



# EPA

# NORTH AREA OF PHOENIX GOODYEAR AIRPORT SUPERFUND SITE

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency • Region 9 • San Francisco, CA • December 2001

## CONTAMINATION DETECTED IN DEEP MONITORING WELL TO NORTH - DRINKING WATER NOT AFFECTED

### Introduction

The Phoenix Goodyear Airport Superfund site is divided into a North and South portion. This fact sheet contains information concerning the North portion of the site and its contaminated groundwater plume. The plume is contaminated with trichloroethylene (TCE) and perchlorate. Results of recent monitoring suggest that the plume may have moved to a deeper level of the groundwater system, both to the southeast, as previously reported, and more recently to the north. EPA has directed Crane Co., the responsible party for cleanup of the PGA North Superfund site (Site), to expand the scope of investigative activities to include the entire deeper groundwater system at the Site.

TCE and perchlorate were recently detected in a deep monitoring well, just north of the Unidynamics facility. The well, MW-20, is located on Van Buren Road just west of Litchfield Road (see Figure 1). It is not a source of drinking water. Currently, MW-20 is the only monitoring well for ensuring that contaminated groundwater in the deeper groundwater system does not migrate beyond the northern property boundaries.

The groundwater system in this area is composed of three subunits: A, B and C. Subunit-C is separated from the upper, contaminated subunit-A by a confining layer of silt and clay (subunit-B). The detection of contamination in subunit-C raises the question of whether subunit-B is an effective barrier preventing downward contaminant migration (see Figure 2).

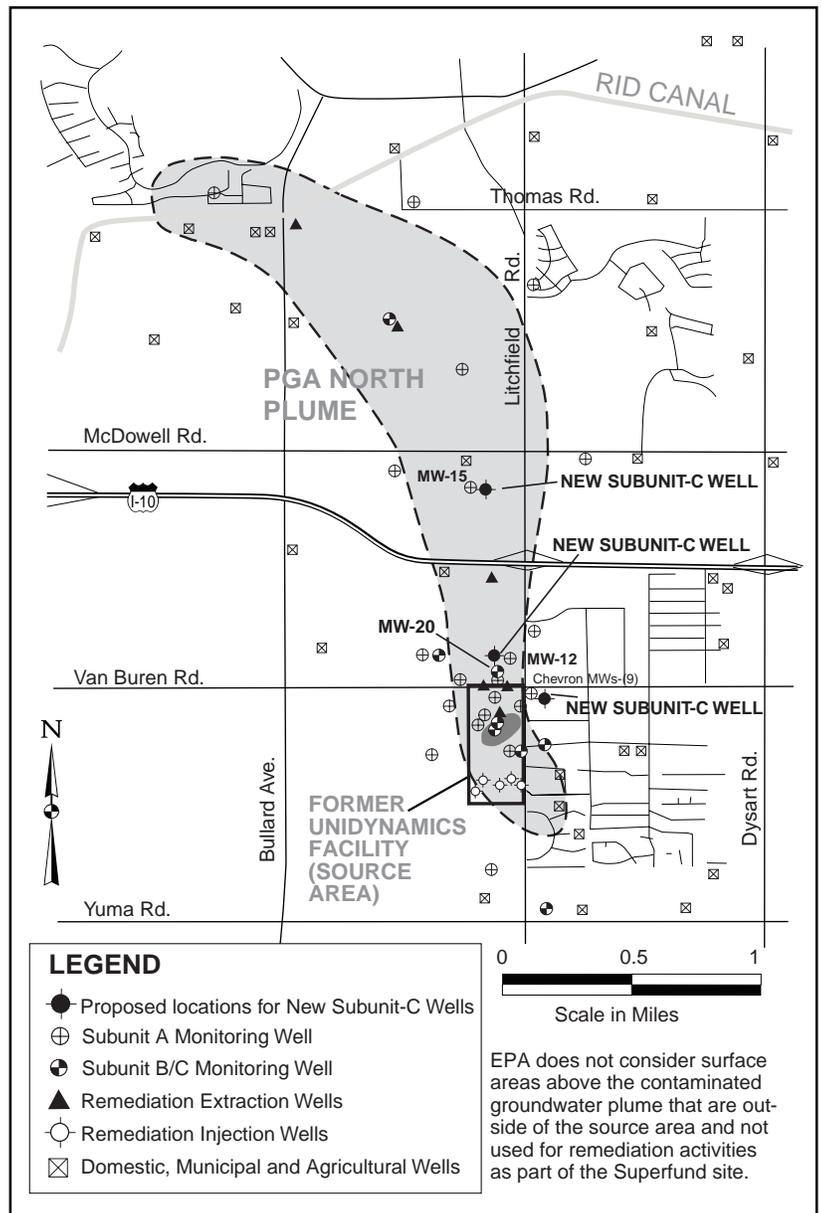


Figure 1. Location of contaminated plume and proposed new wells

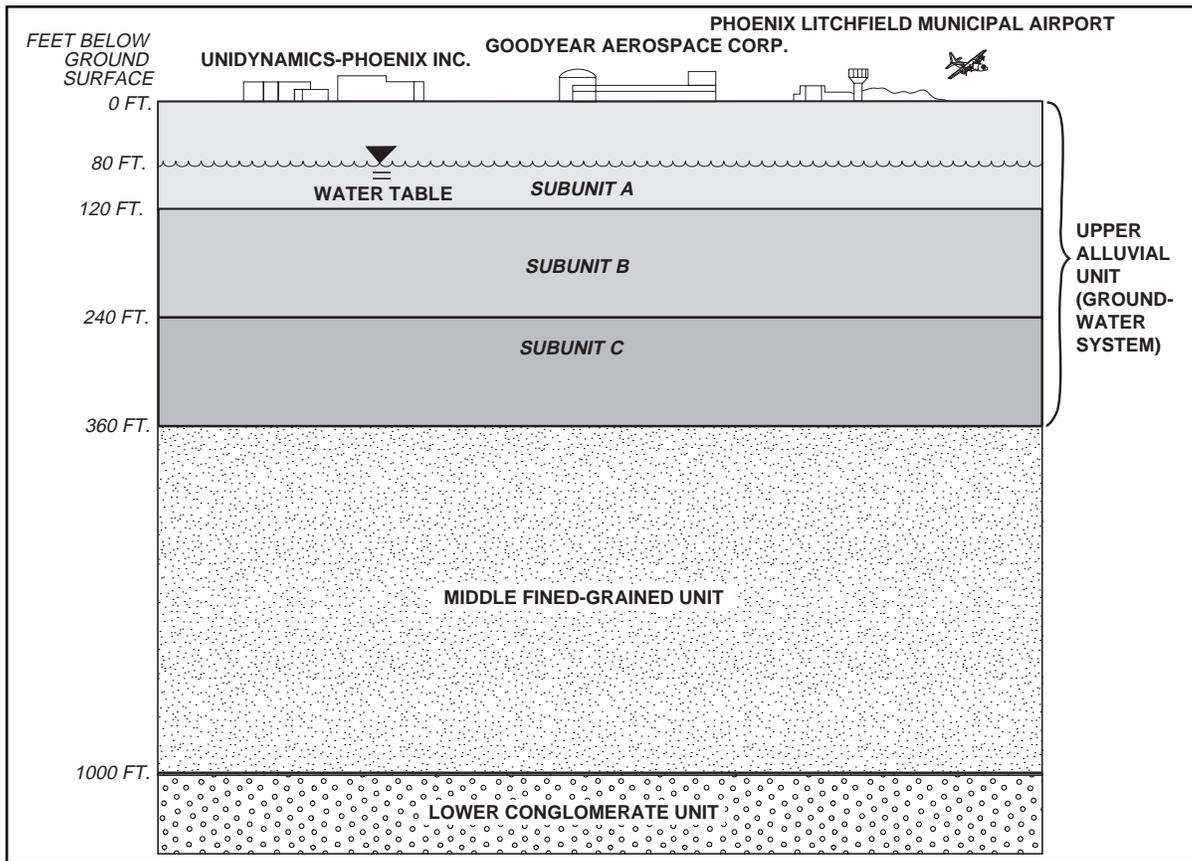


Figure 2. Generalized geologic cross section

Until this year, trichloroethylene (TCE) had not been detected in MW-20 at levels above the state and federal drinking water standard of 5 parts per billion (ppb). However, the TCE levels in MW-20 were detected at 11 ppb in May 2001, 74 ppb in September 2001, and 140 ppb in October 2001. Perchlorate also was detected in MW-20 at 8.4 ppb in October 2001. For perchlorate at Superfund sites, EPA Region 9 has used a provisional cleanup level of 4 ppb, and the State of Arizona has established a health-based guidance level of 14 ppb. Contamination in subunit-C is of particular concern to EPA because the City of Goodyear, the City of Avondale, and the Litchfield Park Service Company (LPSCO) pump their drinking water from this subunit.

Prior to starting any cleanup of this subunit-C contamination, it is

necessary to better define the extent of contamination. Therefore, EPA has directed Crane Co. to expand its investigation in this area. This includes the installation of new deep monitoring wells to help characterize the vertical and lateral extent of the contamination. See Figure 1 for the proposed locations of some of these new wells. Depending on the data results, Crane Co. may need to install more monitoring wells to further define the contaminated plume in the lower subunit-C and/or extraction wells to begin removal of the contaminants from this zone.

Drinking water quality standards have not been exceeded in any of the public water supply systems in this area. State and federal laws require all public water supply wells to be tested regularly to ensure that the drinking water meets applicable stan-

dards. Regular testing is performed by LPSCO, the City of Avondale, and the City of Goodyear public water systems, which are the main water providers in the area. In addition, at EPA's direction, all public supply wells potentially impacted by this subunit-C groundwater contamination will continue to be sampled on a monthly basis by Crane Co. to ensure that drinking water is protected.

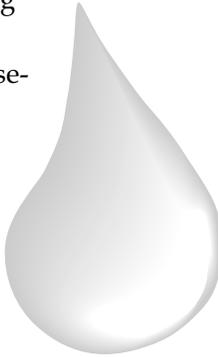
EPA is coordinating with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), LPSCO, the City of Avondale, and the City of Goodyear to ensure that there is no future impact to the drinking water supply systems. If drinking water quality standards for site contaminants are exceeded in any of the public water supply wells, the water will be treated at the well to remove the contamination or the

well will be taken out of service.

EPA will continue to update residents about this situation through fact sheets and public meetings, and regularly scheduled community advisory group meetings. Please feel free to call or write us using the contact information found on the back of this mailing.

## CALLING ALL PRIVATE WELL OWNERS

Do you know where your drinking water comes from? Are you drinking water from a private well? Most households in the cities of Avondale and Goodyear receive their water from municipal water suppliers such as the city water department and pay a municipal water bill. However, it is possible that water comes directly from a private well at a few homes or farms. If you are using a private well near any groundwater contamination associated with



the PGA North Superfund site (see Figure 1), please contact the EPA or ADEQ representative shown on the back page of this fact sheet. If you are in an area potentially impacted by the contamination, EPA or ADEQ may need to test your well to ensure that your drinking water does not contain any contaminants associated with the PGA North Superfund site.

## COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

ADEQ and EPA have established a community advisory group (CAG) to address issues and concerns related to the PGA North and South Superfund sites and the Western Avenue Plume Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund site. The CAG consists of a group of interested citizens who serve as a focal point for the exchange of information among the local community and the agencies and are involved with the cleanup and decision-making at the sites. The CAG was formed in February 2001 and meets on a regular basis to receive briefings on site activities. Contact an agency representative listed on the back page of this fact sheet for more information regarding the CAG.

## INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

Additional copies of this fact sheet and other documents related to the Phoenix Goodyear Airport Superfund site are available for review at the Avondale Public Library at the address listed below. The public is also welcome to review site information at ADEQ. To arrange a review time at ADEQ, please call the Records Center listed below.

**Avondale Public Library**  
328 West Western Avenue  
Avondale, AZ 85323  
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**Arizona Department of Environmental Quality  
Records Center**

3033 North Central Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85012-9880  
(602) 207-4380 or  
Toll Free within AZ: (800) 234-5677, x 4380  
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm

or visit EPA's Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/region09>.



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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Your comments are invited and encouraged. If you have any questions or concerns about the cleanup activities at the Phoenix-Goodyear Airport-North Superfund site, please contact:

### US EPA

75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

**Andria Benner**, (SFD-8-2), Remedial Project Manager, (415) 972-3189

**Wenona Wilson**, (SFD-3),  
Community Involvement Coordinator  
(415) 972-3239  
Toll Free: (800) 231-3075

### ADEQ

3033 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85012-9880

**Nancy Lou Minkler**, Project Manager  
(602) 207-4187

**Tina Wesoloskie**  
Community Involvement Coordinator  
(602) 207-4238  
Toll Free within AZ: (800) 234-5677, ext. 4238

If you would like to be included on the mailing list for the Phoenix-Goodyear Airport-North Superfund site, you may send your name and address (please indicate for "PGA North") via an e-mail to [wilson.wenona@epa.gov](mailto:wilson.wenona@epa.gov), send a fax to Wenona Wilson at (415) 947-3528,

or call EPA's toll-free message line, **1-800-231-3075**, and leave your mailing information.

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