



# COMMUNITY UPDATE INFORMATION SHEET

## CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site

### Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina

March 31, 2014

*EPA is committed to keeping the community informed about activities related to the CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site. Community Update Information Sheets will be published approximately monthly and will summarize the present status, future activities, and community involvement opportunities. Historical information has been presented in previous editions.*

**Page 1:**

- **Water Line Construction Has Begun**

**Page 2:**

- **Drinking Water Well Sampling Update**
- **Well Water Filtration System Update**

**Page 3:**

- **Vapor Intrusion Assessment Update**
- **NAPL Investigation Update**

**Page 4:**

- **Technical Advisor Hired by POWER**
- **Question/Topic of the Month**

**Page 5:**

- **Contact Information**

The CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site (CTS Site) is located on Mills Gap Road in Asheville, Buncombe County, North Carolina, and also includes the areal extent of contamination. It is in an area known as Skyland, which is approximately 5 miles south of Asheville. The former facility is bordered by Mills Gap Road to the north, and residences and undeveloped land to the east, south, and west. The primary contaminant associated with the CTS Site is trichloroethene (TCE).

### **WATER LINE CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN**

Buncombe County awarded the contract to T&K Utilities, Inc. for construction of the CTS Water Line Extension project. Construction began on March 20, 2014. The project generally consists of the construction of approximately 7,700 lineal feet of 8-inch and 6,500 lineal feet of 6-inch ductile iron water line and appurtenances including fire hydrants, approximately 156 meter services, 140 pressure reducing valves, 3 residential booster pumps and approximately 47,000 lineal feet of ¾" through 2" service lines connecting to existing house service lines.

For residents that connect to the municipal water system during this project, the City will waive the normal service connection fees.

As homes are connected to the municipal water supply, EPA will coordinate with home owners to schedule appointments to remove the Culligan installed whole house well water filtration systems.

*If you have questions about the  
CTS Water Line Extension,  
please contact:*

Mike Goodson

828-250-4854

[mike.goodson@buncombeco.org](mailto:mike.goodson@buncombeco.org)

## DRINKING WATER WELL SAMPLING



AMEC personnel collecting a well water sample in January 2014

The 2<sup>nd</sup> quarterly drinking water sampling event of 2014 is scheduled to take place during the week of **April 14-18, 2014**. EPA will contact home owners assigned for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter sampling to schedule appointments.

For homes with Culligan installed whole house well water filtration systems, AMEC Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. (AMEC) personnel will collect two samples, with EPA staff or contractor providing oversight. One sample will be collected from water before it enters the filtration system in order to evaluate the quality of the unfiltered ground water and a second sample will be collected after the water flows through the filtration system to evaluate the quality of the filtered water entering the home. For homes that have not had the filtration system installed, only one sample will be collected to evaluate the quality of the unfiltered ground water.

All samples will be analyzed by Pace Analytical Services, Inc. for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that are associated with the CTS Site. These VOCs include: 1,1-dichloroethene, cis-1,2-dichloroethene, trans-1,2-dichloroethene, tetrachloroethene, toluene, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, TCE, and vinyl chloride. None of these VOCs have been detected in the 2013 quarterly sampling events or the January 2014 quarterly sampling event.

## WHOLE HOUSE WATER FILTRATION SYSTEM UPDATE

*Culligan provides routine servicing and maintenance of their system and is responsible for repairing malfunctions as a result of ordinary use and operation. If an issue arises, please call Culligan immediately:  
**828-251-2420***

In 2012, CTS Corporation offered to install, monitor and maintain whole house water filtration systems for homes that are located within a one mile radius of the CTS Site that rely on well or spring water as their drinking water source **at no cost to the home owners**. The filtration design includes two sediment filters, a carbon filter tank, and an ultraviolet light, at a minimum.

Culligan began installing filtration systems on September 11, 2012. As of today, filtration systems have

been installed to protect the drinking water of 100 homes. If you have not accepted the filtration system offer yet and do not want to connect to the municipal water supply system, please contact Samantha or Angela. Our contact information is included on the last page.

The sediment filters are on a 6-month maintenance schedule. For homes that needed a softener in addition to the standard system, the softeners are on a 4-month maintenance schedule. Carbon tanks and UV lights are replaced annually. Culligan will contact home owners/tenants to schedule appointments for maintenance.



Filtration system installed by Culligan at a home within a mile radius of the CTS site

The standard filtration systems will filter out some metals that are attached to sediment, remove organic chemicals that could possibly enter your well water, and kill bacteria that may be in your water. This is being offered as a preventative/safety measure to protect your water until the Remedial Investigation is completed and a final remedy selected, and/or you connect to the municipal water supply, whichever occurs first.

## VAPOR INTRUSION ASSESSMENT

In 2012, AMEC conducted a Vapor Intrusion (VI) Assessment at several homes within Southside Village, which is adjacent to the western fence line of the former CTS manufacturing building. The results indicated that concentrations were within acceptable levels for residential land use.

A few months ago, the property owners adjacent to the eastern fence line gave CTS Corporation and EPA permission to conduct the VI assessment on their properties. EPA approved AMEC's revised Vapor Intrusion Assessment Work Plan (Revision 4) on March 28, 2014, and is coordinating with the property owners to schedule sampling activities. The schedule is outlined below.

Activity	Time To Complete	Completion Date
AMEC submission of VI Assessment Work Plan (Revision 4)	Within 2 weeks of receipt of EPA comments on Revision 3	March 14, 2014
EPA approval of Work Plan Revision 4	Estimated within 30 days of receipt of Revision 4	March 28, 2014
AMEC begins implementation of VI Assessment	Within 30 days of EPA approval of Work Plan	
AMEC conducts VI Assessment field activities with EPA staff/contractor providing oversight	3-4 days	
AMEC receives laboratory data	Within estimated 21 days of sample collection	
AMEC submits Vapor Intrusion Assessment Report to EPA	Within 45 days after receipt of laboratory data	

## NAPL INVESTIGATION FIELD WORK HAS BEEN COMPLETED

Activities associated with the Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids (NAPL) Investigation began on September 23, 2013, and field work was completed on February 5, 2014. The work included a multi-step process to better understand how deep and wide the highest concentrated contamination exists on and next to the former plant property. The work was divided into the following 9 tasks:

- Task 1: Measure depth to water in monitoring wells
- Task 2: Gauge monitoring wells/piezometers for NAPL; sample NAPL if identified
- Task 3: Conduct Membrane Interface Probe (MIP) investigation
- Task 4: Conduct Laser Induced Fluorescence (LIF) investigation
- Task 5: Conduct Hydraulic Profiling Tool (HPT) investigation
- Task 6: Review direct sensing data
- Task 7: Collect soil samples
- Task 8: Collect groundwater samples
- Task 9: Survey soil/groundwater boring locations

According to the schedule, AMEC will submit the report of the NAPL Investigation to EPA within 60 days of receipt of the laboratory data. There was a slight delay in receipt of all of the laboratory data. EPA anticipates receiving the NAPL Investigation Report in early May 2014.

## TECHNICAL ADVISER HIRED BY POWER ACTION GROUP

In October 2013, EPA awarded POWER Action Group (POWER) a Technical Assistance Grant. The grant is to be used to contract with an independent technical advisor to interpret and help the community understand technical information about the Site. More information about Technical Assistance Grants can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tag/>.

POWER is a grassroots community group that was established in August 2012. Their goals and objectives are to (as copied from their website):

- *Share accurate information with community members regarding the CTS site, and offer resources for obtaining answers to questions residents may have.*
- *Provide realistic recommendations and input on short and long-term actions to be taken regarding remediation and cleanup of the site.*
- *Communicate clearly, professionally, and effectively with all interested parties, including EPA and NC DENR representatives, other government entities, community non-profits, and elected local, state and federal officials.*
- *Develop a thorough understanding of the CTS of Asheville site from the standpoint of environmental and health implications, remediation options, and overall community development.*
- *Serve as an ongoing vehicle for information-sharing and discussion regarding decision-making related to the CTS of Asheville site.*

In February, POWER hired Frank Anastasi of SCA Associates, of Rockville, Maryland, to serve as the Technical Advisor. Mr. Anastasi is a Professional Geologist with many years of experience in site investigations and remediation projects. He has begun reviewing documents related to the CTS Site. More information about Mr. Anastasi and POWER can be found at: <http://poweractiongroup.org/>.

## QUESTION/TOPIC OF THE MONTH

*To help better educate the community on topics related to the CTS Site, we created this segment in the community update. If you have concerns or questions that you would like more information on, please let us know.*

*What would it cost to keep the filtration system instead of connecting to city water?*

I can't really answer this question because the well water quality varies a lot in the area. CTS Corporation committed to pay for the maintenance of the Culligan installed filtration systems until after the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) is completed or until the home owner decides they no longer want the system or until the home owner connects to the municipal water supply system. It will be a few more years until the

RI/FS is completed. After the RI/FS is completed, EPA will select cleanup actions for the Site. EPA will hold a public meeting and have at least a 30-day public comment period where members of the public can submit comments to EPA before EPA makes the final decision for the cleanup actions.

We will not have a clear understanding of the extent of the contaminated drinking water aquifer until after the RI/FS is completed. But, for example, if your home turns out to be located in an area not at risk of having the contamination from the CTS Site to reach your well, EPA may not require any more treatment of your well water. Many people have noticed improved quality of their well water with the Culligan filtration systems. Some of these people do not want to connect to city water. The cost of hiring a filtration system company will vary depending on the type of treatment components that are needed for your water quality issues. For example, if volatile organic compounds are not an issue, the carbon tanks and ultraviolet light could be removed, which would reduce the costs. Or if your water has low pH, you might consider adding a component to treat that problem. (Low pH can corrode copper pipes and cause leaks that are expensive to repair. The systems that Culligan installed on behalf of CTS Corporation do not address pH issues.) Because every home's well water is different, it is impossible to provide a general cost estimate. However, it will most likely be more expensive than the city water bill.

## Contact Information

### **EPA**

#### **Angela Miller**

Community Involvement Coordinator  
404.562.8561 (office)  
678.575.8132 (cell)  
[MILLER.ANGELA@EPA.GOV](mailto:MILLER.ANGELA@EPA.GOV)

#### **Samantha Urquhart-Foster**

Remedial Project Manager  
404.562.8760 (office)  
404.909.0839 (cell)  
[URQUHART-FOSTER.SAMANTHA@EPA.GOV](mailto:URQUHART-FOSTER.SAMANTHA@EPA.GOV)

### **NCDENR**

#### **Nile Testerman**

Environmental Engineer  
919.707.8339  
[NILE.TESTERMAN@NCDENR.GOV](mailto:NILE.TESTERMAN@NCDENR.GOV)

### **Buncombe County**

#### **Mandy Stone**

Assistant County Manager  
828.250.5587  
[MANDY.STONE@BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG](mailto:MANDY.STONE@BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG)

#### **Mike Goodson**

(Managing CTS Water Line Extension Project)  
828.250.4854  
[MIKE.GOODSON@BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG](mailto:MIKE.GOODSON@BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG)

### **Culligan**

828.251.2420  
[CULLIGANWNC@BELLSOUTH.NET](mailto:CULLIGANWNC@BELLSOUTH.NET)

### **Community Groups**

#### **Concerned Citizens for Mills Gap Cleanup**

Glen Horecky  
[GEH4@MSN.COM](mailto:GEH4@MSN.COM)

#### **TAG Recipient:**

#### **POWER Action Group**

(Protecting Our Water and Environmental Resources)  
Lee Ann Smith  
[UPTHISHILL@BELLSOUTH.NET](mailto:UPTHISHILL@BELLSOUTH.NET)

## Information Repository

EPA has established an information repository for the public to review some of the documents related to the Site and the Superfund program. The local repository does not include all documents related to the Site. Additional documents may be made available by EPA upon request. The local information repository is located at the:

Pack Memorial Library  
67 Haywood Street  
Asheville, North Carolina 28801-2834

## EPA Website

EPA has a website specifically for the CTS of Asheville, Inc. Superfund Site. The website address is:  
<http://www.epa.gov/region4/superfund/sites/npl/northcarolina/millsgapnc.html>

## Websites created by community members

- Clean Asheville: <http://cleanasheville.info>
- POWER Action Group: <http://poweractiongroup.org>

Previous Community Updates include historical information. The following updates are available upon request:

1. May 23, 2012
2. May 31, 2012
3. July 10, 2012
4. August 24, 2012
5. September 14, 2012
6. October 18, 2012
7. November 29, 2012
8. January 18, 2013
9. February 21, 2013
10. April 8, 2013
11. May 15, 2013
12. June 27, 2013
13. July 29, 2013
14. September 6, 2013
15. September 30, 2013
16. November 4, 2013
17. December 11, 2013
18. February 18, 2014