

Southern Solvents, Inc.

HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE

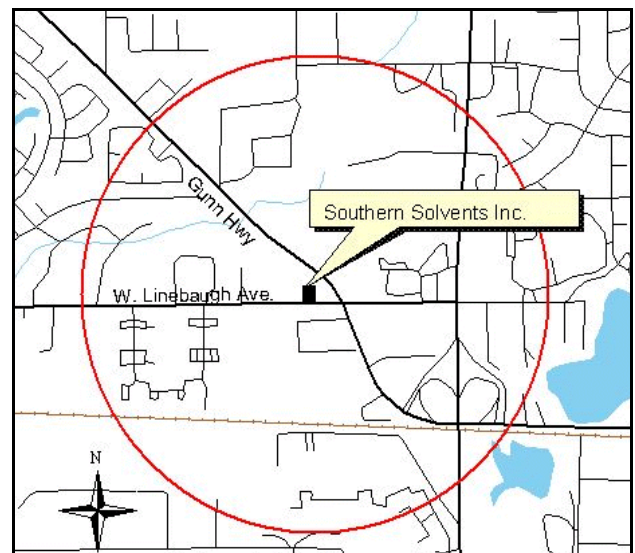
4109 W. Linebaugh Ave., Tampa, Fl

Draft Public Health Assessment Report Available for Public Comment Deadline for Comments: December 31, 2000

In May 1999, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed the Southern Solvents, Inc. site to the national priorities list (NPL) of hazardous waste sites. The EPA finalized the Southern Solvents, Inc. site to the NPL on July 27. In response, the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) conducted a public health assessment on this site. A draft of this document is now available for public comment.

In a public health assessment, the FDOH examines the potential chemical threats at a site. The FDOH then estimates the likelihood that these threats will cause illness. This fact sheet summarizes the findings of the health assessment. It also serves to gather community concerns. The deadline for comments is December 31, 2000.

In the draft report, the FDOH makes the following conclusions: **First**, this site is not an apparent public health hazard. **Second**, the groundwater is contaminated with solvents but is not used by area residents. **Third**, contamination from the site is unlikely to affect the municipal water supplies, which supply most area residents with drinking water. **Fourth**, since surface soil does not contain any contaminants, exposure to soil is unlikely to cause illness. In addition, it is unlikely that the site has affected the air quality in the area.



Southern Solvents, Inc.- Tampa (0.5 mile radius)



Chemicals of Concern at the Southern Solvents, Inc. site

1, 2- Dichloroethylene
Tetrachloroethane
Tetrachloroethylene
Trichloroethylene

The FDOH's Major Recommendations at the Southern Solvents, Inc. Site

- ✓ Restrict the installation on new drinking water wells within one-half of a mile radius south of the site
- ✓ Discourage the residential or potable use of groundwater from private wells

Site Information

The Southern Solvents, Inc. site is at 4109 W. Linebaugh Ave, Tampa, and measures 100 by 185 feet. A metal office building occupies the west side of the property. The north and east sides are used for storage and parking. From 1977 to 1985, Southern Solvents, Inc. distributed tetrachloroethylene to area dry cleaners. Tanks to the north of the building stored the tetrachloroethylene until distribution. AAA Diversified, a painting company, now occupies the property.

The Problem

Accidental spills contaminated the soil north of the building. Tetrachloroethylene readily sinks through soil and can enter the groundwater. Shallow groundwater beneath this site contains elevated levels of tetrachloroethylene. Groundwater in the deeper, Floridan aquifer also contains tetrachloroethylene, but at lower levels.

In 1988, state and federal agencies began investigating this site. The Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services (DHRS) found contamination in the on-site well and in the wells of nearby businesses. The DHRS provided bottled water to businesses with contaminated wells. The owner of Southern Solvents, Inc. closed the well on the property.

The FDOH Investigation and Conclusions

In 1998, the EPA collected more soil and groundwater samples. Deep soil, not surface, contained tetrachloroethylene. Both shallow and deep groundwater aquifers also contained tetrachloroethylene. Contamination in the surficial aquifer appears to be moving south. The Floridan aquifer contained lower amounts of contamination and appears to be moving north.

Since surface soil contains no contaminants and no air quality data exists, the FDOH only evaluated groundwater use as a likely exposure pathway. The FDOH estimates that regular consumption of on-site groundwater could deliver a dose of tetrachloroethylene that is similar to the dose that caused hyperactivity in mice. The effects of this dose of tetrachloroethylene in humans are not known. Ingestion of off-site groundwater is unlikely to cause illness. The FDOH notes that area residents currently do not use this contaminated groundwater. Rather, the area residents use city water from uncontaminated wells.

The FDOH classifies the Southern Solvents, Inc. site as a “no apparent health hazard”. No completed exposure pathways exist at this site. Surface soil does not contain any contamination. Deep soil contains tetrachloroethylene but this soil is not accessible. Nearby residents get uncontaminated, municipal water. Most area businesses use municipal or bottled water or are up-gradient from the site.

The FDOH follows these steps in completing the public health assessment:

1. Determine which chemicals are present above guideline levels
2. Determine if and how people are exposed
3. For each chemical, estimate the maximum possible dose for each exposure pathway
4. Evaluate whether the dose of each chemical could cause illness



The FDOH has placed a copy of the draft Public Health Assessment in the North Tampa Branch Library (8916 North Boulevard, Tampa, 813-975-2111) and the Northwest Regional Library (15610 Premiere Dr., Tampa, 813-864-3831). You may read it there or make a copy. You may also obtain a copy from the FDOH by calling toll-free (877) 798-2772 (M-F, 8 to 5).

The U.S. ATSDR funds 100% of Florida’s Public Health Assessment and Education Program, including this document, at a cost of approximately \$0.50 each.

WHAT THE FDOH/ATSDR DO

- ◆ We assess chemical health threats at a site.
- ◆ We do human Exposure Investigations.
- ◆ We use the soil, water, and air samples gathered by other agencies, such as EPA.
- ◆ We examine health risks from each chemical at each site.
- ◆ We advise the public on our findings and recommendations.
- ◆ We advise other agencies, such as EPA, on health issues.
- ◆ We educate communities and their healthcare professionals about our findings.

WHAT WE DO NOT DO

- ◆ We do not make or enforce laws or rules concerning hazardous waste.
- ◆ We do not provide medical services.
- ◆ We do not provide funds for cleanup or for relocating people.
- ◆ We usually do not collect environmental samples.

<p><u>MAIL COMMENTS BY 12/31 TO:</u> Beth Copeland, Davis Daiker or Randy Merchant Florida Department of Health Bureau of Environmental Epidemiology 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #A-08 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1712 (850) 245-4299 Toll Free (877) 798-2772</p>	<p><u>FOR CLEANUP INFORMATION</u> Kevin Misenheimer, Project Manager U.S. EPA 61 Forsyth St., SW Atlanta, GA, 30303 (404) 562-8922</p>
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Community Concerns, Questions, and Comments
Southern Solvents, Inc. Hazardous Waste Site, Tampa, FL

Date _____ 2000

Optional

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

1. Does anyone in your family go onto this property? Yes No
If so, for what reason?

My health concerns are _____

My questions are _____

My comments about the Department of Health's fact sheet:

1. It was easy to read. **Very** **Mostly** **Some** **Not at all**

2. I understand its message. **Very Well** **Mostly** **Some** **Not at all**

3. What would have made it more useful to me is _____

Other comments I have are:

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(Fold on dashed lines with the below address on the outside, staple, stamp and mail.)

Affix Stamp
Here

**Florida Department of Health
Bureau of Environmental Epidemiology
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #A-08
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1712**

ATTN: Davis Daiker