

**Frit Industries
Arkansas**

**EPA Region 6
Congressional District 01
Lawrence County**

**EPA ID# ARD059636456
Site ID: 0600106**

Updated: December 2006

**Deleted from the NPL: Deferred
to the State RCRA Program,
August 08, 1997.
No Further Superfund Updates
Planned**

Site Description

Location: In northeast Arkansas, Lawrence County, Walnut Ridge, Arkansas.
22 miles N.W. of Jonesboro.

Population: Walnut Ridge, 4,152; Lawrence County, 15,000

Setting: Nearest residence is three miles.
Nearest drinking water well - community has a municipal water system.
Nearest well (Industrial Park well) is approximately 1/4 mile.
Active fertilizer plant - 30 acres.
Raw materials and product waste are stored in piles on-site.

Hydrology: Coon Creek is a source of ground water recharge.
Ground water depth at 25 feet below surface.

Wastes and Volumes

The principal pollutants at the Frit Superfund site included the following: Zinc sulfate, Cadmium, Chromium, and Lead.

Runoff of approximately 81,000 gallons of contaminated water into Coon Creek during February 1979 caused a fish kill. Approximately 100 tons of contaminated soil was excavated from drainage pathways in 1982.

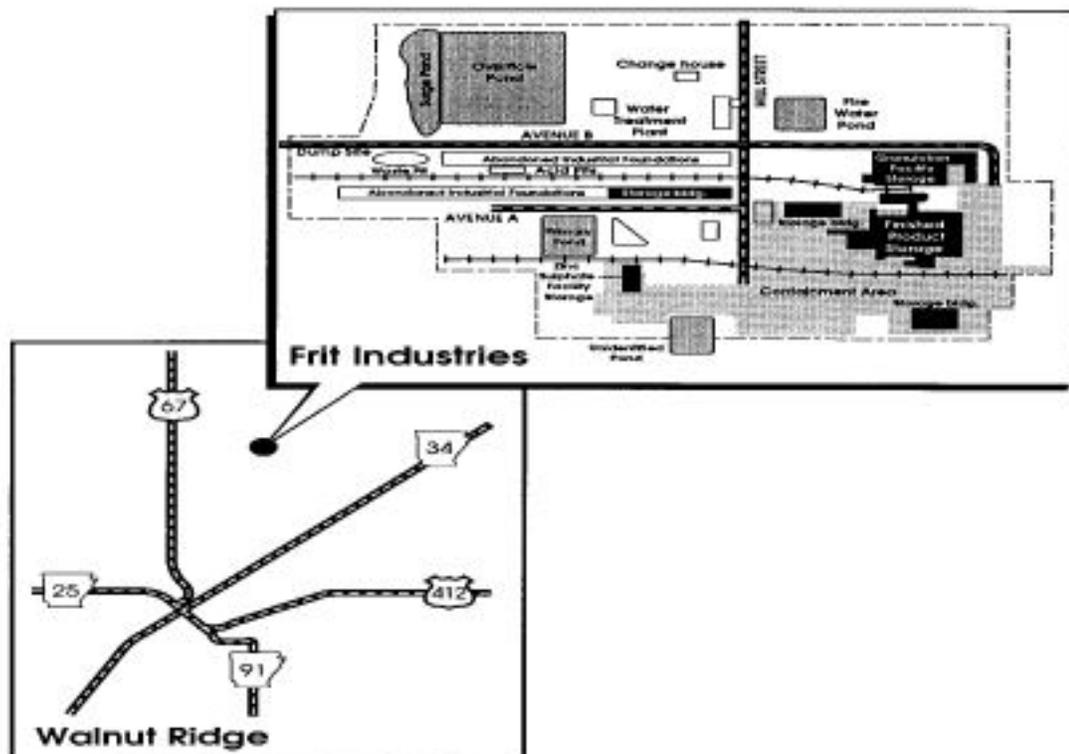
Unknown quantity of contaminated ground water and surface soils may still be present.

Site Assessment and Ranking

<p>NPL LISTING HISTORY Site HRS Score: 39.47 Proposed Date: 10/23/81 Final Date: 9/08/83 NPL Update: No. 1 (Original)</p>

The U.S. Department of Interior noted that the site discharges heavy metals and fertilizers and that the site is a potential threat to fish and wildlife resources. Comments did not affect the score.

Site Map and Diagram



The Remediation Process

Site History:

Frit Industries is an on-site operational company that produces micronutrients or trace element additives for fertilizer.

On February 18, 1979, a fire consumed portions of a product storage facility. The resulting 81,000 gallon run-off caused a fish kill in Coon Creek.

Approximately 100 tons of contaminated soil was excavated from run-off pathways in 1982.

A Superfund Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) was signed on February 3, 1983. All of the requirements were implemented by Frit and approved by the EPA (the most notable being the 1984-85 construction of a surface water collection and treatment system and 1986 biological sampling of Coon Creek).

A Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) AOC was signed on June 23, 1987. As a result, a closure plan was developed for two hazardous waste storage facilities and a surge pond. A ground water evaluation and monitoring plan was also developed. The Arkansas Department of Pollution Control and Ecology (ADPC&E) approved these in 1990. Now known as Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)

A second RCRA AOC was signed in late 1991, requiring submittal of a Site-Wide Facility Investigation Work Plan, to be conducted in addition to the RCRA Closure Plan.

The site is now being addressed under the RCRA Closure Plan and State (ADEQ) Superfund authorities to investigate and address any remaining contamination.

Health Considerations:

Risks are due to potential contamination of ground water and surface water run-off.

Other Environmental Risks:

Operations at the site caused run-off problems, possible ground water contamination, and air pollution.

Record of Decision

Signed: Not Applicable

The Company signed an AOC in November 1982 (and by EPA in February 1983) for construction of a surface water run-off treatment plant, environmental study of Coon Creek, and ground water monitoring. Any additional activity is to be conducted by ADPC&E under delegated RCRA authority.

Community Involvement

Community Involvement Plan:

Open houses and workshops:

Original Proposed Plan Fact Sheet and Public Meeting:

Original ROD Fact Sheet:

Milestone Fact Sheets: 10/90, 7/92.

Citizens on site mailing list: 42

Constituency Interest: The Mayor of nearby College City called the EPA in November 1989 to report air emissions from the facility.

Site Repository: Lawrence County Library, 1315 West Main Street, Walnut Ridge, AR 72476

Technical Assistance Grant

Availability Notice: None

Letters of Intent Received: None

Grant Award: None

Contacts

RCRA-EPA Manager, Arkansas/Louisiana, Section Chief (EPA): Cathy E. Carter, 214/ 665- 2732

State Contact: Project Manager- Clark McWilliams, 501/682-0850

(EPA) Public Liaison: Donn Walters, 214-665-6483 EPA Toll Free No. 1-800-533-3508

Attorney (EPA)Contact: Mark Peycke- Chief Superfund Branch, Office Regional Counsel- 214-665-8521

Prime Contractor: N/A

Engineer/ Oversight Services- American Environmental Engineering, Leads, Alabama, 800/238-8744

Issues and Activities

Frit Industries and the EPA conducted site testing to determine whether the water runoff treatment plant is effective. Meanwhile, the EPA has determined that the site does not pose a threat to human health or the environment while awaiting completion of the site evaluation.

Investigative and remedial activities now being conducted by the State of Arkansas under RCRA authorities.

"Construction Completion" status pending HQ review of completed Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) remedial action (in early 1980s) and future RCRA action.

Notice of Deletion of site from NPL by deferral to State RCRA Program occurred on 8/97.

Present Status:

Site Ground Water Monitoring is being actively conducted and the Risk Management decisions/agreements between ADEQ and Frit Industries are pending the composite analytical results. Genesis Environmental monitored the Frit Site January 2003, and ADEQ is awaiting the analytical results of that sampling event.

Benefits

CERCLA has already addressed surface water runoff, which was responsible for a fish kill in nearby Coon Creek. RCRA authorities are presently addressing air, surface soils and ground water contamination under a signed State and Frit Industries AOC, potentially affecting 15,000 people in Lawrence County.