SC DEPARTMENT *of*
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Claire Matta
Corrective Action & Quality Assurance Section
Underground Storage Tank Management Division
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice #05711-1
February 11, 2026

This notice is to inform the public that the S.C. Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) is taking public comments on a Corrective Action Plan (CAP). This CAP addresses the cleanup of soil and groundwater contamination at the facility listed below. The contamination was caused by petroleum products that were released from underground storage tank system at this facility. Based on current data, chemicals of concern are below Site Specific Target Levels. SCDES intends to monitor the contamination to determine if natural attenuation is occurring.

FACILITY: **Corner Stop 54, 8214 Hwy 14, Gray Court, SC 29645**

APPLICANT: **Niyati LLC 102 S Broad St., Clinton, SC 29325**

SUMMARY OF CAP:
Petroleum and petroleum byproducts naturally break down over time through chemical, physical, and biological processes. These processes are called natural attenuation. Historical groundwater monitoring data sufficiently shows that the chemicals of concern in soil and groundwater are decreasing or stable and remain below established Site Specific Target Levels. Based on this and all available technical information, SCDES intends to issue a Conditional No Further Action (CNFA) once the public notice period has ended.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD DEADLINE: The **deadline** for submitting written comments is **5 PM February 26, 2026.** Any interested person(s) may submit written comments concerning the cleanup to the Project Manager listed below. Please bring this notice to the attention of persons whom you know will be interested in this matter. Where there is a significant degree of public interest, SCDES will hold a public meeting.

Claire Matta, Hydrogeologist
(803) 898-0610

CONTACT INFORMATION: For additional information, please call the Project Manager listed above. To view the CAP, contact the Freedom of Information Office at 803-898-3882 or view it online at des.sc.gov/community/community-engagement/environmental-public-notices.

Section 280.67 of the S.C. UST Control Regulations (R.61-92) requires that any CAP prepared to meet the requirements of 280.66 be placed on notice for public comment.

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TOWN OF GRAY COURT
PO BOX 438
GRAY COURT SC 29645

Re: **Public Notice of Proposed MNA**
Corner Stop 54, 8214 Hwy 14, Gray Court, SC
UST Permit #05711
Release reported August 11, 2008
Groundwater Monitoring Report received November 10, 2025
Corrective Action Plan dated January 28, 2026
Laurens County

To Whom It May Concern:

The Underground Storage Tank Management Division (UST Division) of the S.C. Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) has reviewed the referenced report documenting site rehabilitation activities at the referenced facility. According to the Laurens County Tax Assessors Office, you own parcel 905-01-02-002 and 905-04-03-002, adjacent to the facility.

Based on assessment data and known receptors identified in the area, chemicals of concern (CoCs) are below Site Specific Target Levels. CoCs degrade over time by natural physical and chemical processes, known as natural attenuation. The UST Division has verified that natural attenuation is occurring through periodic monitoring activities.

Section 280.67 of the S.C. UST Regulations requires the UST Division to provide notice to those members of the public that may be affected by a proposed corrective action. A corrective action plan (CAP) for Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA) has been proposed on behalf of Niyati LLC. The CAP can be viewed online at des.sc.gov/community/community-engagement/environmental-public-notices. Please contact me if you are not able to view it.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding the proposed corrective action, please contact me by phone at (803) 898-0610 or by email claire.matta@des.sc.gov. All comments should be submitted on or before February 26, 2026.

Sincerely,

Claire Matta, Hydrogeologist

enc: Public Notice
Community Guide to MNA

cc: Technical File (w/o enc)

Community Guide to Monitored Natural Attenuation

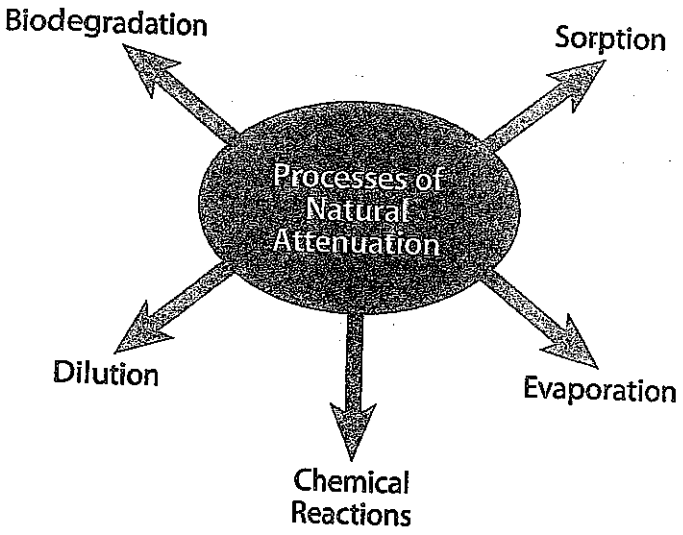
What Is Monitored Natural Attenuation?

Natural attenuation relies on natural processes to decrease or "attenuate" concentrations of contaminants in soil and groundwater. Natural attenuation occurs at most contaminated sites. However, the right conditions must exist underground to clean sites properly and quickly enough. Scientists monitor these conditions to make sure natural attenuation is working. Monitoring typically involves collecting soil and groundwater samples to analyze them for the presence of contaminants and other site characteristics. The entire process is called "monitored natural attenuation" or "MNA."

How Does It Work?

When the environment is contaminated with harmful chemicals, nature may work in several ways to clean it up:

- **Biodegradation** occurs when very small organisms, known as "microbes," eat contaminants and change them into small amounts of water and gases during digestion. Microbes live in soil and groundwater and some microbes use contaminants for food and energy. (See *Community Guide to Bioremediation*.)



- **Sorption** causes contaminants to stick to soil particles or rock surfaces. Sorption does not destroy the contaminants, but it keeps them from moving deeper underground or from leaving the site with groundwater flow.
- **Dilution** decreases the concentrations of contaminants as they move through and mix with clean groundwater.
- **Evaporation** causes some contaminants, like those from gasoline and industrial solvents, to change from liquids to gases within the soil. If these gases escape to the air at the ground surface, air will dilute them and sunlight may destroy them.
- **Chemical reactions** with natural substances underground may change contaminants into less harmful forms. For example, in low-oxygen environments underground, the highly toxic "chromium 6" can be converted to a much less toxic and mobile form called "chromium 3" when it reacts with water and naturally occurring iron.

MNA works best as the last step in the cleanup process when contaminant concentrations are low. For instance, the source of contamination, like buried drums of waste, would be first dug up and disposed of properly. The most highly contaminated soil and groundwater would be treated to lower contamination levels. Natural processes then may remove the remaining, smaller amount of contaminants in the soil or groundwater. The site is monitored regularly to make sure contaminants are not spreading and that they attenuate fast enough to meet site cleanup objectives.

How Long Will It Take?

MNA may take several years to decades to clean up a site. The cleanup time will depend on several factors that vary from site to site. For example, even after the more contaminated areas are cleaned up, MNA will take longer where:

- Contaminant concentrations are higher.
- The contaminated area is large.
- Site conditions (such as temperature, groundwater flow and soil type) provide a less favorable environment for MNA.

Is Monitored Natural Attenuation Safe?

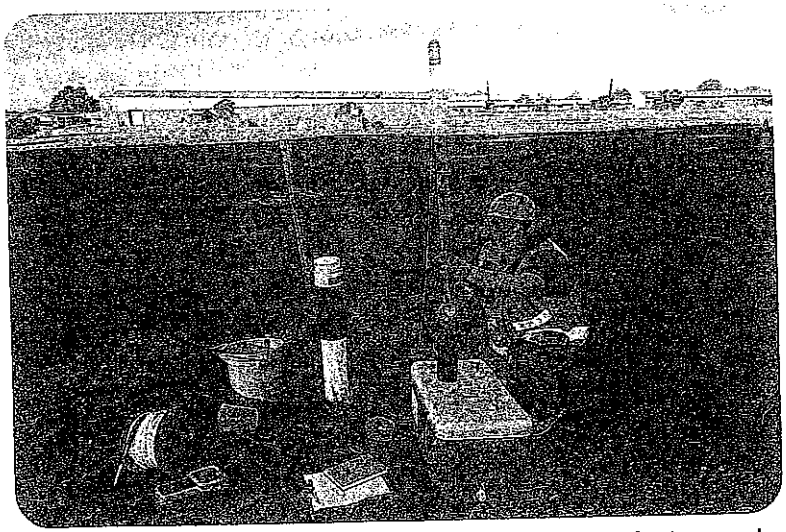
MNA does not pose a threat to the community or to site workers. MNA does not involve excavating soil or pumping groundwater to the surface for aboveground treatment, so the potential to contact contaminants is limited. Regular monitoring is conducted to make sure contamination does not leave the site and that contaminant concentrations are decreasing at a rate that's consistent with cleanup goals for the site.

How Might It Affect Me?

Generally, MNA does not cause much disruption to the surrounding community since it does not require any heavy machinery or other equipment. You may initially see and hear drilling rigs when wells to monitor groundwater quality are installed. Workers will need to visit the site to collect samples of groundwater, soil or sediment to ensure MNA is working properly and is protective of human health and the environment. At those times, you may hear pumps or generators used to collect groundwater samples from wells or drill rigs to collect soil samples.

Why Use Monitored Natural Attenuation?

MNA is usually selected when contaminant sources have been removed and only low concentrations of contaminants remain in soil or groundwater. MNA requires less equipment and labor than most methods, which decreases cleanup costs. However, the cost of many years of monitoring can be high. MNA has been selected for use at hundreds of Superfund sites and other cleanup sites across the country.



Monitoring natural attenuation at a site by collecting a groundwater sample.

Example

MNA was used to complete groundwater cleanup at the Mannheim Avenue Dump Superfund site in New Jersey. The dump received municipal and industrial wastes for nearly 20 years, which contaminated groundwater with the solvent tricholoroethene (TCE) and other chemicals.

As a first step, drums, sludge and other sources of contamination were removed from the dump. A pump and treat system was installed in 1994 to remove the volatile chemicals from groundwater, and the treated water was injected back underground. After 18 months, the system was shut down and MNA was conducted to remove the remaining low levels of TCE. By 2002, levels of TCE in all monitoring wells were below the cleanup level. The site was deleted from the National Priorities List in 2007.

For More Information

- About this and other technologies in the Community Guide Series, visit: https://clu-in.org/cguides or https://clu-in.org/remediation/
- About use of cleanup technologies at a Superfund site in your community, contact the site's community involvement coordinator or remedial project manager. Select the site name from the list or map at http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites to view their contact information.

NOTE: This fact sheet is intended solely as general information to the public. It is not intended, nor can it be relied upon, to create any rights enforceable by any party in litigation with the United States, or to endorse the use of products or services provided by specific vendors.