

# NPL Site Narrative for Avco Lycoming (Williamsport Division)

## AVCO LYCOMING (WILLIAMSPORT DIVISION)

### Williamsport, Pennsylvania

**Conditions at proposal (January 22, 1987):** The Avco Lycoming (Williamsport Division) Site consists of approximately 28 acres in the west-central portion of Williamsport, Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. For over 50 years, this facility has been primarily involved in the production of aircraft engines. The plant operates a still for the reclamation of Varsol, a petroleum solvent, and (since the early 1950s) a waste treatment facility. Past poor housekeeping practices apparently have contaminated the site, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (PA DER).

On-site monitoring wells, off-site downgradient wells, and a well field of the Williamsport Municipal Water Authority (WMWA) 3,000 feet southwest of the site are contaminated with trichloroethylene and chromium, according to tests conducted in 1985 by a consultant to the company. The well field was used as a backup supply under drought conditions until it was closed in November 1984 because of contamination with volatile organic chemicals. WMWA serves about 65,000 people within 3 miles of the site.

In November 1985, Avco and PA DER signed a Consent Order and Agreement involving monitoring of ground water and cleanup of on-site soils and ground water. Currently, on-site ground water is being pumped, treated to remove contaminants, and returned to the ground. Cleanup of the municipal well field was not addressed in the order.

**Status (February 21, 1990):** In June 1988, EPA and Avco signed a CERCLA Administrative Order on Consent requiring Avco to conduct a remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) to determine the type and extent of contamination at the site and identify alternatives for remedial action. PA DER and EPA approved the workplan, and field activities started in September 1989. The RI/FS is expected to be completed in early 1991.

Pumping and treatment of on-site ground water continue. The county installed an air stripper on the municipal well field, making the water acceptable for consumption. The field is used on a standby basis.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.