

DELINEATION OF PLANT SITE CHROMIUM CONTAMINATION
IN SOIL AND GROUND WATER,
AND ABATEMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT
CLARKS SUMMIT, PENNSYLVANIA

INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY

This report presents the results of a seven-month chromium contamination study at the Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania plant of Precision National Corporation. The plant in question is a hard chrome plating and grinding operation located on a hilltop overlooking the old Ackerly Fairgrounds north of Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania (Plate 1). This plant has been in operation for approximately 15 years, sporadically discharging chromium waste to the surrounding plant site.

The contamination problem had been attenuated since July 2, 1970, when a holding lagoon used to treat hexavalent chromium wastes ruptured. At the time of the rupture the lagoon contained only trivalent chromium which posed no immediate threat to the environment. Following this breach in the lagoon, waste discharges to it were discontinued and it was backfilled. According to verbal conversation with Mr. Norman Smith, the plant manager, chromium contaminated waters have since been collected in tanks and shipped for disposal to Mount Vernon, Illinois.

In the early spring of 1978 during monitoring procedures established by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, Wilkes-Barre branch, Mr. Leonard Ensalaco of that office reported that chromium contamination existed in domestic wells downgradient from the Precision National plant, and high volume discharges were occurring from the plant site. Precision National was then notified of a pending citation and was instructed to contact a hydrogeologic consulting firm to aid in the delineation of the problem and the development of remedial measures.

r.e. wright associates, inc.

AR000004

DELINEATION OF PLANT SITE CHROMIUM CONTAMINATION
IN SOIL AND GROUND WATER,
AND ABATEMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT
CLARKS SUMMIT, PENNSYLVANIA

INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY

This report presents the results of a seven-month chromium contamination study at the Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania plant of Precision National Corporation. The plant in question is a hard chrome plating and grinding operation located on a hilltop overlooking the old Ackerly Fairgrounds north of Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania (Plate 1). This plant has been in operation for approximately 15 years, sporadically discharging chromium waste to the surrounding plant site.

The contamination problem had been attenuated since July 2, 1970, when a holding lagoon used to treat hexavalent chromium wastes ruptured. At the time of the rupture the lagoon contained only trivalent chromium which posed no immediate threat to the environment. Following this breach in the lagoon, waste discharges to it were discontinued and it was backfilled. According to verbal conversation with Mr. Norman Smith, the plant manager, chromium contaminated waters have since been collected in tanks and shipped for disposal to Mount Vernon, Illinois.

In the early spring of 1978 during monitoring procedures established by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, Wilkes-Barre branch, Mr. Leonard Ensalaco of that office reported that chromium contamination existed in domestic wells downgradient from the Precision National plant, and high volume discharges were occurring from the plant site. Precision National was then notified of a pending citation and was instructed to contact a hydrogeologic consulting firm to aid in the delineation of the problem and the development of remedial measures.

r.e. wright associates, inc.

AR000004