

Date: October 15, 2015

To: Mayor Ed Braddy and Members of the City Commission

From: Rick Hutton, P.E.  
Supervising Engineer, Water/Wastewater Division

Subject: Status of Floridan Aquifer Monitoring Well Drilling at Cabot Site

This memo is in response to the City Commission's request for further information regarding the Floridan Aquifer monitoring well installation at the Cabot superfund site. This monitoring well is being installed as part of a stepwise effort to fully map the extent of contamination at the Cabot site, and is based on a longstanding request from GRU, Alachua County, and the Local Intergovernmental Team (LIT).

As you are aware, Cabot Corporation has responsibility for cleaning up the Cabot site, and Beazer East, Inc. has responsibility for cleaning up the Koppers site. EPA has regulatory authority over both sites. GRU and our consultant team, along with Alachua County have been highly engaged with EPA in the technical evaluation of the groundwater contamination for the Cabot and Koppers sites since at least 2004. GRU's primary concern is that our water supply is protected. High priorities that we have emphasized to EPA for both sites are:

1. Full mapping the extent of contamination both in terms of depth and areal extent;
2. Establishing a monitoring well network to determine how well remediation is working and whether the contamination is spreading; and
3. Remediation of both sites.

Installation of Floridan Aquifer monitoring wells at both Cabot and Koppers has always been a high priority for GRU, since our wellfield draws from the Floridan Aquifer.

The Koppers site has generally been considered a higher priority than Cabot because the contamination at Koppers is more extensive and because the creosote at the Koppers site has a higher potential for continuing to move as compared to the pine tar contamination at Cabot. However, at this time there is an extensive network of Floridan Aquifer monitoring wells in and around the Koppers site, and remediation is underway at that site.

The Cabot site is not as far along in the process as the Koppers site. Several soil borings and monitoring wells were completed in the surficial and intermediate aquifers above the Floridan Aquifer over the past 3 years as part of the stepwise effort to map the contamination at Cabot. This testing indicated contamination to a depth of approximately 100 ft in some locations at Cabot, which emphasized the need for Floridan Aquifer wells.

The next step at Cabot will be to evaluate the results from the new Floridan Aquifer well to determine if contamination has reached the Floridan Aquifer and if more wells and/or steps to stop the spreading of contamination are needed. In addition, Cabot and EPA are conducting a feasibility study to determine what additional actions are needed to remediate the contamination at Cabot.

Staff will continue to be highly engaged in the monitoring, testing, and remediation at both the Koppers and the Cabot sites. Please feel free to contact me at (352) 393-1218 if you would like further information.

xc: Ed Bielarski  
David Richardson  
Russ Blackburn  
Fred Murry  
Correspondence