

# EPA

## INDUSTRIAL WASTE PROCESSING SUPERFUND SITE

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY • REGION 9 • FEBRUARY 1998

# EPA to Begin Groundwater Investigation

**T**he U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will begin a groundwater investigation for the Industrial Waste Processing (IWP) site on January 25, 1999. As part of this investigation, EPA will collect soil gas samples from bore holes to determine if IWP is responsible for contaminants in the groundwater. If results show that contamination of the groundwater has resulted from chemicals used at the IWP property, EPA will install two monitoring wells to monitor the extent of contamination. EPA will then proceed to determine the best way to clean up the contamination. **The groundwater we are investigating is not a drinking water source.**

### BACKGROUND

The IWP site is located in the Pinedale area of Fresno, California at 7140 North Harrison Avenue. Formerly known as "Chem-Serve," this small (0.5 acre) abandoned industrial site is located in a highly developed area of mixed commercial, industrial and residential use. Between 1967 and 1981, the IWP site was a recycling facility which reclaimed various waste materials. In 1990, the site was listed on the National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL is a list of the sites nationwide that are eligible for funding for investigation and clean up under the federal Superfund

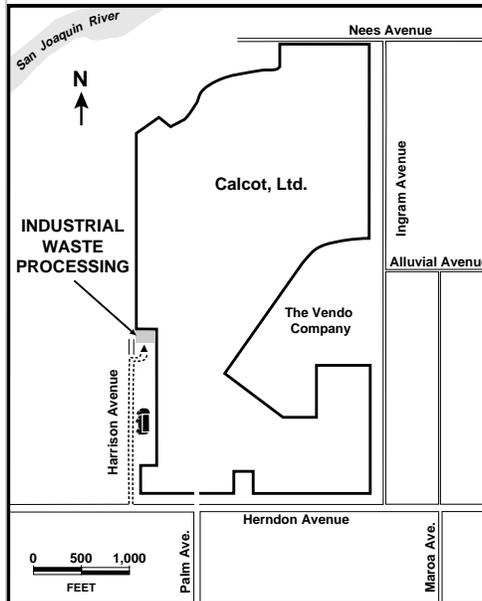


Figure 1:  
Site map of Industrial Waste Processing

program. Since that time, EPA has been conducting site investigations and cleanup activities in accordance with Superfund procedures.

From January 21, 1998 to July 30, 1998, EPA performed a removal action. A removal action consists of activities taken to protect human health and the environment from the release or threatened release of hazardous substances. As part of this action, EPA removed 2,352 tons of material at the IWP Site. All soils contaminated with 400 parts per million (ppm) of lead, and 7 ppm of Trichloroethylene (TCE) were removed from the IWP site. Clean soil was brought in and compacted to level it out.

### WHAT YOU MAY SEE ON AND AROUND THE SITE

Federal regulations mandate that workers in close proximity to hazardous materials be properly protected. Therefore, workers on site will be seen wearing protective gear. You should not be alarmed by this. Workers will be dressed in tyvek suits (which are basically disposable jumpers), boots, gloves, hard hats and will also be wearing earplugs. Respirators will be worn when initiating the drilling of a new hole to insure that no vapors from organic compounds are present. Once it is determined that there are no vapors, workers can continue their drilling without wearing respirators. Vapors of organic compounds will be monitored with the use of an instrument called an "H-Nu." Residents will not be exposed to any high levels of VOCs as a result of activities taking place at the Site. There will be no excavation occurring, so airborne dust emissions will not be a concern.

Site activities will be conducted using a large drilling rig to complete the bore holes and possible wells. The work will be performed during normal business hours, 8:00am to 5:00pm, so as not to disturb the neighbourhood with the noise. A "green screen" will also be put up around the Site to try and reduce

*(continued on back)*

*(site history, cont'd.)*

any visual disturbance as well. The groundwater investigation activities will be confined to within the site boundary with the possible exception of a well being installed below the sidewalk on the corner of Birch and North Harrison Avenues. After the activities at the Site are completed, all equipment and materials will be removed from the Site. The work is expected to take four to six weeks to complete. Field activities can often be impacted by many factors that cannot be predicted in advance, including weather. Because of this uncertainty, the schedule for these activities may change slightly.

*printed on recycled*  *recyclable paper*

*If you would like more information, please contact the following EPA staff members or call toll-free 1-800-231-3075.*

Angeles Herrera  
Community Involvement Coordinator  
U.S. EPA (SFD - 3)  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105 - 3901  
(415) 744-2185

Beatriz Bofill  
Remedial Project Manager  
U.S. EPA (SFD7-2)  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105 - 3901  
(415) 744-2235

*Si necesitas esta información en Español, por favor llama a Angeles Herrera o Beatriz Bofill.*

#### INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

Information related to EPA's work at the Industrial Waste Processing site is available at the following locations:

Fresno County Central Library  
2420 Mariposa  
Fresno, CA 93660

Pinedale Library  
7170 North San Pablo  
Pinedale, CA 93650

---

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX  
75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-3)  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Attn: Reymundo Anthony

---

Official Business  
Penalty for Private Use, \$300

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