

MPC Project History

On May 13, 1998, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) received a complaint from the Outagamie County Emergency Government office. The complaint concerned yellow water observed to be ponding in the backyard of a private residence located at 619 South Mason Street, adjacent to the Midwest Plating Corporation (MPC) facility. WDNR determined that the source of the ponded liquid was the MPC facility. The WDNR notified MPC of its responsibility to investigate and remediate contamination from the site. An interim action was also required to eliminate exposure risks to residents from contaminated surface soil on and off the MPC property.

From October 1998 until March 2000 MPC and their consultant worked on a site investigation and interim action.

In June 2000, MPC's legal counsel and consultant notified the WDNR that MPC was unable to proceed with a soil removal due to financial limitations. Because MPC was unable to proceed with the interim action, the WDNR procured funding and proceeded with a state funded response for the interim action at the site.

On April 11, 2001, a release of yellow liquid was again reported to the WDNR and found to be flowing from the northeast corner of the MPC building onto the backyard of the 619 S. Mason Street property. A contractor subsequently installed gutters for the WDNR on the MPC buildings to redirect the water away from the plating building foundation. A grading plan on and off the MPC property was developed and was implemented as part of the interim action.

In May 2002, WDNR conducted a Pre-Liminary Assessment/Superfund Site Investigation (PA/SSI). The site scored greater than 28.5 requiring an Expanded Site investigation (ESI).

In June 2002, WDNR conducted the interim action to remove contaminated surface soils (up to 4 feet below ground surface) from the 3 adjacent residential properties and some soil from the MPC property.

The WDNR initiated civil actions against MPC. Mr. Brandt was eventually required to stop operating in November 2002. Mr. Brandt then abandoned the property with all of the chemicals remaining in the property. Therefore, WDNR requested the assistance of U.S. EPA emergency removal program to remove chemicals from the building.

The EPA emergency response program was on site from November 2002 until October 2003 intermittently. The U.S. EPA removed 172 55-gallon drums and 224 tons of chromium-contaminated debris; 1,809 tons of chromium-contaminated soils; 350 cubic yards of hazardous waste solids and concrete debris; 221 tons of special waste; and 33,209 gallons of hazardous waste liquid. The plating and polishing building was razed. The U.S. EPA set a 24-inch diameter groundwater extraction sump near the center of the soil excavation.

In April 2003, Mr. Brandt passed away followed by his wife in February 2004. The property remains in the Brandt's name. The property is tax delinquent. The 2002 and 2003 property taxes have not been paid.

In April 2004 the WDNR hired a contractor to conduct a complete Site Investigation (SI) and prepare a Remedial Action Plan (RAP).

Additional site history details can be found in the [site work plan](#).