

# MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

## FACT SHEET

## Rockwell Grenada Lake Disposal Site Grenada Mississippi

January 2016

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Rockwell Grenada Lake Disposal Site is a closed industrial waste landfill. During the 1960s and early 1970s Rockwell International operated the plant site in Grenada, Mississippi that manufactured hubcaps, wheel covers and other automotive trim. Waste material from the fabrication process would have included buffing wheels, buffing compounds composed of waxes, and solvents. Trichloroethene (TCE), at the time a commonly used solvent, was a component of this waste material. In 1967, Rockwell leased several acres of land north of Grenada Lake on Highway 333 from the Grenada School Board for use as a disposal site for this material.

### CURRENT CONDITIONS AT THE GRENADA LAKE DISPOSAL SITE

Current activity at the site consists of inspection and maintenance of the landfill and annual groundwater sampling. Plant growth on the landfill surface is controlled and is limited to short grass. Drainage pathways and collection pond are kept clear and the surrounding fencing is kept in good repair. Groundwater samples are collected from 14 wells on the 6-acre site and within a 20 acre area to the east of the highway. Sampling is done on an annual basis to maintain assurance that groundwater contamination does not migrate or expand and that it continues to gradually degrade over time.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

MDEQ and EPA inspected the disposal site in the 1980s, and concluded that there was a possibility of impacts to soil and groundwater in the area. Arvin Meritor, the



successor to Rockwell, began investigation of soil, soil gas and groundwater in the area in 1991. Arvin Meritor entered into an Administrative Order that required further investigation and remediation of the site. Further investigation was conducted from 1992 through 1994, finding contamination by TCE and related solvent chemicals in groundwater, at a depth of about 60 feet. Groundwater below the base of the 60-foot formation was not affected by TCE above drinking water standards. The investigation determined the boundaries of the contaminated area by installing a series of monitoring wells in the water table layer at about 60 feet and in the underlying layer or 'confined aquifer'. The boundaries of the area were determined by the locations of uncontaminated monitoring wells. MDEO considered the area of groundwater contamination to be fully defined by 1995. Repeated sampling has confirmed that further contaminant migration had not occurred.

### SITE REMEDIATION

Following the Administrative Order, Arvin Meritor Arvin Meritor implemented a Corrective Action Plan (CAP). The waste material was consolidated within a small cell on the west side of the highway. Remaining groundwater issues were addressed at the same time. A landfill cover, as required by the CAP, was constructed over the consolidated waste material as illustrated below. The construction of the cover was completed in 2005.



The groundwater monitoring program makes use of

wells constructed as shown below. After completion

of the landfill, Arvin Meritor concluded that preven-

tion of further leachate from the surface to groundwa-

groundwater contamination to non-toxic compounds

by natural processes. MDEQ approved an ongoing

groundwater monitoring program to verify this pro-

cess. Data from the monitoring program, under which

samples from all wells on the site are collected annu-

ter would result in the degradation of remaining

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