



# Phoenix-Goodyear Airport Superfund Site

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## Progress Continues on Cleanup Activities

In 2013, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) are reviewing alternatives for the remedy at the PGA North Main Drywells Source Area, optimizing the Soil Vapor Extraction system (SVE), installing a new extraction system west of Litchfield Road and for PGA South, are investigating possible changes to accelerate the groundwater remedy. Should there be a proposed change to either remedy, EPA will hold public workshops and meetings to explain any intended changes and get public input.

### Current Status: PGA North

In late 2011, an additional groundwater extraction well – EA08 – began operating at PGA North. After the end of pumping season in October 2012, a Subunit A capture zone analysis was conducted to evaluate whether or not we have achieved containment of the contaminant plume. Based on that analysis, EPA and ADEQ have determined that with current groundwater conditions, the plume is controlled to the northeast area but that additional work is needed in the north central to northwest areas. A plan for additional extraction and/or injection is due from Crane Co. in March 2013. In addition, Subunit A extraction well EA-09 is planned to be installed west of Litchfield Road to cut off the contaminant plume south of I-10.

Meanwhile, a Focused Feasibility Study for the Main Drywell Source Area is being developed to accelerate cleanup at the source. The current cleanup actions call for ground water extraction and treatment along with Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE) (removing the contaminated vapors that migrate upwards from the groundwater through the soil). However, alternatives are being developed and EPA and ADEQ will hold public workshops to explain the technologies being considered. EPA will write a Proposed Plan that explains the technologies considered and identifies a preferred alternative. A public meeting will then be held to explain the Proposed Plan and take public comments. Following the public comment period, EPA, in consultation with ADEQ, will select a remedy and amend the PGA Record of Decision (ROD) to detail any changes.

Also accomplished in 2012 was the completion of several issues identified by the 2010 Five-Year review for PGA-North. Two of these were the need for a baseline Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) and a Screening-level Ecological Risk Assessment for the Source Area. For both of these reports, assessments are made to estimate the nature and probability of adverse health effects in humans or ecosystems when exposed to chemicals at the Site, now or in the future. These risk assessments follow specific EPA guidance.

The results of the HHRA for PGA North concluded that exposure to soil, groundwater and soil vapor are all below the risk level or are within the acceptable risk range for potential trespassers, future construction workers and future outdoor commercial/industrial workers.

Overall, based on the risk estimations for the PGA-North Site source, the potential for ecological risk can be generally characterized as low and conditions at the Site do not represent a potential for ecological risk.

A third issue from the Five Year Review was a groundwater investigation in the Area Between the Sites (ABS). The ABS investigation evaluated groundwater quality and chemistry in the area between PGA North, PGA South and the nearby Western Avenue Plume Site.

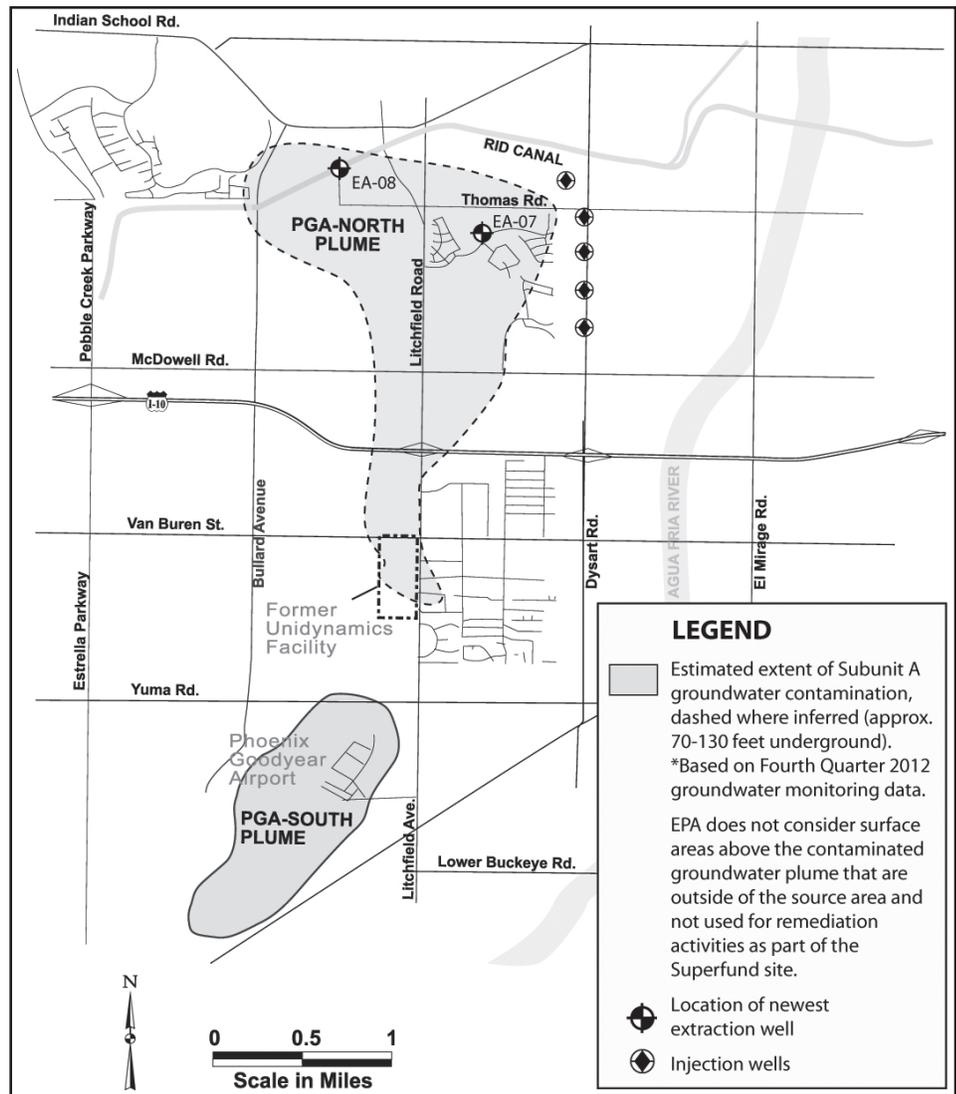
## Current Status: PGA South

Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company has begun an investigation regarding specific areas of the ground water plume in the northern area of the PGA South: Chromium in Subunit C near monitoring well MW13UC and for TCE down gradient of the plume. Both investigations will continue this year and will help EPA better understand the effectiveness of the groundwater cleanup and whether there can be a change made to the remedy to accelerate cleanup.

As identified by the 2010 Five-Year Review for PGA South, EPA also completed investigation near and abandonment of former production well GAC-04 which was a suspected conduit well.

## Site Background

In 1981, the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) discovered that groundwater in the Site area was contaminated with trichloroethylene (TCE) and other volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from manufacturing operations in the area. As a result, EPA listed the overall Phoenix-Goodyear Airport Site to the National Priorities List (NPL) in September 1983 as the “Litchfield Airport Area” Superfund Site. After ownership of the airport property was transferred to the City of Phoenix, the Site was renamed the Phoenix-Goodyear Airport Area (PGA) Superfund Site. The Site is in the West Basin of the Salt River Valley, within the City of Goodyear, Arizona, approximately 17 miles west of downtown Phoenix. During the Remedial Investigation to characterize



*PGA Superfund Site*

the Site, it was learned that there were two distinct source areas: one centered under the Unidynamics (UPI) facility north of Yuma Road and the other was largely coming from the Goodyear Aerospace/Loral Facility adjacent to the Litchfield Airport (presently known as the Phoenix-Goodyear Airport).

## Protection of Drinking Water Wells

Protecting drinking water wells is the highest priority for remedial actions at both areas of the Site. The need for this has been demonstrated by municipal supply wells having been impacted by contamination in the past. These wells include City of Goodyear wells COG-2, and COG-10. These wells, and fire-protection well COG-4, have all been permanently sealed due to contamination issues. Sealing these wells will prevent them from being conduits that further contamination of the drinking water aquifer.

## Community Involvement Program

The purpose of EPA's Community Involvement program is to help the public become involved in the cleanup and decision-making process. Promoting meaningful community involvement is our goal and to inform the public of current and planned site activities, EPA and ADEQ pledge to:

- Maintain open communication about the site investigation and cleanup,
- Ensure questions are answered and concerns are addressed as they occur, and
- Provide citizens with opportunities to comment on and be involved in cleanup decisions that will have long-term impacts on the community.

EPA and ADEQ will continue to update residents about the PGA Area Superfund Site through fact sheets, public meetings and regularly scheduled Community Advisory Group (CAG) meetings. Please feel free to call or write using the contact information found below.

We have placed site documents in our Information Repository at the Goodyear Branch Library and on the EPA website (see information on the back page). EPA and ADEQ encourage public participation and welcome comments, questions, and input at anytime. We also have a number of staff you can call with questions using their direct line or EPA's toll-free line (800-231-3075). Their direct lines are listed below.

Due to organizational changes at EPA Region 9, long time Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) for PGA, Ms. Viola Cooper, will be working on other projects and will no

longer be the CIC for the PGA site. EPA would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms. Cooper for all of her efforts to improve and expand EPA's engagement with the community.

EPA wishes to introduce Alejandro Díaz as the new Community Involvement Coordinator for PGA North and PGA South.

## Community Advisory Group

The CAG meetings are open to the public and meet on a quarterly basis. Their purpose is to collect information about site cleanup activities and serve as a focal point for the exchange of information with the local community. You can contact Diane Krone the CAG community contact at 623-932-0402 for more information. If you have an interest in becoming a potential CAG member, or would like to find out the meeting dates and schedules, please contact the Community Involvement Coordinators (see contact information on this page). The next CAG meeting will be held on Thursday, February 7<sup>th</sup> 2013 at 6:00 pm at City of Goodyear Justice Center, 185 N 145<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

## EPA Technical Assistance Grant

EPA's Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) program provides money to community groups for technical advisors to interpret and explain technical reports, site conditions and EPA's cleanup proposals and decisions. In early 2011, a TAG was awarded to the Environmental Community Outreach Association, a local non-profit group.

For more information about the TAG activities, you can contact Nadine Johnson, Environmental Community Outreach Association at (602) 615-5447 or email [eco@cox.net](mailto:eco@cox.net), Facebook: [www.facebook.com/outreach4community](http://www.facebook.com/outreach4community), for meeting dates and schedules.

### Site Contacts

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## Site Repository

### Goodyear Branch Library

250 N. Litchfield Road, Ste 185

Goodyear, AZ 85338

(602) 652-3000

Hours: Mon – Wed 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Thurs – Sat 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### EPA Superfund Records Center

95 Hawthorne St., 4th Floor

San Francisco, CA 94105

(415) 536-2000

Hours: Mon – Fri 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

For more site information, visit the PGA Site Overview at:

[www.epa.gov/region09/phoenix-goodyearairport](http://www.epa.gov/region09/phoenix-goodyearairport) or  
<http://azdeq.gov/environ/waste/sps/phxsites.html#pgana>



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