

**PRELIMINARY  
Health  
Assessment  
for**

**COSDEN CHEMICAL COATINGS NPL SITE**

**BEVERLY, NEW JERSEY**

**JULY 7, 1988**

Agency for Toxic Substances  
U.S. Public Health Service

PRELIMINARY HEALTH ASSESSMENT  
COSDEN CHEMICAL COATINGS NPL SITE  
BEVERLY, NEW JERSEY  
July 7, 1988

Prepared by:  
Office of Health Assessment  
Agency for Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Background

The Cosden Chemical Coatings Site has been listed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the National Priorities List (NPL). It is an active 8.8-acre chemical coatings facility; numerous spills and discharges from deteriorating drums of paint wastes and solvents have occurred at the site.

Environmental Contamination And Physical Hazards

The contaminants of concern at the site include polychlorinated biphenols (PCBs), methylene chloride, chromium, lead, toluene, and ethyl benzene.

No physical hazards were reported to be present at the site.

Potential Environmental And Exposure Pathways

The contaminants of concern listed above were sampled from leaking drums, which were the major concern at the site and were taken off-site in a removal action performed by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. The material reviewed for this report does not indicate that further environmental sampling has yet been performed. Potential environmental pathways are, presumptively, contaminated soil, groundwater, and possibly surface water and air.

The primary potential human exposure pathways on-site are ingestion of contaminated soil and inhalation of chemical vapors and contaminant-enrained dust.

Demographics

The distance from the site to the closest residence is approximately 0.1 mile, and the approximate population living within one mile of the site is 722. Two schools are located within 0.2 and 0.9 miles, respectively. The total population of the town is less than 4000.

## Cosden Chemical Coatings NPL Site, Beverly, New Jersey

### Evaluation And Discussion

Since characterization of the environmental contamination at this site has thus far been limited primarily to material removed from the site in a State removal action, the extent and concentration of both on-site and off-site contamination in relevant media has not yet been documented through appropriate sampling and analysis. The site is a currently active facility with limited production and two employees. Access to the facility is not restricted, so that both employees and unauthorized visitors could be exposed to whatever on-site soil and/or air contamination may be present. All residents within a three-mile radius of the site are served by a municipal water system drawn from an aquifer presumably not threatened by contaminants potentially migrating from the site. Although the ATSDR Site Summary Form reports previous use of private wells in the immediate vicinity of the site, it is uncertain whether any wells are still being used as a potable water source at this time.

ATSDR is now preparing, or will prepare, Toxicological Profiles on the major contaminants identified at this site.

### Conclusions And Recommendations

Based on the available information, this site is considered to be of potential public health concern because of the risk to human health caused by the possibility of exposure to hazardous substances via on-site ingestion of contaminated soil and inhalation of chemical vapors and contaminant-enrained dust. The current lack of information on the extent and concentration of contamination either on-site or off-site precludes more definitive assessment of any potential public health implications of this site at this time.

Further environmental characterization and sampling of the site and impacted off-site areas during the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) should be designed to address the environmental and human exposure pathways discussed above. When additional information and data become available, e.g., the completed RI/FS, such material will form the basis for further assessment by ATSDR at a later date.