**Benton Creosote Works Site
Activities Update**

6695 Louisiana Highway 3, Benton, Louisiana March 2024

This Fact Sheet will tell you about…

* Site Information
* Current Site Activities
* Where to Find More Information

**Site Background**

The Benton Creosoting facility located at 6695 Highway 3 Benton, Louisiana, started wood preserving operations in 1948 and in 1962 began operating under the business name Kennedy Sawmill, Inc., making products such as pilings, telephone poles and railroad ties. The primary wood treating chemical was creosote, but pentachlorophenol (PCP) may have also been used. Operations temporarily ceased in November 1985 and resumed in 1987, continuing at a lower production rate until 2008 when the facility closed.

**Current Site Activities**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a community meeting on February 22, 2024, to share information regarding soil contamination discovered both at the former Benton Creosote Facility and in a portion of the adjacent Palmetto Place Apartment complex on Sibley Street. During the meeting, several community members raised concerns about whether contamination may have spread to other nearby areas during past flooding events. In response to these concerns, EPA will collect additional samples in the areas requested by community members during the last two weeks of March.

It's important to note that EPA has conducted extensive sampling to determine if there are off-site impacts from the Benton Creosoting facility. EPA has only observed evidence of off-site contamination in areas which are downstream of the facility’s drainage pathway. The additional samples EPA will collect are not in these downstream areas, but we recognize the community’s concerns and will collects additional samples to address them. The attached map shows the locations EPA will collect the additional samples.

EPA has created a public website to help share information with the community and provide updates on sample results and plans for future activities. Once EPA receives results from the upcoming sampling event from the laboratory, we will share the information on the public website. A link and QR code to the public website is provided below.

**For More Information on the Site visit the following website:**



<https://www.epaosc.org/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=15975>

**Mike McAteer, On-Scene Coordinator**U.S. EPA Region 6, Superfund Division

Phone: 214-354-9371
Email: McAteer.mike@epa.gov

**Daniel Agudelo, Community Involvement
Coordinator**

U.S. EPA Region 6, Office of External Affairs

Phone: 214-665-6533

Email: Agudelo.Daniel@epa.gov

For press inquiries, please contact the EPA Region 6 Press Office at R6Press@epa.gov