

Environmental Restoration Project



Area of Concern (AOC) No. 1027: Building 6530 Septic System, TA-III

ADS: 1295

Operable Unit: Septic Tanks and Drainfields

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Site History

Historical SNL/NM Facilities Engineering drawings indicate that this septic system was connected to Building 6530 and consisted of a septic tank plumbed to two seepage pits. The septic tank is located approximately 100 feet north of Building 6530 and about 30 feet west of Building 6536, in TA-III. The septic tank was plumbed to two seepage pits located about 80 feet northwest of the septic tank. It is assumed that this septic system was abandoned in the early 1990s when the City of Albuquerque sanitary sewer system was extended into TA-III. No other historical research has been conducted for this site.

Constituents of Concern

Constituents of concern for this site are unknown.

Current Hazards

No known surface hazards have been identified. Environmental characterization has not been conducted at the site; therefore potential subsurface environmental hazards are unknown.

Current Status of Work

Samples were collected from the septic tank in late 1990 or early 1991, 1992, and 1995 for waste characterization purposes. The tank was pumped out and cleaned in March 1996.

A field inspection was conducted at the site in July 1999 and the septic tank and south seepage pits were located and determined to still be intact. The north seepage pit was not located at that

time, and appeared to have been removed as a result of construction at the site. A backhoe was therefore used at the site in September 2002 to attempt to locate the north seepage pit. A portion of the drainline from the seepage pit distribution box to the north seepage pit was found, but the seepage pit itself was not found.

To determine if environmental contamination is present beneath this system and in accordance with agreements reached with NMED personnel, additional sampling was conducted at this site. As shown on the site map, passive soil vapor samplers were installed at five locations around the two seepage pits in April 2002 to detect the presence or absence of VOCs at the site. A single soil sample boring was also drilled through the center of, and directly beneath the southern seepage pit in September 2002. A second boring was also drilled at the assumed former location of the north seepage pit as shown on engineering drawings at that time. Soil samples collected from these two borings were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), total cyanide, high explosive (HE) compounds, metals, and radionuclides.

Future Work Planned

This site may be selected for deeper environmental characterization sampling if analytical results from the shallow sampling indicate potentially significant contamination at depth.

Waste Volume Estimated/Generated

A total of 585 gallons of effluent (including water added to facilitate pumping) was removed from the septic tank in March 1996. No environmental characterization or remediation waste has been generated at the site to date.

Information for ER Site 1026 was last updated Jan 17, 2003.