March 12, 2019

Review of February 7, 2019 Surface Water Samples from Trafalgar Road Fire Site

The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) has conducted a review of the results of a second round of surface water samples from the Trafalgar Road Fire site. These samples were collected by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality’s (ADEQ) contractor, EnSafe, at the northern perimeter of the site on February 7, 2019, and the results were provided to ADH on February 28, 2019.

The same compounds identified from the January 23, 2019 samples (arsenic, manganese, and benzene) were present and evaluated by ADH for this review. The results from this evaluation are consistent with the February 13, 2019 Health Consultation conclusions, “that potential exposure, such as from accidental splashing or wading, to surface water by dermal (skin) contact with any of the chemicals detected in the surface water at the perimeter of the Trafalgar Road Fire site poses no apparent public health hazard. ADH concludes that dermal contact with surface water from the perimeter of the Trafalgar Road Fire site is not expected to harm people’s health because all levels of arsenic, manganese, and benzene were found to be below calculated risk levels related to public health.”

ADH will continue to evaluate surface water sample results as they are received by ADEQ.