

2.0 SITE CHARACTERIZATION

2.1 SITE BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

CTS of Asheville, Inc. operated as an electroplating facility from 1964 to 1987 (Refs. 1; 2; 3, p. 2). During this time, Arden Electroplating was contracted to do the electroplating work (Ref. 4). The facility electroplated electrical components with tin, nickel, zinc, and silver. Prior to 1980, wastes that could not be reclaimed were discharged into the city sewer system. After 1980, wastes were separated and stored in drums and tanks to be disposed of off site (Ref. 1). Electroplating sludge was disposed of by SCA of Pinewood, South Carolina. Solvents were disposed of by Environmental Recycling Company (Ref. 5). There has been no record of spills or onsite disposal of waste (Ref. 1). The facility was inactive until 1990, when Dove Energy Systems leased the property (Ref. 6). The property was owned at the time by Stan Greenburg and John Powell of Coldwell Banker - Gatewood Realty (Ref. 7). Dove Energy Systems is a manufacturer of corn burning stoves. The company was in the process of moving into the facility at the time of FIT's sampling investigation in June (Ref. 6).

CTS of Asheville, Inc. filed a RCRA Notification of Hazardous Waste Activity in July 1980 for generator status (Ref. 1). However, according to a report on CTS by Law Environmental, no RCRA permits have been issued to the facility (Ref. 3, p. 3). In July 1983, the North Carolina Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Branch conducted a RCRA compliance inspection of the facility. No problems were noted at that time (Ref. 5). The CTS facility has a permit (number 010) from the Metropolitan Sewage District to discharge plant effluent to the city's publicly owned treatment works and air permits (numbers 20120, 20113, 20112, and 20090) assigned from the Western Carolina Air Pollution Agency (Ref. 5). In 1986, CTS of Asheville was reclassified as a small-quantity generator under RCRA (Ref. 8). According to the March 1990, North Carolina Alphabetical List of Hazardous Waste facilities, Dove Energy Systems is not currently regulated under RCRA (Ref. 9).

In 1987, Law Environmental conducted a site assessment of CTS of Asheville, Inc. The assessment included the collection of samples from several areas of the facility (Ref. 3, p. 4). Trichloroethylene was detected in all of the soil samples (Ref. 3, p. 17). Tetrachloroethene, xylene, decane, and hexane were detected in electroplating areas inside the building (Ref. 3, p. 18).

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