

TO: File

FROM: John W. Walch  
Inactive Hazardous Sites Branch

DATE: July 9, 2008

RE: Anonymous Complaint

Mohawk-Karastan Plant  
2007 Dickinson Avenue  
Greenville, Pitt County, NC

On July 8, 2008 I received a message from a person wanting to report groundwater violations. On July 9 I returned the call to (252) 717-8958. The person I spoke with did not want to be identified but said there have been numerous spills/leaks at the Mohawk-Karastan Plant caused by the age of the facility, lack of maintenance and poor housekeeping procedures. The spills/leaks may have caused groundwater violations at this site.

The areas of concern identified by the caller were:

1. Chem Set Building: Concrete drain trough under floor is cracked and in disrepair. Chemicals used in process include pesticides, acids, caustic soda. The chemicals drain to the trough and have likely leaked into subsurface & groundwater.
2. Terra Cotta Drain Pipes, Junction Boxes & Manholes: Terra Cotta pipes drain wastewater to treatment system on other side of building. The pipes leak due to age and lack of maintenance. The tops of the junction boxes are painted yellow. Manholes are in disrepair and likely another source of leaks.
3. Air Washer #3: Numerous chemical spills have occurred at this location.
4. Cooling Tower: Fluids/chemicals used to clean cooling tower are discharged directly to ground.
5. Dye House: Pipes are old and in disrepair. Floor drains in dye room floor between Kettles 1 & 2 do not drain properly. Liquids do not reach "pit" they apparently leak from pipes before reaching pit. Area near hot water tank is also an area of leaks.

6. Concrete Containment Pit: 6 kettles in containment area have leaked. Concrete cracked and was subsequently lined with stainless steel. Welds in stainless steel liner also leak.
7. Concrete AST Containment Area: The concrete floor in the area of the acetic acid AST is in bad shape and likely leaking
8. Kettle #6 – Cake Breaker: Trough collects liquids drain pipes in disrepair frequently collapse.
9. Oil Room- Unclear where piping leads or discharges
10. Wastewater Treatment Pond: Originally concrete lined. Concrete lined with stainless steel due to cracks. SS liner failed and “blew up like “Jiffy- Pop.” When this occurred water & sludge leaked to ground.

Clarence Mills is Maintenance Manager.