



San Fernando Valley Area 2 Superfund Site Glendale Chromium Operable Unit

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency • Region 9 • San Francisco, California • March 2012

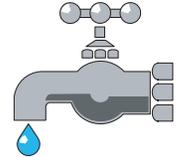
EPA to Install Ground Water Monitoring Wells in the Glendale/Burbank Area

Introduction

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is overseeing a **remedial investigation** (RI) in the Glendale/Burbank area, including the installation of ground water monitoring wells. The investigation will allow EPA to obtain additional data to continue to evaluate the nature and extent of **hexavalent chromium** in ground water for the Glendale Chromium **Operable Unit** (GCOU) of the San Fernando Valley (SFV) Area 2 **Superfund** Site. The GCOU is located in the eastern portion of the SFV (see map on page 4). This project will not expose people living or working near the drilling sites to hazardous chemicals.

This fact sheet explains EPA's planned activities and describes the investigation of hexavalent chromium in ground water at the GCOU and invites the public to an open house meeting on April 11, 2012 (see box below). All terms that appear in **bold** are explained

Drinking Water



The cities of Glendale, Burbank and Los Angeles provide drinking water to their customers from a variety of sources, including water produced by the treatment plants that are part of the cleanup remedies for the SFV Superfund sites. Drinking water served by Glendale, Burbank and Los Angeles meets all state and federal drinking water standards for chromium. In fact, the cities' drinking water goals for hexavalent chromium are significantly more stringent than federal and state drinking water standards.

in the Glossary on page 5. For more information on the SFV Area 2 Superfund Site, please visit EPA's website at:

www.epa.gov/region09/SanFernandoGlendale.

Background

EPA established the GCOU in 2007 after ground water monitoring revealed significant hexavalent chromium contamination in ground water within the eastern portion of the San Fernando Valley. Data continue to be collected from more than 100 ground water wells within the Site. Hexavalent chromium is used in metal alloys, such as stainless steel; protective coatings on magnetic tapes; and pigments for paints, cement, rubber and other materials.

A cleanup remedy is in place to remove chlorinated **volatile organic compounds** (VOCs) from ground water within the SFV Area 2 Superfund Site. At this time, the VOC remedy does not directly address hexavalent chromium, thus, EPA initiated



COMMUNITY MEETING

April 11, 2012
at 6:00 PM

Adult Recreation Center

201 E. Colorado St., Glendale, CA 91205

Come to an open house and community meeting hosted by EPA to learn more information about the upcoming activities.

Si usted desea recibir una copia de esta hoja informativa en español, por favor llame al 1-800-231-3075, deje su nombre, dirección y/o correo electrónico.

the GCOU study described in this fact sheet, in addition to the efforts listed in Timeline Table on page 3. The Cities of Glendale, Burbank, and Los Angeles are proactively addressing the issue in advance of the regulations establishing standards for hexavalent chromium. EPA is leading the RI and overseeing the work of a group of **potentially responsible parties** (PRPs), known as the GCOU Respondents, who will be performing a portion of the field investigation.

Objective of the Remedial Investigation

The data obtained from the RI of the GCOU will support the overall objective of delineating the extent, distribution and sources of hexavalent chromium in ground water in the GCOU. The investigation will also include an evaluation of the potential threats to human health and the environment posed by hexavalent chromium in ground water, which is a key step in determining the appropriate cleanup remedy. The results of the RI work will be used to develop and evaluate a range of possible cleanup alternatives. EPA also is working with the State of California to investigate and clean up the sources of chromium.

What to Expect

EPA and the GCOU Respondents plan to install new monitoring wells that will be constructed in two phases. Phase 1 (Spring 2012) will include installation of an initial group of wells. The results of ground water testing during Phase 1 will be used to refine the well locations for Phase 2 (late Summer 2012). While EPA will take extensive measures to reduce the potential impacts to homes and businesses in the immediate area around each monitoring well site, drilling and construction activities may be disruptive at times. EPA appreciates the residents' and business owners' patience through this process, and will do its best to minimize the impact of the well drilling on your daily lives.

Construction Schedule: Installation of each well will require about one week and installations are expected to begin in April 2012.



Typical equipment set up for well installation

Work Hours and Community Notification: The drilling contractors generally will work between the hours of 7:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. A flyer will be distributed in advance to notify nearby residents and businesses of upcoming construction activities at any given location.

Safety Measures and Impact Reduction: The drilling crew, in safety vests and hard hats, will use a truck-mounted drilling rig to install the wells. Traffic markers and signs will re-route traffic around the drilling operation and street parking will be temporarily obstructed.

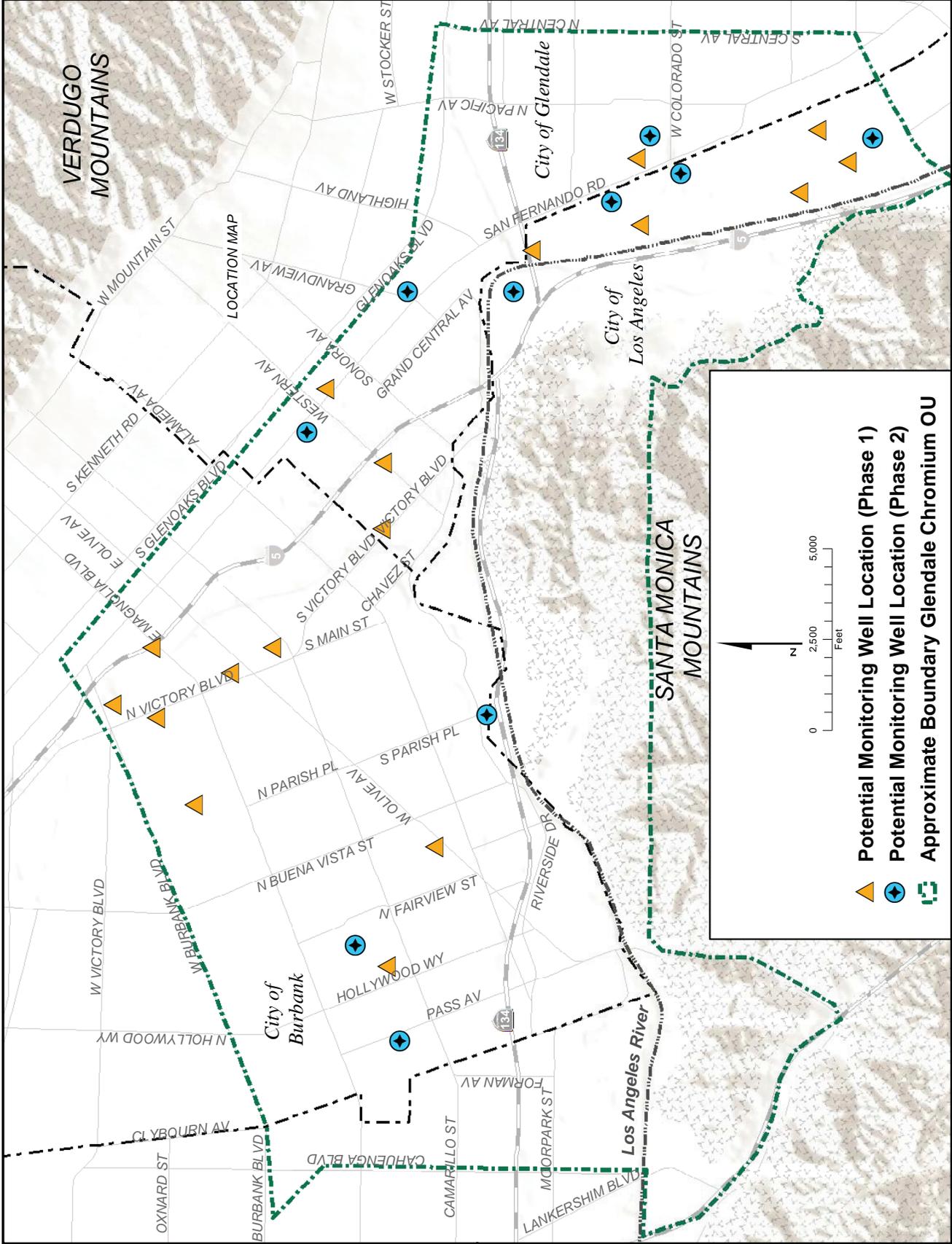
All drilling sites will be staffed by health-and-safety trained personnel during drilling operations. EPA, in cooperation with local agencies, will work to minimize equipment noise and traffic disruption. Based on experience installing other wells, EPA expects no significant disturbance from ground vibrations during drilling.

Results: Ground water samples will be collected from new wells in the area every three months starting in late Spring 2012. Sampling from new and existing wells will continue for at least two years. The results and analysis will be published in an investigation report planned for release in Fall 2013.

Table: Timeline of Actions to Address Chromium Contamination in the San Fernando Valley

1998	EPA funds a four-year investigation of chromium sources through the California Regional Water Quality Control Board-Los Angeles Region.
1999	EPA begins quarterly monitoring for hexavalent chromium.
2000	To meet the voluntary chromium limit of 5 parts per billion (ppb) adopted by the City of Glendale, EPA makes adjustments to the treatment system for the SFV Area 2 Superfund Site. The system is designed to contain and remove chlorinated VOCs contamination in ground water but not to treat chromium or other metals.
2003	EPA begins providing support to further assist the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to identify and clean up sources of chromium contamination.
2006	EPA develops a Chromium Action Plan to identify short and long term actions to address chromium contamination. The priority is removing sources of chromium in the ground before the contamination reaches ground water. The Plan is updated every six months.
2007	EPA establishes a Glendale Chromium Operable Unit (GCOU) within the San Fernando Valley Area 2 Superfund Site to allow for a focused investigation of chromium contamination and evaluation of cleanup options.
2007	EPA removes drums and chemicals and excavates soils contaminated with chromium, cadmium and cyanide at former All Metals Processing Company, an abandoned metal plating shop in Burbank, with hazardous chemicals seeping onto the ground.
2008	EPA and the State of California host a workshop to discuss options for investigation and cleanup of hexavalent chromium in water. Technical documents are posted on the San Fernando Valley (All Areas) web page: (http://www.epa.gov/region9/SanFernandoAllAreas)
2010	EPA excavates 460 tons of soil contaminated with chromium and chlorinated VOCs at Drilube Company, a former metal plating facility located in Glendale.
2010	With financial assistance from EPA and others, the City of Glendale completes construction of two demonstration projects that remove hexavalent chromium from the ground water. The projects allow for evaluation of two different treatment technologies and help the City continue to meet its 5 ppb goal for hexavalent chromium.
2011	EPA enters into an agreement with a group of four PRPs, the GCOU Respondents, to perform a portion of the remedial investigation of contamination in ground water in the Glendale area.
2011	EPA initiates a remedial investigation of chromium contamination in ground water in the GCOU.
2013	EPA to complete remedial investigation and start feasibility study to review cleanup alternatives.

For more information on the SFV Area 2 Superfund Site, please visit EPA's website at:
www.epa.gov/region09/SanFernandoGlendale.



Well Location Map

A detailed map is available for review at EPA's website at: www.epa.gov/region09/SanFernandoGlendale.

Glossary of Terms

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA):

The law, enacted by Congress on December 11, 1980, that created the Superfund program. CERCLA established prohibitions and requirements concerning closed and abandoned hazardous waste sites, provided for liability of persons responsible for releases of hazardous waste at these sites, and established a trust fund to provide for cleanup when no responsible party could be identified.

Hexavalent chromium: Also known as chromium 6, a heavy metal. It can occur naturally, but also can enter water sources from spills and leaks at industrial plants. It is used for the production of stainless steel, textile dyes, wood preservation, anti-corrosion, and electroplating.

Operable unit (OU): An area of focus for separate activities undertaken as part of an overall Superfund site cleanup.

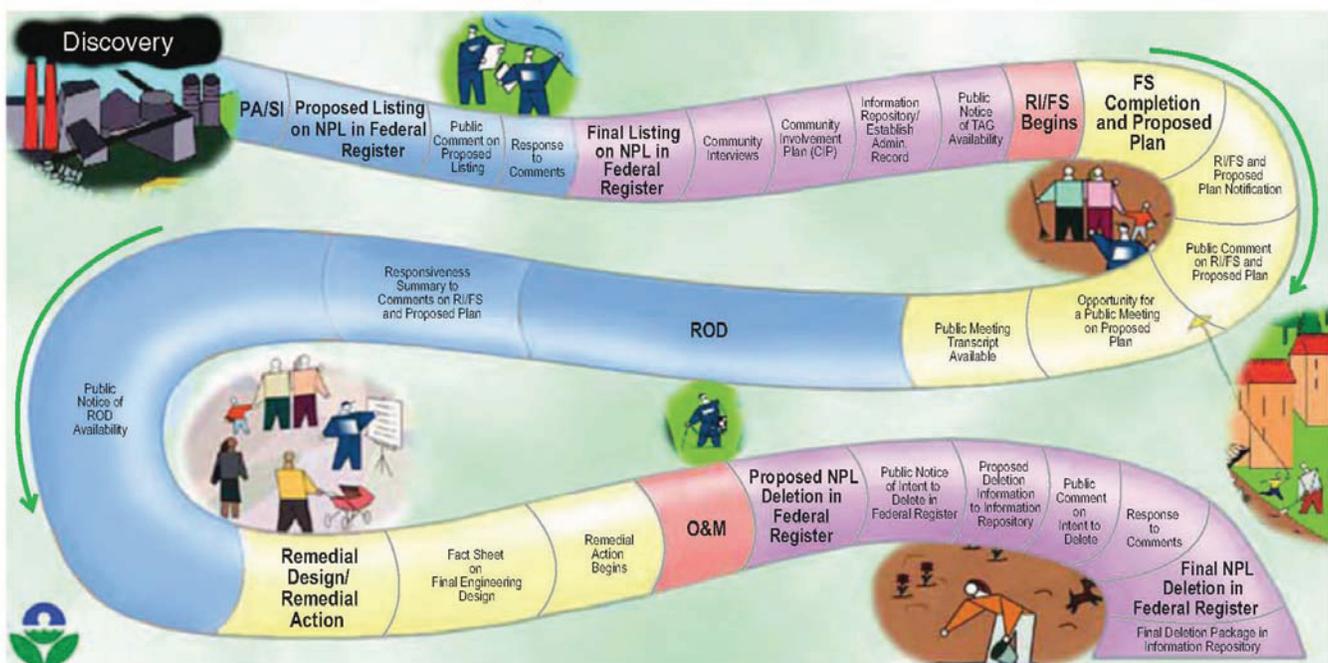
Potentially responsible party (PRP): A possible polluter who may eventually be held liable under CERCLA for the contamination or misuse of a particular property or resource.

Remedial investigation: An in-depth study to assess the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site and potential risks to human health and the environment. The remedial investigation is usually followed by a feasibility study, which evaluates possible cleanup alternatives. Together they are referred to as the “RI/FS.”

Superfund: The environmental program established by EPA to address abandoned hazardous waste sites. (See Superfund Process below.)

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs): Organic (carbon-based) chemicals that tend to significantly vaporize and enter the atmosphere under normal conditions; commonly used in dry cleaning, machinery degreasing, and metal plating.

Superfund Process



For More Information:

Documents related to the San Fernando Valley Superfund Sites can be found at the information repositories listed below. Please call the locations for hours.

City of Glendale Public Library

222 East Harvard Street
Glendale, CA 91205
(818) 548-2021



Superfund Records Center

Mail Stop SFD-7C
95 Hawthorne Street, Room 403
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 820-4700

EPA Contacts

Lisa Hanusiak

Remedial Project Manager

Phone: (415) 972-3152

Email: hanusiak.lisa@epa.gov



Jackie Lane

Community Involvement Coordinator

Phone: (415) 972-3236

Email: lane.jackie@epa.gov



You can also leave a message on EPA's Community Involvement Office line toll-free at (800) 231-3075 and someone will return your call. For additional information about the GCOU, visit:

www.epa.gov/region09/SanFernandoGlendale.

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-6-3)
San Francisco, CA 94105
Attn: Jackie Lane (SFV: GCOU 3/12)

FIRST-CLASS MAIL
POSTAGE & FEES
PAID
U.S. EPA
Permit No. G-35

Official Business

Penalty for Private Use, \$300

Address Service Requested



Printed on recycled paper

Si usted desea recibir una copia de esta hoja informativa en español, por favor llame al 1-800-231-3075, deje su nombre, dirección y/o correo electrónico.