



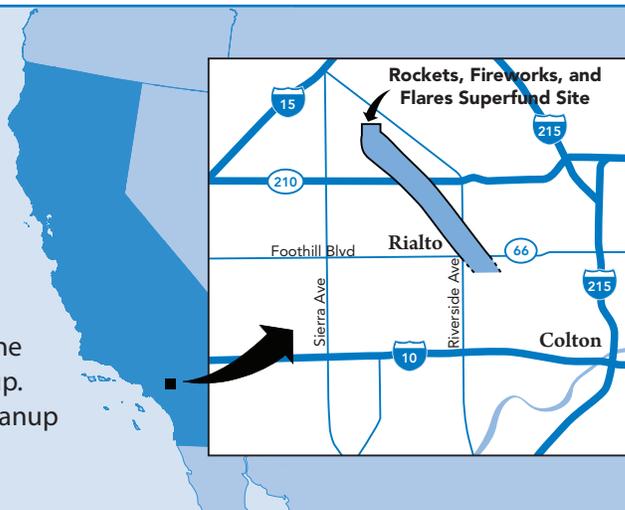
Rockets, Fireworks, and Flares Superfund Site

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency • Region 9 • San Francisco, CA • September 2015

Construction Underway to Clean Up Groundwater in North Rialto

This month, construction began of water treatment systems, groundwater wells, and pipelines needed to clean up a decades-old underground plume of contaminated groundwater in the city of Rialto. More than \$14.5 million will be spent to construct these facilities over the next 14 months as part of the Rockets, Fireworks, and Flares Superfund site cleanup.

Most of the construction will occur in north Rialto, in areas shown in the map on page 3. The construction work will be completed by private contractors hired by Emhart Industries, one of the Potentially Responsible Parties responsible for the cleanup. EPA will oversee the construction work and operation of the cleanup project after its construction.



Additional Cleanup May Be Needed

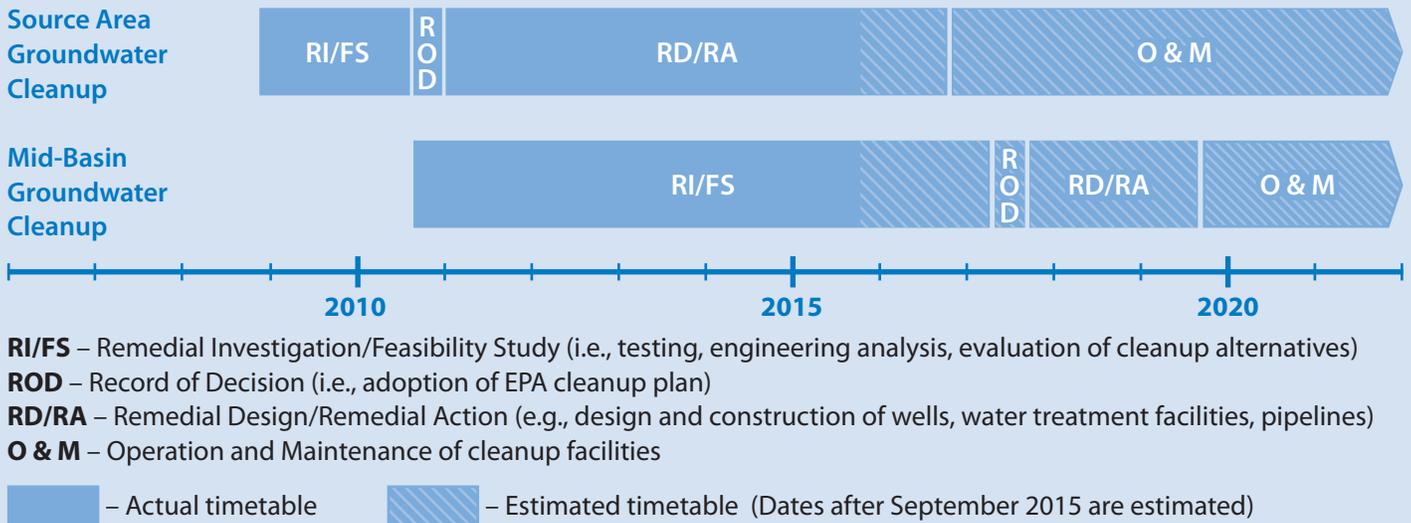
In late 2016, EPA expects to complete a proposal to clean up the less contaminated portion of the groundwater plume (called the “Mid-Basin Operable Unit”). To provide data that EPA will use to help make this decision, the Goodrich Corporation, another Potentially Responsible Party at the Site, installed two 600 foot groundwater monitoring wells last fall along Mill Street in the city of San Bernardino. These two wells will supplement 19 other wells installed by EPA, the city of Colton, and several PRPs over the last decade. Goodrich Corporation is also collecting samples of



New water treatment systems will be built next to an existing system in north Rialto

This first of two planned groundwater cleanup projects is called the “Source Area Operable Unit.” The project will clean up the most contaminated portion of the five-mile-long plume of contaminated groundwater.

B.F. Goodrich Site – Timetable for Cleanup



RI/FS – Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (i.e., testing, engineering analysis, evaluation of cleanup alternatives)
ROD – Record of Decision (i.e., adoption of EPA cleanup plan)
RD/RA – Remedial Design/Remedial Action (e.g., design and construction of wells, water treatment facilities, pipelines)
O & M – Operation and Maintenance of cleanup facilities

soil and soil gas in an industrial area in north Rialto to help EPA determine whether cleanup of contaminated soil is needed. EPA is overseeing all testing work at the site.



Well drilling activities in Rialto

Site History

The Rockets, Fireworks, and Flares Site includes a 160-acre area where past industrial activity contaminated soil and groundwater and created a five-mile-long plume of groundwater contamination. The primary contaminants in the ground water are chlorinated solvents, used to clean metal parts, and perchlorate, a chemical oxidizer used in manufacturing rockets, fireworks, and flares.

The groundwater in Rialto is an important source of drinking water to residents and businesses in the cities of Rialto, Colton, and Fontana. Years ago, the contaminants prompted the closure of many drinking water supply wells and forced local water utilities to seek water from other sources.

The United States Army used the 160-acre area in the 1940s to store rail cars transporting ordnance to the Port of Los Angeles. Since the 1950s, the property has been used by defense

contractors, fireworks manufacturers, and other businesses that used perchlorate salts and/or solvents in their manufacturing processes or products.

Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC)

In 2014, EPA, working with the City of Rialto, provided free job training to 17 local residents. The training was designed to help local residents obtain work cleaning up the Site or with other local environment or water-related employers. Nationwide, EPA has trained approximately 400 people as part of the Superfund Job Training Initiative. Eighty percent of the trainees have been placed in jobs, such as environmental technicians, material handlers, radiological control inspectors and heavy equipment operators.

EPA also completed an assessment to better understand the community’s technical assistance needs. The assessment, conducted as part of EPA’s Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) program, is available on the site webpage.

Who Pays?

Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) are companies, government agencies, or others that EPA believes are responsible for paying for cleanup at a contaminated site in accordance with the Superfund law. PRPs at the Rockets, Fireworks, and Flares Site include companies that manufactured fireworks, flares and rocket motors, owners of contaminated property, and

Drinking Water Is Tested Regularly to Make Sure It Meets State and Federal Standards

Rialto and Colton are dependent on local groundwater for most of their water supply. The groundwater is generally of high quality, originating primarily as rainfall and snowmelt in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino mountains. To ensure the safety of the community's drinking water, the water utilities serving Rialto, Colton, and surrounding areas have closed contaminated drinking water supply wells and rely on wells in clean areas unaffected by the contamination. The water utilities also regularly test water delivered to homes and businesses to make sure that it meets all federal and state drinking water standards.



Site Name Change

In 2013, EPA changed the name of the Site from B.F. Goodrich to Rockets, Fireworks, and Flares.

the U.S. Department of Defense. The EPA negotiated agreements with most of the PRPs at the Site between 2012 and 2014, ending years of litigation. A final agreement is expected in late 2015 or early 2016. Two of the PRPs, Emhart Industries and the Goodrich Corporation, agreed to carry out the cleanup, using their funds and funds from other settling parties. Copies of the agreements are available at U.S. EPA's Site web page.

What Is Superfund?

Superfund is an environmental program established in 1980 to investigate and clean up abandoned hazardous waste Sites. To accomplish its mission, EPA works closely with communities, Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs), and state and local governments. For more information on the Superfund Program visit:

www.epa.gov/superfund.



Rockets, Fireworks, and Flares Superfund Site Map

Rockets, Fireworks, and Flares Superfund Site

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For More Information About the Site

U.S. EPA's Rockets, Fireworks, and Flares (RFF) Superfund Site web page and the Site Information Repository are tools the public can use to learn about activities at the Site. This is where you can find up-to-date information, technical reports and reference materials. The Site webpage is located at: www.epa.gov/region9/rff. The information repositories for the RFF Site are located at:

Rialto Branch Library

251 West 1st St
Rialto, CA 92376
(909) 875-0144

EPA Superfund Records Center

95 Hawthorne St., 4th floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 820-4700

The EPA Superfund Records Center has a complete collection of Site documents; the Rialto library has a more limited number of documents.

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