

Combe Fill South Landfill

Parker Road Chester & Washington Townships Morris County

BLOCK: 17 LOT: 7

BLOCK: 37 LOT: 15, 16 & 16.01

Community Relations Coordinator: Mark Herzberg (609) 633-1369

SITE DESCRIPTION/RESOLUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

Combe Fill South Landfill operated as a municipal landfill from the 1940s until 1981. During this time, the landfill was licensed to accept municipal wastes, sewage sludge, chemicals and waste oils. After the landfill closed, contamination was detected in leachate seeping from the sides of the landfill, in shallow and deep on-site ground water monitor wells and in nearby Trout Brook. In addition, several nearby private potable wells were determined to be contaminated with volatile organic compounds at levels exceeding New Jersey Drinking Water Standards. Point-of-Entry Treatment (POET) systems were installed on the wells with funds provided by NJDEP to supply potable water for the residents. USEPA added Combe Fill South Landfill to the National Priorities List of Superfund sites (NPL) in 1983. NJDEP subsequently conducted a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) to delineate the contamination at the site and evaluate remedial alternatives. In 1986, after the RI/FS was completed, USEPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) with NJDEP concurrence that required capping of the landfill, venting of the landfill gases, installation of an on-site remediation system to extract and treat the contaminated ground water in the shallow aquifer, and fencing of the site. The ROD also required installation of a public water line to replace the contaminated private wells and those wells at risk of becoming contaminated in the future, as wells as a supplemental RI/FS to evaluate the contamination in the deep ground water aquifer after initial treatment of the shallow aquifer. NJDEP's Remedial Response Element completed the landfill cap and the ground water remediation system in 1996. Installation of the water line was not implemented, however, because ground water monitoring conducted after the ROD was issued showed little impact to nearby private potable wells was likely. NJDEP plans to amend the ROD to remove the water line requirement. NJDEP is maintaining the POET systems and periodically sampling certain private wells in the area to monitor potable water quality. NJDEP began the RI/FS to delineate the contamination in the deeper aquifer in 2001, but these activities are currently on hold while NJDEP negotiates an agreement with the Potentially Responsible Parties that would obligate them to conduct the work. Operation and maintenance (O&M) of the landfill cap and ground water remediation system are ongoing.