



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



Fact Sheet No. 7

June 2013

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

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

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

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Update on USEPA Administrative Order

As part of the off-site investigation that has been underway in Phase 1, EPA and MDEQ have conducted a preliminary evaluation of the samples collected in the vicinity of the former Hercules plant. Three areas of impacted groundwater (or “plumes”) will require additional sampling in order to further define plumes to the east, south and west of the property. In January, additional sampling was conducted east of the property, in the vicinity of Providence St. and 8th St. Data from this sampling are being evaluated. The second and third areas are located in the southern and western areas of the facility (see map below). Follow-up sampling in these areas will be conducted this summer. All three of these plumes are located in the shallow groundwater system. These plumes pose no health hazard to the community. Public water supplied by the City of Hattiesburg is drawn from water wells that are much deeper and not connected to the shallow groundwater system.

When all Phase II and follow-up investigation data are available, Hercules, with EPA and MDEQ oversight and assistance, will conduct a Risk Assessment to determine if any of the chemicals identified pose a risk to human health or the environment. Upon completion of the evaluation, MDEQ and EPA will provide results to the community.

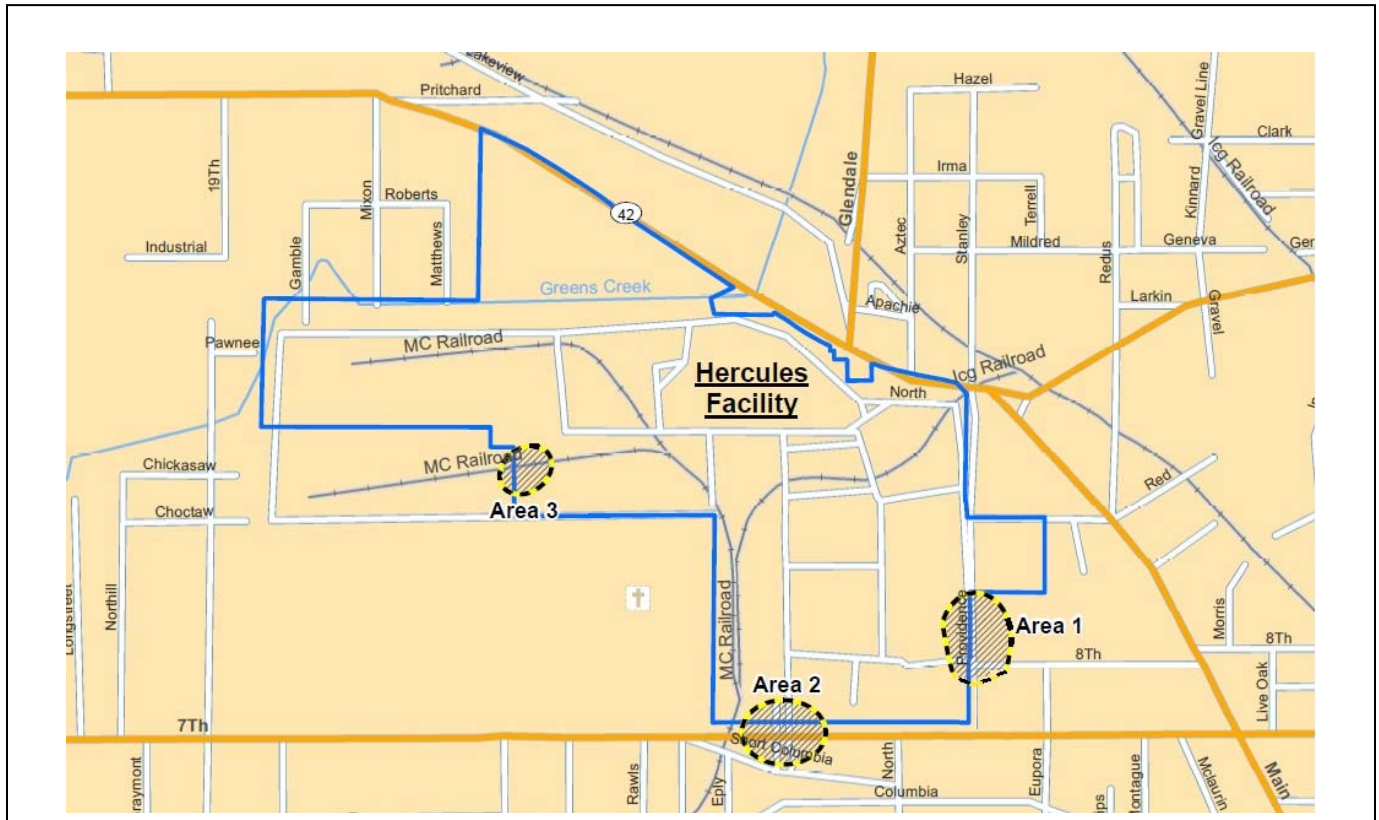
Next Steps: The following activities are expected to take place in the coming months:

- Interim Report of all Phase I, Phase II, and Follow-Up Investigation #1 results – Summer 2013
- Follow-Up Investigations of second and third plumes – Summer 2013
- Risk Assessment – Fall 2013
- Full Investigation Report – Early 2014

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 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. Phase II focuses on assessing the full nature and extent of on-site contamination at the facility. The Phase II environmental sampling took place in November 2012. Additional follow-up groundwater studies are planned for three areas on or adjacent to the Hercules facility (as described in update above). All data from groundwater, surface water, soil, and sediment sampling will be utilized in a Risk Assessment to define the degree of hazard, if any, to human health and the environment from chemicals present.

The Phase I and II Sampling and Analysis Work Plans, as well as other project documents, can be viewed at the websites listed on the reverse side. Please contact any of the project representatives listed on the front if you have questions about this investigation.



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