

## ENVIRONMENTAL CASE STUDIES

### Abandoned Landfill in Taylor, MI—USEPA and State Funded

#### THE PROPERTY

During the 1930s and 1940s, clay was mined (by excavation) from this site. On-site the clay was processed into bricks. The total site consisted of 20 acres. Fifteen of the 20 acres was used as the clay mine. The remaining five acres were used for manufacturing bricks.

After the useful life of the clay mine and brick factory ended, the abandoned clay mine was used as a landfill and filled with general refuse.



#### THE PROJECT

AKT Peerless' historical research identified other recognized environmental conditions (i.e., underground storage tanks and the brick oven) that were included in the investigation. The historical research (i.e., reviewing aerial photographs) revealed the horizontal extent of the landfill.

Throughout the investigation, AKT Peerless worked closely with U. S. Environmental Protection Agency Region V. The investigation began with a magnetometer survey to identify buried metal objects. After this survey, test pits were excavated within the landfill to (1) collect samples of the land-filled material and (2) determine the depth of the landfill. After completing the test pits, soil borings were drilled along the perimeter of the landfill to (1) evaluate whether contaminants had migrated from the landfill and (2) verify the horizontal boundary of the landfill.

#### AKT PEERLESS' ROLE

AKT Peerless' responsibilities were to complete the following:

- Investigate the historical activities at the site;
- Determine the boundary and depth of the landfill;
- Characterize the material contained within the landfill;
- Evaluate if contaminants migrated from the landfill; and
- Evaluate potential future use for the property.

#### THE RESULT

AKT Peerless evaluated the laboratory analytical results of the samples collected from this site. These results were compared to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's cleanup criteria to evaluate any future need for remediation and possible future use.