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NEWSPAPER ARTICLE "EPA MAY ADD TWO MORE FLORIDA SITES TO SUPERFUND  
LIST" NAS WHITING FIELD FL  
3/1/1994  
THE FLORIDA SPECIFIER

sville City Council has l on a 300-acre parcel f Interstate 95 as the osed wastewater treat- at will use a wetland r discharge of treated

vera wastewater sys- nent program, the new eduled to be built and ration by mid-1995, the Titusville and other s to cease effluent dis- ie Indian River lagoon. l facility will replace the outh Plant, which likely erted to a pumping sta- itusville City Engineer Works Director Richard PE.

oking at having every- lete by July 1995," he ulting firm Professional g Consultants Inc. is pre- ngineering report for the will be recommending a

location further nor area. Aside from res there, Lemke said th have been considera sive to develop as project.

"The decision was on economics," he s we are going to look as the primary targ

Total cost for the gram is \$28 million, financed through sides use of the wetl the system will be reclaimed effluent courses for irrigatio mgd North Treatm receive upgrades a to achieve the nec reduction the EPA re

Lemke said the p necessary because treatment plants— to the 1960s—were



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**Practical**

## EPA May Add Two More Florida Sites To Superfund List

By PRAKASH GANDHI  
Specifier Correspondent

**F**ederal officials are proposing to add a former pesticide-mixing plant in Orlando and a Panhandle military base to the list of the nation's most contaminated hazardous waste sites.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency wants to add the former Chevron Chemical Co. site in Orlando

*Superfund reforms proposed, Page 28.*

and the Whiting Field Naval Air Station site in Santa Rosa County to Superfund's National Priorities List.

Chevron operated its plant on the 4-acre lot at U.S. 441 and Silver Star Road until 1976; later a Mack Truck dealership used the site.

One pollutant found at the site was benzene, which was discovered in the soil and groundwater, said Betty Winter, Superfund community relations coordinator at the EPA's Region IV office in Atlanta.

In 1990, potentially responsible parties including Chevron entered into an agreement with the EPA to remove contaminated soils, dewater the ponds, and treat and dispose of the wastewater in an infiltration gallery on the site. That work has been completed, Winter said.

In January 1993, the EPA and Chevron began studying the groundwater contamination. That should be completed within the next few months. Meanwhile, the agency is inviting comments from the public about the proposed listing.

Whiting Naval Air Station near Milton also has been nominated for Superfund cleanup. Pollutants at that site include construction and demolition debris, garbage waste solvents and oils, tank bottom sludges, fuels and machine fluids, Winter said.

One potable water well was shut down in 1986 by the state because the level of benzene was above the state drinking water standards, she said. Another was closed because of excessive amounts of trichloroethylene.

**SUPERFUND**  
Continued On Page 2

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**SUPERFUND**

From Page 1

The base, which is used as a naval aviation training facility, has been in operation since 1943.

Florida has 57 Superfund sites, of which 50 are on the final list and 7 are proposed. That's the most of any state in the EPA's Southeast region.

Five of these 57 sites are federal facilities, which means they are not eligible for Superfund monies but are required to comply with the same standards for protecting human health and the environment.

Superfund's National Priorities List documents the EPA's highest priority cleanups. Sites are added to the list based on a complex scorecard that takes into account the severity of a site's contamination and its potential for threatening public health.

The EPA's work is divided into two phases. The first involves an investigation of the sites, many of which are abandoned. That study can take anywhere from 18 months to three years.

The cost of these detailed studies also varies, running from \$500,000 to \$1.5 million, Winter said. The average is about \$1 million.

During the investigation, officials will take air, water and soil samples, gather information from groundwater experts and do other research.

"All this information helps us decide what risks are there and what the future risks would be to the environment and health," she added.

The second phase of the work involves the design and remediation of the sites. The costs can be \$200,000 to more than \$100 million, Winter said. In most cases, the potentially responsible parties will pay the costs. These parties may include the owners and operators of the site, the generators of the waste that was disposed of there, and the transporters of the waste.

The EPA tries to make voluntary agreements with the parties stating they will pay for the work. If they refuse to make such agreements, the agency has powers to order parties to clean up a site. Those who refuse to comply can be fined, Winter said. The agency can also do the work itself and ask for reimbursement from the parties plus an additional three times the cost of the operation.

**Short School Scheduled**

Region XI of the Florida Water & Pollution Control Operators Association will conduct a short school beginning April 18 for plant operators. The sessions will meet 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Colonial High School in Orlando.

For details, write Bill Archer, 28 Stymie Place, Winter Park, FL 32789.



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