



# Florida Department of Environmental Protection

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## **United Technologies Corporation / Pratt & Whitney Cleanup Site Palm Beach County, Florida March 16, 2010**

- Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne (Pratt & Whitney) and Sikorsky Aircraft are the two divisions of United Technologies Corporation (UTC) that conduct operations at the site in Palm Beach County. Pratt & Whitney is engaged in the design, development, and testing of aerospace propulsion systems. The original facility was completed in 1958.
- State oversight of the facility dates back to the 1970s. DEP currently regulates the facility through permits, consent orders and registrations. Regulatory areas include hazardous waste, storage tanks, petroleum cleanup, air, underground injection control, potable water, national pollutant discharge elimination systems and domestic wastewater.
- The facility has a hazardous waste permit (renewed September 8, 2008) that includes operational requirements for a hazardous waste storage area and requirements for the continuation of facility wide corrective action.
- DEP oversees the cleanup of hazardous waste contamination at the site under the federally delegated Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments (HSWA) corrective action program, as well as cleanup of petroleum contamination under the state's petroleum cleanup program.
- The facility has 13 open reported petroleum discharge sites. The sites are in various stages including active remediation, active monitoring or awaiting cleanup.
- Pratt & Whitney is in compliance with federal and state hazardous waste regulations.
- The facility was evaluated for entry to the Superfund program in the mid-1980s. The location was dropped from consideration in 1989 since it was already subject to corrective actions under the federal RCRA program. Cleanup activities have been ongoing since the early 1980s (not all associated with RCRA) through various consent orders and permits with EPA, DEP and the county.
- All of the 47 known hazardous waste contamination sites at this facility have been assessed and remedies implemented or being evaluated. The extent of contamination has been adequately determined for all known sites.
- There are more than 400 groundwater monitoring wells at this facility. Locations undergoing active cleanup are sampled semi-annually.
- The monitoring wells have shown the migration of a chemical called 1,4-dioxane in the groundwater beyond the property boundaries onto the J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area (WMA). All other chemicals being monitored in the groundwater are confined within the property boundaries of Pratt & Whitney. Monitoring wells installed on the WMA indicate 1,4-dioxane has migrated approximately 1,000 feet south of the Pratt & Whitney property line. The facility is working to demonstrate that this is the extent of contamination and ensure there is no risk to human health or the environment.

- EPA and DEP have determined that human health exposures and groundwater contamination migration at the facility are under adequate control.
- The facility was evaluated in 1988 by a state health department formerly known as Health and Rehabilitative Services to address potential exposure issues. In the 22 years since then, all of the potential concerns regarding exposure to contaminants have been investigated and addressed. EPA issued a document in September 2000 which reviewed available information on known and reasonably suspected releases to soil, groundwater, surface water/sediments, and air to establish there are no unacceptable human exposures to contamination that can be reasonably expected under current land and groundwater-use conditions.
- From Pratt & Whitney's latest RCRA permit, listed below are the constituents monitored as part of the cleanup process, including the groundwater Cleanup Target Levels (CTL) for these parameters. Not all of these constituents are present at each of the 47 hazardous waste sites at the facility.

Constituent of Concern	CTL (µg/L)
Benzene	1
Chlorobenzene	100
Chloroethane	12
1,1-Dichloroethane	70
1,1-Dichloroethene	7
1,2-Dichloroethane	3
cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	70
trans-1,2-Dichloroethene	100
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	200
Tetrachloroethene	3
Trichloroethene	3
Vinyl Chloride	1
1,4-Dioxane	3.2
PCB	0.5
Arsenic	10
Barium	2,000
Cadmium	5
Chromium	100
Lead	15
Mercury	2
Nickel	100
Selenium	50
Silver	100
Total Cyanide	200

- While there has been increased interest in the cleanup of contamination at this site in Palm Beach County, DEP does not see any direct relationship between this site and The Acreage which is over five miles away.