

Project Name

Expert Report for a Major Superfund Landfill Site

Client

Drinker Biddle & Reath, Philadelphia, PA

Services Provided

- Produced Expert Report
- Provided Expert Testimony Which Addressed the Suitability of the Landfill to Accept Industrial and/or Liquid Wastes for Final Disposal During the Period 1959-1979
- Evaluated of Landfill Disposal of Certain Industrial and Chemical Wastes

Project Description

The landfill encompasses approximately 45 acres in Monmouth County, New Jersey. The landfill operated from 1959 to 1979, before it was closed by the NJDEP. During that time, the landfill was the recipient of large volumes of septage, millions of gallons of bulk liquids, chemical wastes, and thousands of drums of chemical wastes. Investigations by the United States Environmental Protection Agency in the 1980s confirmed that leachate from the landfill contaminated the Manasquan River, located adjacent to the fill, and the underlying aquifers, including a major drinking water aquifer for the region.

Approach

SAI conducted an extensive review of New Jersey State solid waste regulations concerning the disposal of wastes to land, examining their impact on water quality and public health. SAI determined that appropriate waste disposal practices had existed since the beginning of the 1900s. SAI then evaluated the actions of the landfill and hauler relative to the current regulations and state of knowledge. SAI concluded that both the landfill management and the hauler management had continued to dispose of large quantities of liquid chemical wastes at the landfill, even after the regulations prohibited acceptance of such wastes and after the landfill's severe leachate problem and its adverse impact on the environment became known.

