

Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund 2018 Annual Report



Land Division
Environmental Services Branch

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About the Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund

The Alabama Hazardous Substance Cleanup Fund (AHSCF) was established in 1989 by act of the Alabama Legislature (Code of Alabama 1975, §22-30A) to provide a mechanism for ADEM to investigate, remediate, and monitor hazardous substance sites. These sites may potentially endanger human health and the environment, but may not qualify to be addressed by other federal or state cleanup programs.

Generally, sites addressed under AHSCF are not qualified for or are unlikely to receive cleanup funding under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), commonly referred to as “Superfund”. AHSCF funding may also be used for long term maintenance and monitoring of sites which have historically been addressed under CERCLA. Since the inception of AHSCF, 495 individual sites have been addressed over the last 30 years (about 190 over multiple years). Most of these sites were remediated to a point where no further action is required or referred to other programs which were better suited to address problems found on the sites. Expenditures for those cleanups has totaled almost \$5.2 million dollars over the last 30 years.

The Act allows the ADEM staff to respond to citizen complaints regarding improper disposal of hazardous substances and other toxic materials and provides right of entry in order to perform these investigations. After initial response to a site, remediation may occur under CERCLA, the ADEM Hazardous Waste Program, or AHSCF, depending on the specific site conditions. If an initial response was performed under AHSCF, site activities are subsequently summarized in this report to ensure closure of each location.

Initial response actions are usually performed under the general management category. In addition to initial responses, other activities which fall under this category include, but are not limited to, personnel and travel costs associated with conducting complaint investigations of sites that are not to be assigned a specific site number (since the sites do not qualify for the AHSCF for numerous reasons), initial complaint investigations prior to having specific site numbers assigned to a site, administrative support for the purchase and repair of equipment utilized on all sites, and field sampling equipment and safety supplies. General administrative functions associated with research and clerical support is also included in this category. Several sites were addressed under the general administrative fund during Fiscal Year 2018.

Funding for AHSCF activities is generated by fees from hazardous waste disposal at the Chemical Waste Management hazardous waste landfill in Emelle, Alabama, and by reimbursements from potentially responsible parties (PRPs). For fiscal year 2017, fee revenue totaled \$134,383.96.

2018 Response Activities

Site Specific Information

AHSCF GENERAL MANAGEMENT

Statewide

Reference # 348-9000

Kimbrel Property

Theodore, Alabama

Several sites were initially investigated under the auspices of the general management fund code. This fund code allows investigators to perform initial surveys of the sites to determine whether assigning a site specific fund code is applicable or if the site would be better managed under another program due to the prevailing circumstances. One such site investigated this past fiscal year was the defunct Kimbrel property located in Theodore, Alabama. Mr. Kimbrel bought the residential property from the US Government several years ago. Prior to Mr. Kimbrel purchasing the property, the adjacent property owner decided to clean up his property by pushing debris, trash, dirt and other unused items into a pile/berm along his property line and onto the adjacent US Government property. Subsequently, Mr. Kimbrel purchased the property and built a residence. After doing so, he started inquiring about how to get rid of the materials his neighbor had pushed onto his property. After touring the property and speaking with Mr. Kimbrel, it was determined that the site does not fall under the guidelines for an AHSCF site. Visually, the material appeared to be a lot of dirt with some trash and debris mixed in with it. Mr. Kimbrel was advised that the problem would have to be addressed by him as a civil matter between him and his neighbor. A few other sites were initially investigated and found not to qualify for the AHSCF and were referred to the appropriate programs.

Coliseum Boulevard Plume

Montgomery County

Reference # 348-9273

The Coliseum Boulevard Plume (CBP) site, which encompasses 682 acres in north Montgomery, has experienced underlying groundwater contamination resulting from historical solvent use by local commercial and industrial facilities. The site is bounded by Lower Wetumpka Road to the west, Emory Folmar Boulevard to the east, Northern Boulevard to the North, and CSX Railroad to the south. The contaminant of concern is trichloroethylene (TCE) and the related compounds resulting from its degradation. The impacted groundwater is at a depth of 25 to 45 feet and was found to be entering a surface water ditch.

Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) continues to conduct monitoring for TCE in surface water emanating from the west and main branches of the Kilby ditch. ALDOT

also continues to perform groundwater monitoring to ascertain current levels of the contamination and monitor natural attenuation. Finally, the Community Outreach Group continues to meet on a regular basis. ADEM continues to provide oversight and reviewing of the groundwater and surface water sampling performed by contractors for the Department of Transportation for the CBP Site.

**Preferred Compounding Corp. (formerly ProBlend)
Cleburne County
Reference # 348-9656**

The site is located at 165 County Road 33 (Depot Street), Fruithurst, Cleburne County, Alabama. This site was a former rubber compounding company, which made customer specific rubber sheets and strips/ribbons or pellets for further use/manufacturing in the automotive, medical, and industrial sectors. Associated Rubber began operating on this site in 1987, was subsequently acquired by Preferred Compounding Corp., and ceased operations at this site in 2015. Prior to Associated Rubber, information supplied by the owners indicate a former truck maintenance operation was located on the site. During operations, the raw synthetic and/or natural rubber was mixed with aggregate (clay, oil, etc.), polymers, and catalysts to the specifications of customers for their usage. The materials were mixed and extruded in sheets, ribbons, or pellets for further use by specific customers. These intermediate products were packaged and shipped to customers who then created the end products needed for their particular operations. During the process, some dust was generated and collected by a collection system and small baghouse located on the south side of the facility. The dust was containerized in 55-gallon drums and shipped periodically to a sister facility located in Tallapoosa, Georgia where it was comingled with like wastes and disposed of in the appropriate manner. When Associated Rubber was acquired by Preferred Compounding Corp., the new owners determined that it was more cost effective to close the Fruithurst plant and transfer operations to the Tallapoosa, Georgia facility in 2015.

A complaint was made to ADEM and the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) that the site had caused groundwater contamination over a widespread area and as a result had caused a cancer cluster to form in the town of Fruithurst. Initial environmental investigation of the site was performed by ADEM under the AHSCF to locate the site, locate possible private wells near the site, and perform initial investigation as to the industrial process(es) utilized at the site, waste streams created by the processes, disposal of materials, and other factors which might have an impact on the surrounding residents. Health-related concerns were evaluated by ADPH. The site was referred to the US EPA for further investigation and a CERCLA Pre-screening Assessment was performed. At this time, no further action under the AHSCF is deemed necessary.

Former ProBlend Facility



Baghouse at the Facility



Inactive public artesian spring



View of ProBlend from spring



EXPENDITURES AND COST RECOVERY

AHSCF funds are used to investigate and remediate abandoned hazardous substance sites. If the responsible party is unwilling or unable to conduct an investigation or cleanup, funds from AHSCF may be used, and cost recovery and punitive damages may be pursued after the cleanup is complete. Total expenditures from the AHSCF were \$52,185.33 from October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018.

Site Name	Action Taken	Cost
AHSCF General Management	Administrative, clerical support, initial investigations, equipment	\$37,993.98
Coliseum Boulevard Plume	Groundwater and surface water monitoring and oversight	\$12,071.95
Preferred Compounding	Initial site survey, background investigation, site visit	\$2,119.40
Total Cost	-----	\$52,185.33

Site Location Map

