



# Environmental Investigation in Hayden and Winkelman

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY • REGION 9 • AUGUST 2005

## Next Steps of Environmental Investigation

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), in coordination with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), has been conducting an environmental investigation in the areas of Hayden, Winkelman, and Kearny, Arizona. The next steps of the investigation will determine whether current environmental conditions in Hayden and Winkelman could increase the potential for health effects over the long term and whether they require any U.S. EPA action (see Background). To ensure community input, U.S. EPA is inviting the public to comment on the scope of the investigation as outlined in the U.S. EPA Hayden Winkelman Environmental Investigation Workplan (Workplan). The preparation of the workplan included public input received at the March 2005 public meetings in Winkelman and Kearny, AZ.

U.S. EPA will be accepting comments on the Workplan through September 6, 2005. Comments can be submitted at the August 17, 2005 public meeting or in written form to John Hillenbrand, U.S. EPA Project Manager, listed on the back page. A copy of the Workplan is available for review at the Hayden Public Library, 520 Velasco Ave, Hayden, AZ 85235 and the Arthur E. Pomeroy Public Library 912-A Tilbury Road, Kearny, AZ 85237.

### Open House

An Open House is being held to review the Workplan and respond to questions and comments. It will be held on:

**Wednesday, August 17, 2005**

**5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

**Hayden/Winkelman**

**School District Office**

**824 Thorne Ave.**

**Winkelman, AZ 85292**

The Open House will begin at 5:00 pm, followed by a U.S. EPA presentation on the Workplan from 6:00-6:30 p.m., and a discussion period from 6:30-7:30 p.m.



### Background

U.S. EPA conducted residential surface soil sampling in Kearny, Hayden, and Winkelman, AZ in October 2004. Based on the sampling results reported in the February 2005 fact sheet and March 2005 public meetings, U.S. EPA determined that the concentrations of metals such as arsenic and copper detected in soil do not pose an immediate human health concern in any of the three towns. However, the levels detected in Hayden and Winkelman are above levels that exist naturally in Arizona soil. For this reason, U.S. EPA has planned a more comprehensive investigation in Hayden and Winkelman that includes further soil sampling, and air and water sampling to address other possible exposure pathways. U.S. EPA included public input received at the March 2005 public meetings in planning the investigation. Taken together, the results will provide the basis for assessing the risk for the residents in town.

## What will the environmental investigation include?

The investigation will include air, soil, and water sampling in Hayden and Winkelman, AZ.

All of the sampling will be for a variety of metals but will focus on arsenic and copper concentrations since those were found to be of most concern during the October 2004 sampling.

## How will the air be sampled?

Beginning in November 2005, air quality data will be collected from four monitoring stations located in Hayden and Winkelman. The stations will measure background concentrations and levels of airborne pollutants at different times of the day and during high and low wind conditions. Airborne pollutants such as dust and particulate matter\* can come from various sources that may include: tailings piles, the smelter stack, and general emissions from the concentrator and smelters. To measure possible indoor exposure to contaminants in the air, attic dust samples will be taken from a total of 20 residences.

Possible locations for the air monitoring stations include: near the Hayden Jail, by the schools in Winkelman, the golf course area and Montgomery Ranch. These locations were chosen to assess potential sources in the town that may affect residences.

## What additional soil sampling will be done?

Beginning in January 2006, we will offer to sample all residential yards in Hayden and most of Winkelman. At each residence, three samples will be taken on the surface (0-2 inches) and one at 12 inches in each yard.

Sampling will also be conducted in areas surrounding residential properties that can be accessed by residences such as tailings piles and roadways. Samples will not be taken at the concentrator and smelter facilities, except in those specific areas where material could move to residential properties or could be accessed by the public.

Soil and sediment samples will also be collected along the Gila River floodplain to assess potential effects on the environment.

## How and why will the water be sampled?

To date, drinking water wells in Hayden and Winkelman have been found safe to drink. Beginning in November 2005, in addition to sampling the drinking water wells once more, samples will also be taken from groundwater monitoring wells. These groundwater monitoring wells are located upgradient from the drinking water wells and will be used to assess whether contaminated groundwater near industrial areas could affect the drinking water wells.

In addition to the existing 13 groundwater monitoring wells, an additional six groundwater wells will be installed and sampled in the following areas: below the slag dumps near highway 77, upgradient of the demolished smelter, near the Hayden Well field, at the lower end of San Pedro Wash, and downstream of main tailings ponds.

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\***Particulate matter** (PM) is a mixture of solid and liquid particles found in the air. While some particles can be seen as dust or dirt, others are about one-seventh the diameter of a human hair (PM<sub>10</sub>) or even smaller (PM<sub>2.5</sub>).

When will the results of the investigation be available?

Results of the sampling are expected by Fall 2006, and will be reported to the community via fact sheet and public meetings in the late Fall. These results will be used to determine an estimate of the potential risk posed to residents.

## Next Steps

- A Public Meeting to discuss the Workplan and accept public comment on August 17, 2005
- Public Comment on the Workplan will be accepted through September 6, 2005
- A fact sheet summarizing the Final Workplan and providing more detailed information on the schedule of sampling activities will be available in the late Fall 2005.



## MAILING LIST COUPON

U.S. EPA plans to send future information to Hayden and Winkelman residents only. As a Kearny resident, if you would like to be included on the mailing list, please fill out the coupon and return to the address below:

**André Villaseñor**, Community Involvement Coordinator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-3)  
San Francisco, CA 94105

(PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

\*PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ \*FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ \*E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

\*ORGANIZATIONAL AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

\*(Optional items)

You may also provide the above information by e-mail to: [villasenor.andre@epa.gov](mailto:villasenor.andre@epa.gov) or by fax: (415) 947-3528

# Environmental Investigation in Hayden and Winkelman

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**(800) 231-3075** and we will return your call.



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