# Cabot-Koppers Superfund Site

Off-Site Surface Soils Remedy

Enhancement of Remedial Design/ Work Plan in the Stephen Foster Neighborhood

March 15, 2012





![](_page_3_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Primary Surface Soil Contaminants:

- Arsenic
- Benzo(A)Pyrene
- Dioxin

![](_page_4_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_5_Figure_0.jpeg)

In 1984, Cabot-Koppers was designated a Federal Superfund Cleanup Site and placed on the National Priorities List (NPL).

![](_page_7_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Notes & Sources

Aerial Imagery source: http://nkos.alachua.ft.us, 2005. Results in BLUE are above the residential direct exposure soil cleanup target levels of 2.1 mg/kg for ARSENIC, 0.1 mg/kg for BAPTE, and 0.000007 for TCDD TEG- Jki soil samples collected from 0.0.5 ft below ground surface.

![](_page_9_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Off-Site Soil Sample Results

Cabot Carbon/Koppers Superfund Site Gainesville, Florida

Beazer East, Inc. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

#### Notes & Sources

Aerial Imagery source: http://nikos.alachua.fl.us, 2005. All soil samples collected from 0-0.5 tt below ground surface.

![](_page_10_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_11_Picture_0.jpeg)

Health Center

Charlie Crist Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H. State Surgeon General

Friday, May 15, 2009

TO:

RE: Cabot Carbon/Koppers Off-Site Soil Samples

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the Health Department has reviewed the results of recent soil samples taken from the easement along the west border of the Koppers industrial site and in street rights-of-way approximately 100 feet west of the Koppers site. Levels of dioxins, arsenic, and benzo(a)pyrene in some surface soil samples tested are above the State residential standards.

While the preliminary test results do not indicate an immediate health hazard to area residents, the Health Department recommends the following precautions:

Children should avoid playing in the 15'-20' City of Gainesville easement just west of the Koppers facility western boundary fence between NW 26 Avenue and NW 30 Avenue. Children under the age of six are at a higher risk of exposure from incidental ingestion (swallowing).

Area residents should practice good general hygiene including hand washing with soap and water after contact with bare soil in the street rights-of-way within 100' west of the Koppers facility western boundary fence.

The US Environmental Protection Agency is the lead agency for environmental monitoring and clean-up of the Cabot/Koppers Superfund site and has indicated they will require the responsible parties to conduct additional sampling to further define the area and extent of contamination. The Health Department will continue to evaluate the health risks as more test data becomes available.

The Alachua County Health Department will continue to work with Alachua County, and the City of Gainesville to inform citizens about health risks associated with this issue. The three agencies will be working to schedule a public meeting in the near future.

If you should have any questions concerning these findings, do not hesitate to call our office at 334-7930.

Anthony Dennis

Environmental Health Director Alachua County Health Department Florida Department of Health

Alachua County Health Department • Environmental Health 224 SE 24<sup>th</sup> Street• Gainesville, FL 32641

#### Figure 1. City of Gainesville Easement Fence

![](_page_11_Figure_18.jpeg)

#### EPA Regional Screening Levels (RSLs)/FDEP Soil Cleanup Target Levels (SCTLs)

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Surface Soil (0-6") Data For Dioxins (TCDD-TEQ)

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

## In 2010:

- Koppers sold back to Beazer East
- EPA issues Feasibility Study of Remedial Alternatives and Proposed Plan

## In 2011:

- EPA issues Record of Decision (ROD)
  - Off-site surface soils to be cleaned to Florida SCTLs

<u>Component</u> Arsenic	<u>Residential</u> 2.1 mg/Kg	<u>Commercial/Industrial</u> 12 mg/Kg
Benzo(a)pyrene (BAPTE)	0.1 mg/Kg	0.7 mg/Kg
Dioxin (TCDD-TEQ)	0.000007 mg/Kg 7 ppt	0.000030 mg/Kg 30 ppt

![](_page_15_Figure_0.jpeg)

Last Saved By: jrapp ABAUGH 1 58 SED ( City: SYR I BEAZER G

![](_page_16_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Figure_2.jpeg)

## Estimated Line of Delineation Based Upon Test Results to Date

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

## The Stephen Foster Neighborhood

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

Florida Department of Health/ Division of Environmental Health:

- Cancer study did not show increased rates for any of the 18 cancers most closely related to dioxins/ furans, PAH's or arsenic
- Some cancers occurred at less than expected rates

![](_page_19_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### STEPHEN FOSTER NEIGHBORHOOD CANCER REVIEW ALACHUA COUNTY

June 2011

Florida Department of Health Division of Environmental Health Bureau of Environmental Public Health Medicine

![](_page_19_Picture_7.jpeg)

**Consent Decree Imminent** 

Remedial Design/Work Plan expected to be completed within 60 days thereafter

Off-Site Cleanup can begin following notice to proceed from EPA

## Private properties

 City rights of way/landscaping between front property lines and the street edge Each affected property owner will be contacted by Beazer East to discuss possible approaches

Property Owner Options (Koppers ROD pp. 129-131)

- Removal of contaminated soils, and/or
- Institutional and engineering controls, or
- Decline all remediation

Removal of soil

- Excavate about 6" of surface soil /vegetation
- Large trees to be preserved
- Stringent dust control to be implemented

Topsoil, lawns, and small plants are to be replaced

Record of Decision deemed Site does not meet EPA criteria for permanent relocation

(Document: 1658\_USEPA Relocation Guidance at Superfund Sites June 2009 referenced in Koppers ROD 2-17-2011)

Temporary relocation of affected residents will be provided during remedial process

Remediation of each street expected to take 7-10 days

Process will be challenging, disturbing, and disorienting for private property owners and the Stephen Foster Neighborhood as a whole

We Do Not Want:

- Uninformed/misinformed property owners left to fend for themselves in their re-landscaping negotiations with Beazer East /likely less-than-desirable results
- Property owners to choose to opt out of remediation/ patchwork cleanup
- Disappointing re-landscaping outcome in the city rightsof-way along neighborhood streets

## We Want:

- Residents to be accurately informed about the levels and extent of contamination; and about the remediation process
- Residents to be well-informed regarding the variety of relandscaping options that might be available to them
- To explore every possibility of supplementing the barebones minimum re-landscaping requirements on both private properties and city rights-of-way
- Residents to buy into the remediation process rather than opting out/make remediation the most attractive option
- The finest end-result possible

## Potential Governmental, Institutional, Private Resources

- Alachua County Environmental Protection Department
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Local Intergovernmental Team
- City Manager's Office
- Community Development Department
- City Arborist
- Parks and Recreation Department
- Public Works
- GRU
- UF Landscape Architecture Department
- Alachua County Agricultural Extension Office/IFAS
- Stephen Foster Neighborhood Association
- Protect Gainesville's Citizens
- CRA
- EPA Jobs Program

We request that the Gainesville City Commission, as an integrated endeavor with EPA and Beazer East, assign the appropriate staff necessary to organize and coordinate all of the relevant governmental and institutional agencies and departments, businesses, and private individuals that could contribute toward bringing about a superior off-site surface soils remediation process in the Stephen Foster Neighborhood.

Supplemental Slides

![](_page_28_Figure_0.jpeg)

RECORD OF DECISION SUMMARY OF REMEDIAL ALTERNATIVE SELECTION CABOT CARBON/KOPPERS SUPERFUND SITE GAINESVILLE, ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA PREPARED BY: U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 4 ATLANTA, GEORGIA FEBRUARY 2011

(Excerpt pp. 129-131)

11.0 Selected Remedy

11.2.3 Off-Site Remedies

11.2.3.1 Remedial Strategy for Soil. At many sampling locations investigated to date, constituent soil concentrations are below cleanup goals. At other sampling locations, one or more contaminants exceed cleanup goals and further delineation is being undertaken.

Once the areas with concentrations exceeding cleanup goals are delineated, each affected private property owner will be contacted to discuss possible approaches to address the soil impacts on the private property. The private property owner may decline to allow remediation of soils. In general, two options exist: removal or institutional and engineering controls.

### 11.2.3.2 [not applicable/relates to sediments]

11.2.3.3 Removal Details for Soil. If the property owner is willing, then the surface soil requiring remediation would be permanently removed. Removal is disruptive of residential lives and privacy during implementation, but it is a one-time action that permanently eliminates the potential risk associated with potential off-Site exposure to the removed soil and does not require continual long-term maintenance. Such an excavation from residential areas will require a high level of attention to detail and care to minimize spread of impacted soil and to mitigate risks associated with the presence of large trucks and heavy equipment in a residential neighborhood. In addition, stringent dust control will be implemented. The exact soil area and depth to be excavated will depend on the results of the ongoing delineation activities.

Excavated soil will be transported to the on-Site consolidation area or may be disposed of off-Site. Access between the facility property and the residential areas immediately west should be easy given the proximity. Residential yards (and any other properties) will be restored after soil is removed. Excavated areas in residential yards will be backfilled with clean borrow soil, graded for proper surface drainage patterns, and topped with clean top soil. Lawns and small plants will be replaced, and effort will be made to preserve large trees. Transporting clean fill soil back to the residential areas and restoring the excavation zones is likely to cause additional disruption and dust generation and will result in increased risks due to the presence of large trucks and heavy equipment in a residential setting. To the extent practicable, the restoration process will progress with minimal dust generation or disruption to local residents, and will end with reseeding and final grading, as necessary.

11.2.3.4 Institutional and Engineering Controls. The components of this remedy are (1) institutional controls designed to prevent people from using or disturbing soil posing potentially unacceptable risk and (2) engineering controls to prevent receptors from potentially contacting affected soil. Institutional controls would be implemented administratively through deed restrictions and other legal processes. Engineering controls envisioned for the affected residential soil would consist of simple technologies (e.g., soil cover, fencing, and/or other simple barriers to exposure).

Engineering controls such as soil covers and fences would require ongoing maintenance. Institutional controls and engineering controls require agreement from the property owner.

### STEPHEN FOSTER NEIGHBORHOOD CANCER REVIEW ALACHUA COUNTY June 2011 Florida Department of Health Division of Environmental Health Bureau of Environmental Public Health Medicine

#### Conclusions:

In conclusion, no increases in rates for 18 types of cancers were seen for the Stephen Foster neighborhood (census tract 3, Alachua County) for five year periods encompassing 1981-2000. The finding of no increases, particularly in the early period of analysis (1980s) which would reflect 20 to 30 years of latency past the higher community exposures to contaminants possible in the 1950s and 1960s suggests that any exposures in this community have not been great enough to cause increased cancer rates.

### 1658\_USEPA Relocation Guidance at Superfund Sites June 2009 referenced in Koppers ROD 2-17-2011

The following list, although not inclusive, provides examples of the types of situations where permanent relocation may be considered. Generally, the primary reasons for conducting a permanent relocation would be to address an immediate risk to human health (where an engineering solution is not readily available) or where the structures (e.g., homes or businesses) are an impediment to implementing a protective cleanup. The examples are discussed in terms of how EPA could conduct an alternatives analysis applying several of the NCP nine criteria, leading to the consideration of permanent relocation as an appropriate option.

•Permanent relocation may be considered in situations where EPA has determined that structures must be destroyed because they physically block or otherwise interfere with a cleanup and methods for lifting or moving the structures safely, or conducting cleanup around the structures are not implementable from an engineering perspective. The methods may be technically infeasible because they are too difficult to undertake or success may be too uncertain. Additionally, these methods may prove not to be cost-effective when compared with other alternatives that are protective of human health and the environment.

•Permanent relocation may be considered in situations where EPA has determined that structures cannot be decontaminated to levels that are protective of human health for their intended use, thus the decontamination alternative may not be implementable.

•Permanent relocation may be considered when EPA determines that potential treatment or other response options would require the imposition of unreasonable use restrictions to maintain protectiveness (e.g., typical activities, such as children playing in their yards, would have to be prohibited or severely limited). Such options may not be effective in the long-term, nor is it likely that those options would be acceptable to the community. For further discussion about developing remedial alternatives that include institutional controls see "Land Use in the CERCLA Remedy Selection Process."

•Permanent relocation may be considered when an alternative under evaluation includes a temporary relocation expected to last longer than one year. A lengthy temporary relocation may not be acceptable to the community. Further, when viewed in light of the balancing of tradeoffs between alternatives, the temporary relocation remedy may not be practicable, nor meet the statutory requirement to be costeffective. Additionally, a shortage of available long-term rentals within the immediate area, may make any potential temporary relocation extremely difficult to implement.

### Conclusion

Permanent relocation is a complicated process that can cause personal and social disruption and stress. It is EPA's preferred approach to address the risks posed by the contamination by using well-designed methods of cleanup so people can remain safely in their homes and businesses. Therefore, permanent relocation as part of a Superfund response action generally should not be necessary to protect human health and the environment. However, as indicated above, there are limited cases where permanent relocation may be an important part of a remedial action. Regardless of the remedy selected, EPA should continue to: involve the community as early as possible in the Superfund process; partner with the local, state, and tribal governments; and make every effort to implement the action in an expeditious, thoughtful, and fair manner.