



The RACER Trust: Empowering America's Auto Communities

Livonia, MI

RACER Sites 11040 & 13020

Delco Chassis Industrial Land I & II
12950/13000 Eckles Road
Livonia, MI 48150

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ID No. MID 005 356 621

Site Description

Between 1954 and 1998, this 120-acre site was operated by various divisions of GM. Historically the former Delco Chassis Plant included 14 buildings comprising approximately 2.1 million square feet. The property is surrounded by industrial or commercial properties with the exception of a residential neighborhood, located southeast of the site.

The main plant was primarily used to manufacture springs and bumpers, but also handled metal stamping; heat treating; metal plating/finishing; and assembly. In addition, the site involved a number of support processes including industrial wastewater treatment; recycling of quench/lubricating oils; and degreasing/parts cleaning.

Environmental decommissioning of the former Delco Chassis Plant began in 1999 and continued through 2001. All on-site structures were removed in 2001, with the exception of concrete floor slabs under the former building and a groundwater collection and treatment system located in the southwest corner of the site.

Cleanup activities are performed by the RACER Trust, with the approval and oversight of EPA Region 5. The Settlement Agreement that established the RACER Trust set aside \$6.7 million for cleanup work.

Environmental History

The Site has been subject to Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Corrective Action under EPA oversight beginning in October 2001. Since 2001 there have been approximately 10 stages of investigation; several interim cleanup measures including removal of impacted soil from the former fire training area, powerhouse area, historical coal pile area, the former mudhouse area, and a small area under the north portion of the main building slab; and a groundwater collection trench and treatment system was installed to address nickel and chromium impacted groundwater at and in the vicinity of a former plating area. In addition, a barrier wall was installed to supplement the groundwater collection system; and a groundwater monitoring program and

Continued



institutional controls were implemented. It is also noted that groundwater impacted with low concentrations of trichloroethylene (TCE) is migrating on-site from an adjacent property to the northwest.

Institutional controls on the property consist of a Declaration of Restrictive Covenant to limit the property to non-residential land uses; restrict the use of groundwater on-site; protect the existing subsurface barrier wall and surface features (approximately 15 acres in the southwest portion of the site); and require a dust control plan for earth-moving activities at approximately 2.5 acres in the northern portion of the property, if conducted for more than five consecutive days. An additional institutional control is the ordinance prohibiting the use of groundwater within the City of Livonia that was enacted in July 2009.

Ongoing activities are conducted pursuant to a Response to Comments and Final Decision issued by EPA on March 13, 2006 and a Performance-based Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) executed between RACER and EPA on September 29, 2011.

An investigation conducted in 2012 evaluated the potential that soil vapors were present above a narrow groundwater plume containing chlorinated volatile organic compounds (CVOCs), including TCE, that has migrated off-site to the southeast.

Based on evaluation of all the groundwater, soil gas, and indoor air data collected from several neighboring properties, and with the approval of EPA, a vapor mitigation system was installed in one home where elevated levels of TCE was detected in soil gas beneath the home.

Next Steps

Future activities include continued operation and maintenance of the groundwater collection trench and treatment system; evaluation of alternatives to reduce the operational costs of the trench and treatment system; evaluation of alternative approaches that would reduce long-term costs to address the impacted groundwater currently be remediated by the collection trench, treatment system and barrier wall; groundwater monitoring related to the collection trench and off-site TCE impacts; soil vapor monitoring southeast of the Site to follow-up the recently evaluation and mitigation; and preparing documentation and working with EPA to finalize the status of the Site as RCRA Corrective Action Complete with Controls. In accordance with the Performance-Based Administrative Order on Consent between RACER and EPA Region 5, semi-annual reports will be prepared to document the results of ongoing activities.

Additional information on this site can be viewed at the RACER website at www.racertrust.org.

For More Information

RACER: Grant Trigger • 855-RACER-411 • gtrigger@racertrust.org
EPA Region 5: Gregory A. Rudloff, P.G. • 312-886-0455 • rudloff.gregory@epa.gov