



## Monthly Update

**AVX Corporation**  
801 17th Avenue South, Myrtle Beach, SC

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**September 2008**

### **Introduction**

In an effort to keep the community near the AVX site in Myrtle Beach informed, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) will be sending a monthly update to the citizens on our mailing list who have expressed an interest in this site. The monthly update will include information provided by DHEC's three program areas (Air, Land & Waste, and Water), as well as any other news concerning the AVX site that DHEC has to share.

In conjunction with this monthly update, DHEC has created a web page ([www.scdhec.gov/avx](http://www.scdhec.gov/avx)) where DHEC information related to the AVX site may be accessed more easily. Anyone interested in receiving these monthly updates may sign-up to receive them on the web page, too.

### **Bureau Updates**

#### ***Bureau of Air Quality (BAQ)***

##### AVX Air Construction Permit Application

At the end of August, AVX withdrew its construction permit application for a Reverse Thin Tape Process (RTTP) that would have involved regulated emissions of some hazardous air pollutants from the facility's site in Myrtle Beach. The construction application for the RTTP was received by DHEC in May 2008. At the time of the withdrawal, the technical review of the application had begun and more information had been requested from the facility to complete the review.

##### AVX Air Operating Permit

DHEC is currently reviewing the facility's operating permit for renewal. We will keep the community informed during the permit process. Because AVX has withdrawn their construction permit application and their facility-wide production has decreased, air emissions are being re-

evaluated to determine the appropriate type of operating permit. When DHEC receives the revised application, it will be placed on our website.

### ***Bureau of Land and Waste Management (BLWM)***

The BLWM held two Availability Sessions on May 15, 2008. During these sessions, citizens were updated on the groundwater contamination and investigation activities DHEC is conducting at and around the AVX site. A fact sheet containing this information was also written and is available on the website ([www.scdhec.gov/avx](http://www.scdhec.gov/avx)). The following activities have occurred since then:

- Four additional groundwater monitoring wells have been installed around the AVX facility. The existing wells and new wells have been sampled. The new wells did not detect any site-related contaminants.
- DHEC has approved a Feasibility Study (FS) work plan and a plan to test four soil gas sample locations again. The FS workplan includes fieldwork needed to design an effective remediation, or clean-up, system for the groundwater. This plan includes testing the effectiveness of one remediation option on the Horry Land Company property. This option involves the injection of a food source (molasses) to speed up the break-down of the trichloroethylene (TCE) contamination.
- The fieldwork for the FS and the additional soil gas samples will begin mid-September 2008. AVX has requested permission from the property owner and city for access to the sites. Permission has already been granted to install the wells. The data collection and testing of the remediation option on the Horry Land Company property will continue until summer 2009.

Once all the data has been collected, and testing of the remediation option has been evaluated, a report of all possible clean-up alternatives will be written. The BLWM will then hold a meeting to inform the public of all the clean-up choices that were evaluated. Public comments on the remedial options will be accepted at that time. Following the public comment period, DHEC will decide on a final clean-up option for the site. Additional information on the status of this process and subsequent public comment period will follow in future updates and on the website.

## ***Bureau of Water (BOW)***

There is one permitting request in the water program for an Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit to support the Feasibility Study (FS) discussed above. This permit would allow the injection of molasses for the FS.

As to existing operations, some of the wastewater at the site is piped to the City of Myrtle Beach wastewater system. The balance is managed through a discharge permit that was reissued in 2007. This permit requires the treatment of groundwater to remove any chemicals before land application of the treated wastewater on AVX property, or discharge to Wither's Swash. This wastewater is sampled monthly and the results are reported to DHEC. The treated groundwater is used for irrigation when conditions are suitable for land application; otherwise, it is retained onsite in ponds. In the event of heavy rain, the treated water is discharged to Wither's Swash.

## **Contact Information**

DHEC would like to continue to share information and discuss concerns about the AVX site in Myrtle Beach with the surrounding communities. We are interested in hearing from citizens about ways to communicate with you. This may be done through availability sessions, informal public meetings, or by updates such as this. Please feel free to share your thoughts with us.

For other environmental questions or comments in the Myrtle Beach area, please contact Larry Ragsdale or Matt Maxwell in our local DHEC office at (843) 238-4378.

Where possible, we would like to send future updates by e-mail. If you are not on our e-mail list to obtain these monthly updates but would like to continue receiving them, please:

- visit the web page ([www.scdhec.gov/avx](http://www.scdhec.gov/avx)) to sign-up; or
- contact **Richelle Tolton, Coastal Community Liaison**, at (843) 953-0173, or by e-mail at: [toltonrd@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:toltonrd@dhec.sc.gov).

If you prefer to receive these updates by U.S. Mail, please let us know that as well. Comments concerning the information being provided in the monthly updates are welcome.

***Please share this update with others who may be interested!***

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