

# Kansas Department of Health and Environment

## Bureau of Environmental Remediation, Remedial Section

### Voluntary Cleanup and Property Redevelopment Program



## Siemens Wind Turbine Factory



*The site chosen for the wind turbine facility*

### Background:

The Siemens property is a 109 acre lot located in the Salt City Business Park in Hutchinson. The property has never been commercially developed and is currently used for agricultural purposes. Siemens evaluated this property, as well as several other properties across the United States, as the future location of their new \$50 million wind turbine manufacturing facility.

Concerned about potential future environmental liability associated with the Hutchinson property, Siemens contracted for a Phase I assessment. The investigation noted the potential for groundwater contamination as a result of two upgradient sites: IMC Salt and Garvey Elevator. IMC Salt is currently addressing a chloride groundwater plume through KDHE's State Cooperative Program. Garvey Elevator is addressing volatile organic compound (VOC) contamination, namely carbon tetrachloride and chloroform, also through the State Cooperative Program as a part of the larger 4th & Carey site. A subsequent Phase II investigation confirmed groundwater at the property was impacted by chlorides, carbon tetrachloride, and chloroform.

In response to Phase II investigation findings, Siemens entered the property into the Voluntary Cleanup and Property Redevelopment Program (VCPRP) in February 2009 for a Class I "No Further Action" determination. Kansas Annotated Statutes (K. S. A.) 65-34m 169(b)(1) allows issuing a "No Further Action" letter for property that has been impacted by contamination

originating from another property already participating in a KDHE state response program. A review of pertinent files and a KDHE site visit were necessary before determining if the property was impacted by offsite contamination.

### Solution:

KDHE's file review of the IMC Salt site indicated an extensive chloride groundwater plume extending across the Siemens property and farther downgradient. A review of the 4th & Carey site, which includes the Garvey Elevator VOC plume, indicated an extraction well, installed at the northern Siemens property boundary, had apparently drawn the VOC plume to the Siemens property.

KDHE conducted a site visit in April 2009. No potential onsite sources of VOC or chloride contamination were identified. Following the site visit and evaluation of data from the IMC Salt and 4th & Carey sites, KDHE determined the impacts reported during the Phase II investigation were the result of the migration of offsite contamination. A Class I "No Further Action" determination was issued by KDHE for the Siemens property. Siemens subsequently selected Hutchinson, Kansas, as the site for their new facility.

### Benefits:

- **Facilitated purchase of property for major economic development.**
- **400 new permanent jobs will be created in Hutchinson.**



*An architect's rendering of Siemens Energy's future \$50 million wind turbine facility at the Salt City Business Park.*