doris Avenue East, Jacksonville, N.C. beginning at 6:30 p.m. at which EPA will present the Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan describing the various alternatives and EPA's preferred alternative for treatment of the contaminated soil at the ABC One-Hour Cleaners Superfund Site and to answer any questions. Because this Proposed Plan Fact Sheet provides only a summary description of the cleanup alternatives being considered, the public is encouraged to consult the information repository for a more detailed explanation.

During this 30-day period, the public is invited to review all site-related documents housed at the information repository located at the Onslow County Public Library, 58 Doris Avenue East, Jacksonville, North Carolina and offer comments to EPA either orally at the public meeting which will be recorded by a court reporter or in written form during this time period. The actual remedial action could be different from the proposed preferred alternative, depending upon new information or arguments EPA may receive as a result of public comments. If you prefer to submit written comments, please mail them postmarked no later than midnight June 15, 1994 to:

**Diane Barrett**
**NC Community Relations Coordinator**
**U.S.E.P.A., Region 4**
**North Remedial Superfund Branch**
**345 Courtland Street, NE**
**Atlanta, GA 30365**

All comments will be reviewed and a response prepared in making the final determination of the most appropriate alternative for cleanup/treatment of the Site. EPA's final choice of a remedy will be issued in a Record of Decision (ROD). A document called a Responsiveness Summary summarizing EPA's response to all public comments will also be issued with the ROD. Once the ROD is signed by the Regional Administrator it will become part of the **Administrative Record** (located at the Library) which contains all documents used by EPA in making a final determination of the best cleanup/treatment for the Site. Once the ROD has been approved, where applicable, EPA begins negotiations with the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) to allow them the opportunity to design, implement and absorb all costs of the remedy determined in the ROD in accordance with EPA guidance and

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protocol. If negotiations do not result in a settlement, EPA may conduct the remedial activity using Superfund Trust monies, and sue for reimbursement of its costs with the assistance of the Department of Justice. Or EPA may issue a unilateral administrative order or directly file soft to force the PRPs to conduct the remedial activity. Once an agreement has been reached, the design of the selected remedy will be developed and implementation of the remedy can begin.

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As part of the Superfund program, EPA provides affected communities by a Superfund site with the opportunity to apply for a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG). This grant of up to **$50,000** is awarded to only one community group per site and is designed to enable the group to hire a technical advisor or consultant to assist in interpreting or commenting on site findings and proposed remedial action plans. A citizens' group interested in the TAG program needs to submit a Letter of Intent to obtain an application package from:

**Ms. Rosemary Patton, Coordinator**
**NC Technical Assistance Grants**
**Waste Management Division**
**U.S.E.P.A., Region 4**
**345 Courtland Street, NE**
**Atlanta, GA 30365**
**(404) 347-2234**

**INFORMATION REPOSITORY LOCATION:**
**Onslow County Public Library**
**58 Doris Avenue East**
**Jacksonville, North Carolina 28540**
**Phone: (910) 455-7350**
**Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 am - 9:00 pm**
**Friday - Saturday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm**
**Sunday - Closed**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

**Mr. Luis E. Flores, Remedial Project Manager or**
**Ms. Diane Barrett, NC Community Relations Coordinator**
**North Superfund Remedial Branch**
**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV**
**345 Courtland Street, NE**
**Atlanta, Ga 30365**
**Phone: (404)347-7791**
**Toll Free No.: 1-800-435-9233**



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## GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN THIS FACT SHEET

***Aquifer*** - An underground geological formation, or group of formations, containing useable amounts of groundwater that can supply wells and springs.

***Administrative Record*** - A file which is maintained and contains all information used by the lead agency to make its decision on the selection of a method to be utilized to clean up/treat contamination at a Superfund site. This file is located in the information repository for public review.

***Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs)*** - The federal and state requirements that a selected remedy must attain. These requirements may vary among sites and various alternatives.

***Baseline Risk Assessment*** - A means of estimating the amount of damage a Superfund site could cause to human heath and the environment. Objectives of a risk assessment are to: help determine the need for action; help determine the levels of chemicals that can remain on the site after cleanup and still protect health and the environment; and provide a basis for comparing different cleanup methods.

***Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)*** - A federal law passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). The Acts created a special tax paid by producers of various chemicals and oil products that goes into a Trust Fund, commonly known as Superfund. These Acts give EPA the authority to investigate and clean up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites utilizing money from the Superfund Trust or by taking legal action to force parties responsible for the contamination to pay for and clean up the site.

***Downgradient*** - The direction that groundwater flows, similar in concept to 'downstream' for surface water, such as a river.

***Groundwater*** - Water found beneath the earth's surface that fills pores between materials such as sand, soil, or gravel (usually in aquifers) which is often used for supplying wells and springs. Because groundwater is a major source of drinking water there is growing concern over areas where agricultural and industrial pollutants or substances are getting into groundwater.

***Hazardous Ranking System (HR)*** - The principle screening tool used by EPA to evaluate risks to public health and the environment associated with abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. The HRS calculates a score based on the potential of hazardous substances spreading from the site through the air, surface water, or groundwater and on other factors such as nearby population. This score is the primary factor in deciding if the site should be on the National Priorities List, if so, what ranking it should have compared to other sites on the list.

***Information Repository*** - A file containing accurate up-to-date information, technical reports, reference documents, information about the Technical Assistance Grant, and any other materials pertinent to the site. The Administrative Record which contain copies of all legal documents used to select the method of treatment is also in the repository. This file is usually located in a public building such as a library, city hall or school, that is accessible for local residents.

***Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs)*** - The maximum permissible level of a contaminant in water delivered to any user of a public water system. MCLs are enforceable standards.

***National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan (NCP)*** - The federal regulation that guides determination of the sites to be corrected under the Superfund program and the program to prevent or control spills into surface waters or other portions of the environment.

***National Priorities List (NPL)*** - EPA's list of the most serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites identified for possible long-term remedial action under Superfund. A site must be on the NPL to receive money from the Trust Fund for remedial action. The list is based primarily on the score a site receives from the Hazard Ranking System (HRS). EPA is required to update the NPL at least once a year.

***Plume*** - A visible or measurable discharge of a contaminant from a given point of origin; can be visible or thermal in water, or visible in the air as, for example, a plume of smoke.

***Record of Decision (ROD)*** - A public document that announces and explains which method has been selected by the Agency to be used at a Superfund site to clean up the contamination.

***Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA)*** - **RD**: the phase of Superfund process that follows the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study which includes development of engineering drawings and specifications for site cleanup and health and safety plans. **RA**: the actual construction or implementation phase of a Superfund site cleanup that follows the Remedial Design.

***Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RIFS)*** - The Remedial Investigation is an in-depth, extensive sampling and analytical study to gather data necessary to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site; to establish criteria for cleaning up the site. The Feasibility Study is a description and analysis of the potential cleanup alternatives for remedial actions; and support the technical and cost analyses of the alternatives. The Feasibility study also usually recommends selection of a cost-effective alternative.

***Responsiveness Summary*** - A summary of oral and written public comments received by EPA during a public comment period and EPA's responses to those comments. The Responsiveness Summary is a key part of the Record of Decision.

***Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)*** - Any organic compound that evaporates readily into the air at room temperature.

## MAILING LIST ADDITIONS

If you are not already on our mailing list and would like to be placed on the list to receive future information on the **ABC One-Hour Cleaners Superfund Site**, please complete this form and return to Diane Barrett, Community Relations Coordinator at the above address:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY,STATE, ZIP CODE _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

AFFILIATION (if any) _____

ADDITION _____ CHANGE _____ DELETION _____

Region 4

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
345 Courtland Street, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30365

North Superfund Remedial Branch
Diane Barrett, Community Relations Coord.
Luis Flores, Remedial Project Manager

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use $300

CLW

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