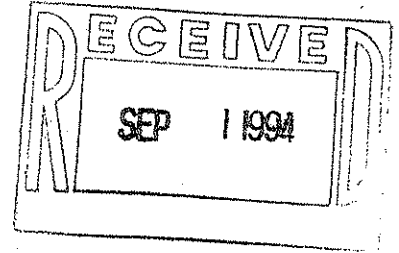


COUNTY LINE INDUSTRIES, INC.

fact sheet- July 26, 1994



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Divisions Involved to date: Division of Emergency and Remedial Response (DERR), Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management (DSIWM)

The County Line Industries, Inc. (CLI) site is an inactive 30-acre landfill located 9 miles north of Fremont, Ohio and 8 miles southwest of Port Clinton. The landfill is bordered to the east by wetlands, to the west by rural/agricultural land, to the north by Muddy Creek, and to the south by Little Muddy Creek. The two creeks converge about 2,000 feet southeast of the site and eventually enter Muddy Creek Bay 1.25 miles east of the site. The northern 3.5 acres of the site is in Ottawa County, and the southern 26.5 acres is in Sandusky County.

The landfill was in operation from 1959 to 1984. The Sandusky County portion of the CLI site received general refuse and special wastes including sludge, foundry sands, and drums containing paint sludge and liquid wastes. Most of these wastes came from the Whirlpool Corporation, Kelsey-Hayes Foundry, Chem-Trol, and Union Carbide. The Ottawa County portion of the site received household waste principally from the City of Fremont.

The CLI site has been inspected at various times by the Sandusky County Health Department (SCHD), the Ohio EPA, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACE). On each occasion, CLI was found to be in violation.

The most visible problems at the CLI site are the streams of leachate which flow from the north-central area of the site into the Muddy Creek, and the lack of adequate cover material which exposes waste materials. Leachate seeps also emanate from the south portion of the site. Limited sampling indicates the presence of elevated levels of heavy metals, organic compounds, and pesticides in the creek sediment, on-site soils, and leachate. In addition to surface water, soil and sediment concerns, there is the potential for contaminants attributed to the site to migrate to the groundwater. The site's full impact on human health and the environment has yet to be determined.

The following is a brief chronological summary of the history of the CLI site:

* 1959: Landfill operations began on the northern portion of the

site. Prior to 1959 the site was used for agricultural purposes.

SEP 1 1984

* 1969: Landfill operations were discontinued when the northern portion of the landfill reached capacity. County Line Limited filed a solid waste permit application with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), Sandusky County Board of Commissioners, and the Sandusky County Board of Health, for permission to operate a landfill on the southern portion of the property. The application was approved with the provision that the landfill comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

* 1979: County Line Limited informed OEPA that because of financial problems the partnership had decided to sell the business to Donald Schilling, a former employee, who changed the company name to County Line Industries, Inc. (CLI). The solid waste disposal license was transferred to CLI.

* 1981: John Stahl purchased the site from Donald Schilling and continued operations.

On June 5, 1981 U.S. EPA received a CERCLA notification of Hazardous Waste form from Union Carbide, reporting that they disposed of an unknown quantity of general chemical waste at the CLI site.

* 1983: The Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory (ACE) branch discovered that fill operations were being conducted in the wetlands along the eastern border of the site. CLI was allowed to operate on a limited basis in order to generate revenue to pay for proper closure. Proper closure was not performed.

* 1984: Sandusky County Health Department revoked the landfill's license and CLI declared bankruptcy.

* 1985: The CLI site was evaluated in the form of a preliminary assessment, prepared by U.S. EPA's contractor, Ecology & Environment.

A federal lawsuit was filed by ACE on September 11, 1985, against John Stahl, Henry Stahl, Bowers, and Schilling for the unauthorized use of wetlands for landfill operations.

The Sandusky County prosecutor, at the request of SCHD, initiated action against CLI for improper closure of the landfill.

* 1988: On May 2, 1988, the Ottawa County District Board of Health informed the ACE about the leachate flow problem from the landfill to Muddy Creek and the erosion on the

bank along Muddy Creek allowing buried waste to wash into the creek.

SEP 1 1988

On September 1, 1988, Ohio EPA, Division of Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment, collected leachate and sediment samples from the site. Results indicated the presence of elevated levels of organic compounds and heavy metals.

- * 1990: A Screening Site Investigation (SSI) was conducted by U.S. EPA's Field Investigation Team contractor, C.C. Johnson and Malholtra. Soil, sediment, surface water, and residential well samples were collected as part of the investigation. Results indicated the presence of elevated levels of heavy metals and organic compounds in the soil and leachate. These results were issued in a SSI report dated October 21, 1991.
- * 1991: PRC Environmental Management, Inc. (PRC), was tasked by U.S. EPA to conduct an expanded site inspection (ESI) of CLI in order to determine whether the site has the potential to be placed on the National Priorities List (NPL).
- * 1993: U.S. EPA released the ESI report on October 13, 1993. Again, results indicated elevated levels of heavy metals, organic compounds, and pesticides in sediment, leachate and soils.
- * 1994: On March 2, 1994 Ohio EPA sent a letter to the U.S. EPA requesting further action on the CLI site. Consequently a site assessment team was jointly formed by U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA.

Recent Activities:

- * The Ohio Attorney General has filed a claim on behalf of the Ohio EPA, Division of Solid and Infectious Waste Management, against the owners and operators of the landfill.
- * At the request of the SCHD, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) collected fish tissue samples from the Muddy Creek near the CLI site. The sample analyses of the fish tissue was released on July 8, 1994. The analytical results indicate that the fish did contain low levels of PCBs and one sample contained low levels of the pesticide DDE. ODH stated that it would not issue a fish consumption advisory based on so few samples with such low PCB concentrations.
- * A Site Assessment Team (SAT), composed of U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA representatives, was assigned to the CLI site. The purpose of the SAT is to develop a remedial strategy for the CLI site, and to present these findings to the Regional

Decision Team (RDT). The RDT will then make a decision as to whether the site should proceed through the remedial process under Superfund.

- SEP 1 1994
- * On July 11, 1994, the SAT visited the CLI site to perform a site reconnaissance inspection. The purpose of this inspection was to familiarize all members of the SAT with the CLI site, discuss potential environmental/human health threats posed by the site, and evaluate an enforcement strategy.

Future Activities:

A tentative schedule of events for the SACM process as it may apply to the CLI site is attached.

- * The next SAT meeting will be by conference call in the beginning of August. The SAT will be discussing site strategy and evaluating potential remedial objectives and alternatives. The SAT is aiming for a site strategy presentation to the Regional Decision Team (RDT) in October. The RDT will then determine whether the site should proceed to the remedial phase.