

Walco Transport

PUB-RR-878

May 2010

Walco Transport

1021 Garfield Avenue
Superior, WI
Douglas County

3 Acres

Location: An industrial area of the city of Superior, adjacent to another voluntary cleanup site.

A railroad company returns to conduct a voluntary cleanup at a property they once owned.

History

From 1892 through the mid-1980s, the Walco Transport property was operated as a railroad maintenance and repair facility. In 1988 the Walco Transport company began operating the property as a shipping terminal, handling receiving, repairing and dispatching. Walco ceased operations in 2001, leaving the property vacant.

Investigation and Cleanup

The property owner at the time conducted Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments as part of a property transfer. The Phase II assessment revealed the presence of soil contamination.

In 2002, Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) returned to the property to conduct a site investigation and remove and dispose of 155 cubic yards of contaminated soil.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Remediation and Redevelopment (RR) Program granted closure to the site, with the stipulation that, based on residual contamination, it remain in industrial usage.

Redevelopment

The owner was able to sell the Walco property in 2003 while BNSF was completing their work. The property changed hands one more time in 2004, and Always Available Roll Off Services Inc., began operating a waste transfer and recycling business on the site.



The new waste transfer and recycling business operating on the former Walco Transport property (photo courtesy DNR).



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Remediation and Redevelopment Program

PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/rr>



Financial, Liability, Technical Assistance

The rail company worked with the RR Program to complete the Voluntary Party Liability Exemption Program (VPLE). The VPLE program allows responsible parties to clean up a contaminated property to state standards, after which they receive a Certificate of Completion, certifying that they are no longer liable for past known contamination at the property.

The RR Program provided technical assistance in helping BNSF complete the VPLE program and receive closure.

Contacts

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