



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY- REGION 4
HERCULES, INC. SITE
HATTIESBURG, FORREST COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI



Fact Sheet No. 6

September 2012

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information on investigation efforts, or should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to phone, write, or email one of the following:

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Information Repositories

Library of Hattiesburg-Petal-Forrest County
329 Hardy Street
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

www.epa.gov/region4/foiapg/readingroom/hercules_inc/index.htm

www.deq.state.ms.us/mdeq.nsf/page/CE_HerculesIncHattiesburgMS?OpenDocument

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Phase II Environmental Sampling to begin November 2012

The EPA has **approved** the **Phase II Sampling and Analysis Work Plan** prepared by Hercules, Inc., as directed by the EPA in the May 2011 Administrative Order. The Phase II sampling will take place on the Hercules property and will involve the sampling of groundwater, surface water, soil, and sediment to define the nature and extent of contamination, if present, on the Hercules facility. Implementation of the Phase II plan began in August 2012, with **onsite sampling to take place starting in November 2012**. The Phase II Sampling and Analysis Work Plan can be viewed at the websites listed in the left-hand column.

In addition, a **continuation of the Phase I sampling at off-site locations** will begin in **September 2012**. This work will be conducted east of the plant property along Providence Street and will consist of groundwater monitoring well installation and sampling. **Preliminary results of Phase I sampling indicate that off-site groundwater contamination is present east of the Hercules property boundary, and further sampling is needed to define this contaminated area.** This contamination is located 15' to 24' below ground in a shallow groundwater system with no known wells present in the area. The City of Hattiesburg drinking water supply is a separate ground water system located 400' to 600' below ground and is separated from the shallow groundwater by a thick clay layer; therefore we believe that is no pathway of exposure to this contamination.

Results of all Phase I environmental sampling (primarily off-site locations), collected during February – April of 2012, continue to undergo analysis and tabulation by the laboratory. The EPA and MDEQ will schedule a **community information session** to present the results of the Phase I data after they have been received and evaluated – expected to take place **in the fall/winter of 2012**. The public will be given ample notification of the date for this event.

Next Steps: The following activities are anticipated to occur during 2012-2013:

- Phase II on-site sampling – November-December 2012
- Off-site groundwater sampling – September 2012
- Phase I sampling results presented to the community - Fall/Winter 2012
- Phase II sampling results presented to the community – Summer 2013
- Full Phase I Report – Spring/Summer 2013

Project Background: As required by a May 9, 2011 Administrative Order from the EPA, Hercules is undertaking an **investigation of potential on- and off-site contamination at or from the Hercules facility.** The purpose of **Phase I of this investigation is to determine whether any immediate risks to human health or the environment are currently occurring from chemicals that may have been released from the Hercules property.** Sampling for Phase I was conducted in the spring of 2012 and included the focused sampling of drinking water, groundwater, surface water, soil, soil gas, and sediment on- and off-site near the Hercules facility. The results of Phase I are currently being analyzed and will be communicated to the public in the fall/winter of 2012 when final. **Phase II focuses on assessing the full nature and extent of on-site contamination at the Hercules facility.** The Phase II Work Plan was approved by the EPA and MDEQ on August 6, 2012, and environmental sampling for Phase II will begin in November 2012.

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Mailing List Additions/Corrections

If you would like to make a correction/revision or refer someone to the mailing list for the Hercules site, please complete this form and return it to:

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