ATSDR Record of Activity (AROA)
Health Consultation
UID #: lkw9 Date: 12/ 20/ 2006 Time: am X pm
Site Name: Borit Asbestos Site: City: Ambler Cnty:
Montgomery State:

Reservoir
In June 2004, a Phase I Environmental Assessment (EA) was conducted by a local consulting firm for the WVWA at the 15-acre water reservoir area (O'Brien & Gere, 2004). The EA identified non-friable ACM along the banks of the water reservoir, which were constructed of asbestos shingles, millboard, and soil. ACM was also observed within the reservoir. Cementasbestos pipe sections and ACM were scattered around the reservoir, along Rose Valley Creek, and along and in Wissahickon Creek. ACM observed near the reservoir was described as transite, a mixture of cement and asbestos. The transite, generally considered non-friable, was beginning to degrade and become friable at the weathered ends of the material (O'Brien & Gere 2004).
The Phase I EA included the collection of three reservoir water and sediment samples, waste samples from the banks of the reservoir, and soil samples. The reservoir water and sediment samples were analyzed for metals, volatile organic compounds, and semivolatile compounds. The samples were not analyzed for asbestos. The EA concluded that the surface water and sediment concentrations were either below screening values or representative of that found in urban areas. Gray-white soil or soil-like material in 5- to 10-square-foot patches was observed on the east side of the reservoir. One sample of this material was collected and found to

contain 30 percent chrysotile asbestos. This same material was observed below the vegetation around the reservoir. Three samples of this transite material were collected and contained 20 to 25 percent chrysotile asbestos.

In March 2005, a Phase II EA was conducted to collect additional samples for analyses (2006). Three surface soil samples were collected from beneath a pole-mounted transformer located near the southernmost corner of the water reservoir and analyzed for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB). No PCBs were detected. Three surface soil samples were collected from near a discarded metal storage tank and analyzed for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH). Numerous PAHs were detected in the single digit milligrams per kilogram [mg/kg]) range. Three sediment samples were collected from the bottom of the water reservoir near suspected ACM and analyzed for asbestos, and one sediment sample was collected from the outflow of the reservoir for asbestos analysis. Asbestos was not detected in the sediment samples using the TEM Modified Elutriator Method.

During EPA’s April 2006 Site Assessment, a surface water sample was collected from the northeast and southwest sides of the reservoir. The southwest sample location was found to have 110 million fibers/liter of chrysotile asbestos; the northwest sample was non detect for asbestos.