

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP PROGRAM

June 28, 2011
(484) 250-5965

SUBJECT: Response Justification Document
Limekiln PCE Site
Horsham Township, Montgomery County

TO: Craig Olewiler, Section Chief
Storage Tanks and Hazardous Corrective Actions Section
Bureau of Land Recycling and Waste Management, Central Office

FROM: Carly Nagle, Project Officer *CSN*
Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program
Southeast Regional Office

THRU: Timothy Cherry, HSCA Supervisor *TC*
Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program
Southeast Regional Office

Attached is the Response Justification Document for pursuing further investigations and response action at the Limekiln PCE site.

Stephan Sinding, Manager
Environmental Cleanup Program
Southeast Regional Office

Stephan Sinding Concur 7-8-11 Date
_____ Do not concur _____ Date

Ragesh Patel, Manager
Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program
Southeast Regional Office

Ragesh Patel Concur 6/28/11 Date
_____ Do not concur _____ Date

HSCA RESPONSE JUSTIFICATION DOCUMENT
LIMEKILN PCE
HORSHAM TOWNSHIP, MONTGOMERY COUNTY

REGION I

HSCP Project Officer: Carly Nagle
Attorney: Gina Thomas

June 28, 2011

This report summarizes the technical and legal issues that justify further investigations under the Pennsylvania Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act (HSCA) at the Limekiln PCE Site (Site). In June 2011, tetrachloroethylene (PCE) contamination was discovered in residential drinking water wells in Horsham Township, Montgomery County, PA.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Limekiln PCE Site is located on Limekiln Pike, near the intersection of Horsham Road and Limekiln Pike, Prospectville, Montgomery County, PA. On June 8, 2011, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (Department) sampled multiple residential wells, prompted by the American Reinvestment Recovery Act (ARRA) funded cleanup of underground storage tanks in the vicinity. The Department tested the well water at 4 private residences and one children's day care center. The results revealed concentrations of PCE above the safe drinking water maximum contaminate level (MCL) at 3 of the residences, and a low level detection at the day care center. PCE is considered to be a listed RCRA hazardous waste as set forth in Subpart D of 40 CFR Part 261, incorporated by reference at 25 Pa. Code § 261a.1.

The Site is an area of groundwater contamination located on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5 minute series Ambler, Pennsylvania Quadrangle Map, at 40°12' north latitude and 75°11' west longitude. The Site lies in an area that is primarily residential, within Horsham Township. The population of Horsham Township is approximately 24,232 (2000 Census). A map of the site area is attached hereto.

RESPONSIBLE PERSONS

The following "person(s)", identified below, have been determined to be entitled to legal notice under section 501(a) of HSCA.

There are no known responsible parties at this time.

FINDINGS AND AUTHORITY TO ACT

Pursuant to Section 501(a) of the Pennsylvania Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act, Act of October 18, 1988, P.L. 756, No. 108, 35 P.S. §6020.501(a), the Department is authorized to investigate a release or threat of release of a contaminant or hazardous substance. If the Department deems it appropriate, the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Program ("HSCA Program") may undertake any further investigation that it deems necessary or appropriate to protect the public health, safety or welfare, or the environment.

On June 8, 2011, the Department sampled residential wells in the site area and documented releases of hazardous substances. These samples indicated that drinking water at the Site has been contaminated by PCE above the MCL.

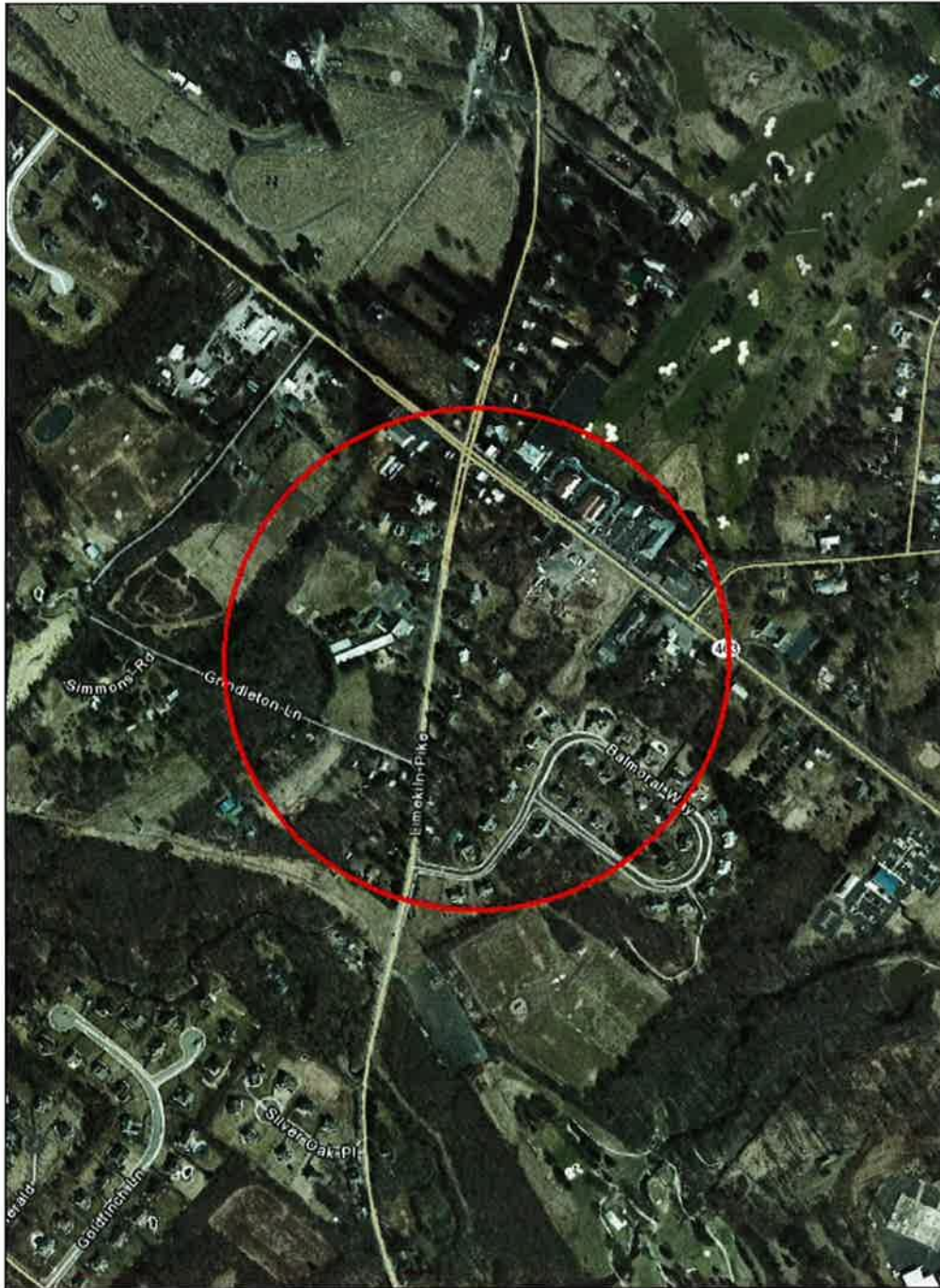
No specific source of the contamination has yet been identified. However, the site is in the vicinity of multiple industries including but not limited to a drycleaner business, automotive service centers, a car wash, and a now defunct printing shop. Additional investigation is needed in order to determine the potential source of the PCE, and additional sampling is required to determine the extent and nature of the groundwater contamination at the Site.

Based on the information available, the Department has determined that there has been a release or threat of release of hazardous substances that presents an actual or potential threat to human health and the environment in the area of the site. The Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act gives the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection the authority to investigate a site where there is a release or threat of a release of hazardous substances and determine if a response action is appropriate. Response actions may include further investigation, interim response and/or remedial response. The Department may also recover all associated costs from parties responsible for the contamination. Based upon the above findings, the Department has determined that further investigations are appropriate pursuant to section 501(a) of HSCA, 35 P.S. §6020.501(a).

REFERENCES

1. Hazardous Site Cleanup Act, Act of October 18, 1988, P.L. 756, No. 108, 35 P.S. §6020.501(a)
2. Subpart D of 40 CFR Part 261, incorporated by reference at 25 Pa. Code § 261a.1

Limekiln PCE HSCA Site



0.4

Miles