

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS UPDATE

On 7/15/10, M & M Grocery located at 25066 Highway 51 in Crystal Springs had a failure of the premium gasoline tank. The tank was taken out of service and will be repaired soon. The owners have monitored the site for signs of contamination, but none has been found. On 7/29/10, DEQ personnel made a site visit to check for contamination and none was found. MDEQ will perform an environmental assessment to ensure that there is no contamination.

On 7/29/10, MDEQ personnel visited the Westside Shell. All tank equipment appeared to be functioning normally. No leaks were found. MDEQ will perform an additional environmental assessment across Highway 51 just to make sure that the contamination found during the Phase 1 environmental assessment is defined to the west. A groundwater sampling of all wells on and off site will be included in the work.

TEST RESULTS/REPORTS FOR KUHLMAN ELECTRIC CLEANUP

If you are interested in viewing or making copies of test results or reports from the Kuhlman Electric Cleanup, or would like more information about the Underground Storage Tanks projects, please contact Melissa Collier at 601-961-5025. All of this information is available for you at your request.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
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Working with and through communities to address issues affecting the well-being of their environment.
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KUHLMAN CLEANUP INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has made available public files for the cleanup of the Kuhlman Electric Corporation site in Crystal Springs on the MDEQ website at <http://bit.ly/d4muPP>. Plans are being made to add the permitting and compliance files.

The availability of the public files for the Kuhlman Electric Corporation site, and for other contaminated sites, is part of the outreach by the newly-created Office of Community Engagement. Executive Director Trudy Fisher created the office to provide more information to the public, to inform Mississippians about MDEQ's decision-making process, and to provide communities with meaning involvement in those decisions.

"The citizens of Mississippi are entitled to open, accessible information about cleanups that MDEQ oversees. MDEQ is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of our state, and we will continue to take steps to ensure the public can be engaged in the agency's activities," said Melissa Collier, Director of Community Engagement for MDEQ.

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is committed to providing public access to environmental information. Our agency believes that keeping citizens informed enhances achievement of our goal of environmental protection.

The enSearch Online database can be reached from the MDEQ website: <http://www.deq.state.ms.us>.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

vs.

PUBLIC HEARING

A community meeting gives you the opportunity to ask questions and discuss issues concerning environmental activities under consideration with informed DEQ employees and others.

Community meetings are informal and there are no rules regarding who can attend or participate. These meetings are set up so you can ask questions to DEQ and in some cases representatives from facilities and/or other government agencies. The goal of the meeting is to educate, identify concerns and address any questions you may have to help you become better informed. Although your comments are not recorded in a verbatim transcript, the format will allow you to provide information and discuss issues with DEQ.

A public hearing is a meeting where people make comments and state opinions concerning a permit that is under consideration.

Public hearings give you and other interested parties an opportunity to provide comments concerning the permit.

All comments, both for and against, will be added to the public record and will be taken under consideration before issuing or denying the permit. DEQ will also make available to the public a written record of responses.

This newsletter is being provided to the citizens of Crystal Springs concerned about the environmental safety of their community to provide updates about environmental projects in the area.

CRYSTAL SPRINGS ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

If you have environmental questions you would like answered by MDEQ in the next newsletter, please fax them to Melissa Collier at 601-961-5674.

Is there a fish advisory for mercury in the creeks and streams of Crystal Springs?

There is a Mercury TMDL (Total Daily Maximum Load) on the Pearl River due to samples and analysis of fish tissue. Six tissue samples were collected and analyzed. One of the six samples indicated an elevated level of mercury. Please be advised that fish consumption advisories are not issued based on the result of one sample, but rather from a statistical analysis that demonstrates a trend. The elevated sample was below the State of Mississippi's advisory level of 1ppm, but was above EPA's advisory level of 0.3 ppm. The Mercury TMDL was issued as a precautionary measure.

Where is the mercury coming from?

The proposed permit requires the City of Crystal Springs to complete and implement a Mercury Minimization Plan. This plan is required because Crystal Springs POTW is identified in the TMDL as a potential contributor of mercury in the Pearl River. The Mercury Minimization Plan will require the City to identify, reduce and/or eliminate potential mercury sources throughout their sanitary sewer system. It should be noted that the City of Crystal Springs submitted mercury data as part of its application for the reissuance of their NPDES permit. Review of this data did not indicate a reasonable potential to violate water quality criteria.

Is there groundwater contamination in the city of Crystal Springs?

Yes, the only contaminants detected in the groundwater are 1,1-DCE and 1,4-Dioxane. The only drinking water well that detected low levels of 1,1-DCE was shut down back in 2005. The City wells and the distribution point for water to the residents are tested on a monthly basis. At **NO** time has any contamination been detected at the distribution point to the residents. There is some petroleum contamination (benzene) being detected in a well near service stations on Hwy 51 which is not associated with the KEC site. 1,4-Dioxane is an industrial solvent additive that is found in 1,1-DCE. Because 1,4-Dioxane is an additive of 1,1-DCE, then analysis is conducted for its presence, along with 1,1-DCE. The groundwater is being analyzed for volatiles by Method 8260 and a separate Method is used to analyze for 1,4-Dioxane.

FOR QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, AND COMPLAINTS REGARDING THE ENVIRONMENT "INSIDE THE HOME" OR SAFE DRINKING WATER ISSUES

Contact your local Public Health District Office or the Mississippi State Department of Health (Central Office). Central Office phone, Jackson, (601) 576-7400; 24-hour Information, 1-866-458-4948; and for Public Health Emergencies (601) 576-7400. You may visit their website at <http://www.msdh.ms.gov/> You may obtain a map and phone number your local Public Health District Office by visiting this website as well.

Kuhlman Electric Company (KEC) has manufactured electrical transformers at their Crystal Springs site since the 1950s. KEC was a subsidiary of the Kuhlman Corporation, which was purchased by BorgWarner, Inc. in March, 1999. Subsequently, KEC was sold to the Carlyle Group on October 5, 1999. While BorgWarner never operated the KEC facility, it provided an indemnity covering "Pre-Closing Environmental Matters" when they bought Kuhlman.

In late April, 2000, Kuhlman notified MDEQ that they had found contaminated soil when construction workers were moving dirt for a plant expansion. Sampling and testing confirmed that the contamination was from polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and various chlorinated benzenes. Kuhlman used PCBs as a dielectric fluid in the transformers from the 1950s until 1973.

MDEQ worked with the company to assess the extent of the contamination on and near the site. PCBs have a high affinity for absorption onto organic matter so they tend to bind tightly to the soil and travel with surface water runoff. The contamination was easily traced by following the drainage from the site. The investigation and remediation was complicated by the fact that soil had been hauled from the site by contractors and plant personnel.

Part of the Kuhlman property is on a hill, with surface drainage to areas that are primarily residential property. There is also drainage along a ditch from the property to Lake Chautauqua, a public lake owned by the City of Crystal Springs. Action was taken immediately to prevent additional runoff and soil removal. The next steps were to remove contamination from the adjacent residential and commercial properties and then continue remediation down gradient on the plant site and along the drainage channel toward Lake Chautauqua.

These actions began in 2000 and continued until July, 2008, when removal was stopped while the City of Crystal Springs negotiated the purchase of the Canadian National Railroad property. The City bought the Canadian National Railroad property in 2009. After the property is cleared of contamination, it will be available for development.

The assessment also indicated that there was groundwater contamination from 1, 1-dichlorethene in one city well. The well was closed in 2005 because the contamination was above drinking water standards. The city's wells are sampled monthly, and thirty-eight monitoring wells are sampled quarterly. Contamination has never been detected at the point where water is discharged to the citizens.

The soil removal along the drainage ditch resumed on April 5, 2010 to clean up the property previously owned by the Canadian National Railroad. Approximately **40 %** of the total remaining area to be remediated has been completed as of August 16, 2010. An ecological assessment was completed at Lake Chautauqua in May 2010. MDEQ is currently waiting on the submittal of a report documenting the assessments findings. MDEQ is expecting to receive a remedial action plan for remediation of the groundwater on or before October 31, 2010.

MDEQ continues to conduct monthly city well sampling events (usually conducted on the first Tuesday of each month) and continues to conduct quarterly groundwater sampling events (March, June, Sept, Dec). So we have a quarterly sampling event coming up the first week in September. BorgWarner has been fully cooperative with MDEQ to perform both assessment and remediation actions in Crystal Springs. MDEQ is planning to host a community engagement availability session this winter to provide additional information on the work being done at this site.

