

Site Review And Update

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**TOXICOLOGY &
HAZARD ASSESSMENT**

SCHUYLKILL METAL CORPORATION

PLANT CITY, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

CERCLIS NO. FLD062794003

SEPTEMBER 30, 1993

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

Division of Health Assessment and Consultation

Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Site Review and Update: A Note of Explanation

The purpose of the Site Review and Update is to discuss the current status of a hazardous waste site and to identify future ATSDR activities planned for the site. The SRU is generally reserved to update activities for those sites for which public health assessments have been previously prepared (it is not intended to be an addendum to a public health assessment). The SRU, in conjunction with the ATSDR Site Ranking Scheme, will be used to determine relative priorities for future ATSDR public health actions.

SITE REVIEW AND UPDATE

SCHUYLKILL METAL CORPORATION

PLANT CITY, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

CERCLIS NO. FLD062794003

Prepared by:

The Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services
Under a Cooperative Agreement With the
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

SUMMARY OF BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

The Schuylkill Metals Corporation (SMC) National Priorities List (NPL) site is at 402 South Woodrow Wilson Street in the southwestern portion of Plant City, Hillsborough County, Florida (Figures 1 and 2). The site is irregularly shaped and covers about 17.4 acres. It is bounded on the north by undeveloped land and a railroad line, on the east by an oil distribution terminal and a residential area, on the south by additional residences and agricultural pastureland, and on the west by agricultural land and a few houses (Figure 3). SMC operated from 1972 to 1986 as a facility for recovering lead from discarded lead-acid storage batteries. Initially, the battery casings were chipped and used as fill in the central processing area. The sulfuric acid electrolyte was also disposed of on-site in a 2.2 acre unlined holding pond following neutralization with lime or ammonia. Later, both of these waste materials were reclaimed and marketed.

Contractors for the potentially responsible party (PRP) have analyzed samples of soil, sediment, surface water, and groundwater from the site. Their findings indicate that lead, antimony and arsenic are at levels of concern in on-site soil, sediments, surface water, and shallow groundwater. High levels of sulfate also occur in the on-site surface water (maximum 2.9×10^{-6} micrograms per liter [$\mu\text{g/L}$]) and shallow groundwater (maximum 1.8×10^{-9} $\mu\text{g/L}$). Intermediate groundwater at the site is separated from the surficial aquifer by a thick confining layer and is not contaminated.

The Health Assessment (HA), prepared by the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services (Florida HRS) in 1989, concluded that the site was of public health concern because of exposure to hazardous substances. The HA found that exposure to lead, nickel and sulfate in groundwater may have occurred through ingestion, and that exposure to lead in surface soil may have occurred through skin contact, inhalation, and incidental ingestion. Workers performing remediation at the site may also be exposed via these same media. Recommendations included additional testing of off-site groundwater and surface soil, and providing appropriate protective equipment to remediation workers.

The SMC site was placed on the NPL September 1, 1983. A remedial investigation of this site and a feasibility study of remedial alternatives have been prepared. A Record of Decision (ROD) relating to cleanup of the site was signed on September 28, 1990 and a Consent Decree between EPA and Schuylkill Metals was issued in March 1991. This decree required Schuylkill Metals and other PRPs to fund and perform remedial work at the site in conformity with the ROD. This work includes: 1) excavation of process area soils and sediments from the ditch, 2) separation of soils and debris, and processing of debris for recycling, 3) chemical fixation of soils and sediments, 4) treatment of surface waters and

groundwater by ion medium filtration, 5) flooding, fencing and biomonitoring of the east and west marshes, and 6) replacement of impacted wetland areas on a one-for-one basis. No community health concerns were identified in the 1989 HA, and we have been unable to identify any community interest in the site.

CURRENT CONDITIONS OF SITE

On September 9, 1993, Bruce Tuovila, Florida HRS, and Chuck Heintz of the Hillsborough County Environmental Protection Commission toured the site with a representative of the company performing the remediation work. The site is in a residential/light agricultural area on the southwest side of Plant City. It is bordered on the north by undeveloped land and a railroad line, on the east by an oil distribution terminal and a residential area, on the south by residences and agricultural pastureland, and on the west by agricultural land and a few houses. About 7,000 people live within one mile of the site. The site is secured on all sides by a chainlink fence topped with barbed wire and posted with warning signs. Preparations are currently underway to begin remediation of the site. We observed trucks and heavy machinery removing surface debris near the pond and a series of large piles of concrete rubble stockpiled near the entrance gate. The contractor representative indicated that preparation work would continue for about 5-6 months and that remediation of the site would take about an additional year to complete.

Conclusions of the 1989 HA appear to be supported by the environmental data and our observations. Contaminants at levels of concern are still present on the site. Additional sampling conducted since the 1987 Remedial Investigation indicate that antimony and arsenic are also contaminants of concern at this site. Remediation workers will need to employ appropriate protective measures while working on the site. Because the site is secured, it is unlikely that potential trespassers will be able to gain access and become exposed to contaminants. Once remediation is completed, the likelihood of future exposure will be very low.

CURRENT ISSUES

Completion of remediation activities at this site should reduce or eliminate the risk of exposure to site-related contaminants and prevent their migration off-site. Residents of the community near the site have public water available for domestic use and are not dependent on private wells for drinking water.

Local residents have not expressed any concerns about the site.

CONCLUSIONS

Conclusions of the 1989 HA appear to be supported by the available environmental data and observations of the site.

Remedial action plans will address the recommendation in the HA for minimizing worker exposure during remediation. The remaining recommendations concerning additional groundwater and off-site soil sampling have not been addressed in the remedial action plan. However, public water is available to the local community. On-site groundwater, soil, sediment, and surface water appear to have been adequately characterized. Once the remediation of this site is completed, the potential for future exposure to contaminants should be very low.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Because it does not appear that this site will present a public health hazard once remediation is completed, we do not recommend a full public health assessment. However, we recommend that additional off-site surface soil samples be analyzed to determine the exposure potential to residents of the community near the site. Testing of the deep aquifers does not appear to be necessary since no contamination has been found and there are no private drinking water wells near the site. We also recommend that ATSDR and Florida HRS be kept informed about the progress of remediation at the site and be provided with copies of all environmental data collected as part of the remediation. Florida HRS will review this information, monitor community interest in the site, and determine the appropriateness of a reevaluation of the health hazard this site may represent after remediation is completed.

Health Activities Recommendation Panel Recommendations:

The data and information developed in the Site Review and Update have been evaluated to determine if follow-up actions may be indicated. No further public health actions are indicated at this time.

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

Documents reviewed by Florida HRS for this summary are as follows:

1. Woodward-Clyde Consultants. Remedial Investigation Report, Schuylkill Metals Facility, Plant City, Florida, December 1987.
2. Woodward-Clyde Consultants. Feasibility Study Report, Revision 1, Schuylkill Metals Facility, Plant City, Florida, July 5, 1988, revised August 1, 1989.
3. ATSDR. Health Assessment for Schuylkill Metals Corporation Site, Plant City, Florida, April 24, 1989.
4. EPA. Final Report Schuylkill Metals, Plant City, Florida, May 1989.
5. Record of Decision, Schuylkill Metals Corporation, Plant City, Hillsborough County, Florida, September 28, 1990.
6. EPA. Consent Decree, United States of America v. Schuylkill Metals of Plant City, et. al., March 11, 1991.

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Figure 1. Map Showing Location of Hillsborough County

MAP OF FLORIDA

SHOWING COUNTY OF INTEREST

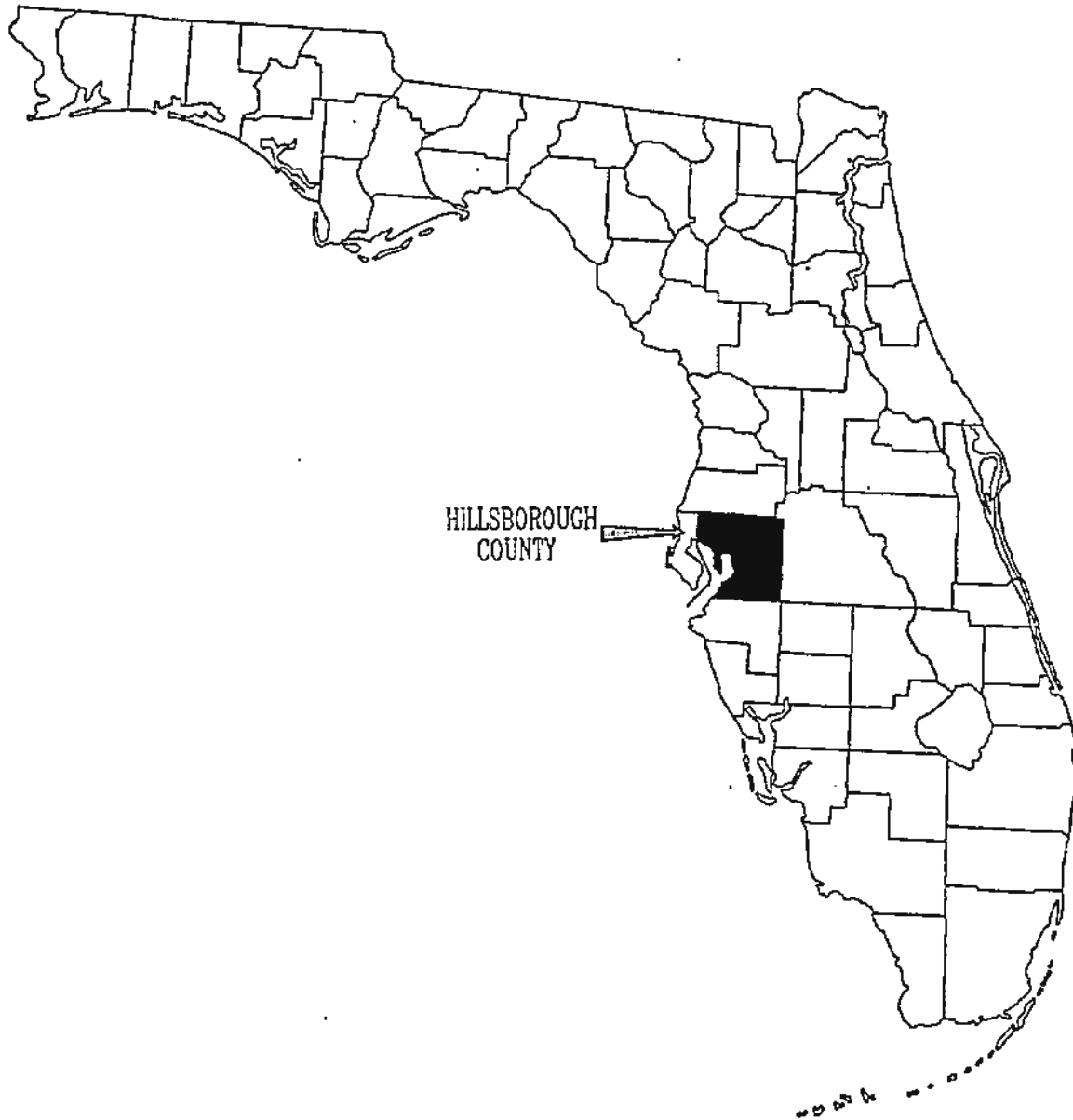


Figure 2. Map Showing Approximate Location of Schuylkill Metals Corporation

