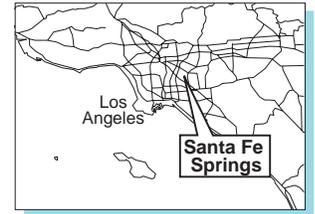




Waste Disposal, Inc. (WDI) Superfund Site



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 9 • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA • DECEMBER 2000

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AT WDI

This fact sheet provides an update on activities conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Waste Disposal, Inc. Group (WDIG) at the Waste Disposal, Inc. Superfund site (WDI site) in Santa Fe Springs, California. The WDIG is comprised of the parties named in EPA's enforcement order to further the remedial design process for the WDI site. EPA and the WDIG completed the majority of the field investigation activities in 1999 and 2000, including the recent subsurface soil investigation. Both EPA and the WDIG have compiled the data results into various technical reports, including a draft Supplemental Feasibility Study (SFS). EPA has also recently awarded a grant to the City of Santa Fe Springs to study redevelopment of the site. This fact sheet describes the next steps for the site.

Waste Excavation Treatability Study Canceled Due to Extent of Waste

WDIG Completes Limited Subsurface Soil Investigation in Candidate Areas

As discussed in our August and September 2000 fact sheets, an excavation treatability study in Areas 1 and 8 of the site was being considered by the WDIG and the EPA. Areas 1 and 8 include parcels along Santa Fe Springs Road and Los Nietos Road, respectively. Those areas of the site were known to contain buried waste adjacent to and beneath on-site buildings. The treatability study would have given us information on our ability to excavate the waste adjacent to buildings in these areas and on how excavation would affect on-site structures.

Before implementing the treatability study, the WDIG needed to further define the extent and nature of wastes beneath and adjacent to on-site structures. In October and November 2000, WDIG conducted a limited subsurface soil investigation in the areas where excavation was planned. The results of the investigation indicated that waste exists beneath more buildings than originally anticipated. Based on the number of buildings affected by buried waste, and after consulting with several of the landowners and the City of Santa Fe Springs, the WDIG and the EPA decided not to proceed with the treatability study.

The EPA will still consider excavation of the buried waste in these areas as part of the Feasibility Study and remedy selection process (outlined in Table 1). Due to the potential effects on the property owners and their tenants, a full evaluation of all remedy options, including capping and engineering controls, is necessary. The Proposed Plan allows for input from all affected parties and the public in

selection of the remedy. The anticipated schedule for the Feasibility Study and remedy selection process is provided in Table 1 on page 2.

EPA Redevelopment Grant Update

Initial Public Meetings will Recruit Citizen Volunteers

As discussed in previous fact sheets, the City of Santa Fe Springs received a \$100,000 grant under the Superfund Redevelopment Initiative in October 2000. The City will use the grant to develop a site-specific master plan that will address future use of the site once construction of the final remedy is completed. EPA and the City of Santa Fe Springs held a Community Open House on October 18 to discuss the overall process of the activities under the Redevelopment Initiative Grant. Since that time the City has begun preparations for development of the Master Plan.

The City is in the process of selecting their consulting architect and engineer for the project. Once the architect and engineer are selected in January, the first public meeting on redevelopment of the site will be held by the City. At that time the City will solicit citizen volunteers for membership on various committees. Once the date of the meeting is selected, EPA and the City will announce it via newsletters and notices in the local paper. For information on the Redevelopment Initiative grant and upcoming meetings, contact Andrew Lazzaretto at the City of Santa Fe Springs Planning Department at (562) 868-0511 x291. Be sure to contact Mr. Lazzaretto to get your name on the City's mailing list. The EPA cannot provide the City or other parties with our WDI mailing list due to Privacy Act constraints.

Table 1

Anticipated schedule for remedy selection process and start of the remedy construction:

EPA Review of Draft Supplemental Feasibility Study	December 2000 - February 2001
Public Meetings on Redevelopment Grant and Progress of Remedy Selection	January - May 2001
EPA Develops Proposed Plan <i>(EPA's proposed remedy for the site)</i>	May 2001
Public Comment Period on the Proposed Plan	June - July 2001
Public Hearing During Public Comment Period	June 2001
EPA Prepares and Issues Response to Public Comments	August 2001
EPA Issues Amended Record of Decision (ROD) <i>(EPA's documentation of the selected remedy and the basis for our decision)</i>	September- October 2001
Remedial Design <i>Detailed specifications for the selected remedy are developed</i>	Fall 2001 - Winter 2002
Remedial Action <i>Implementation (construction) of the remedy begins</i>	Spring 2002

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ACRONYMS FOR SUPERFUND

Cleanup

Actions taken to deal with a release or threatened release of hazardous substances that could affect public health or the environment. The term "cleanup" is often used broadly to describe various response actions or phases of remedial responses such as the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS).

Community Relations

EPA's program to inform and involve the public in the Superfund process and respond to community concerns.

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

A Federal law passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). The Acts created a special tax that goes into a Trust Fund, commonly known as Superfund, to investigate and clean up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Under the program, EPA can either:

- Pay for site cleanup when parties responsible for the contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to perform the work, or

- Take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or pay back the Federal government for the cost of the cleanup.

Cost-Effective Alternative

The cleanup alternative selected for a Superfund site based on technical feasibility, performance, reliability, and cost. The selected alternative does not require EPA to choose the least expensive alternative. It requires that if there are several cleanup alternatives available that deal effectively with the problems at a site, EPA must choose the remedy on the basis of performance, reliability, and cost.

Feasibility Study (FS)

See Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)

Information Repository

A file containing the current information, technical reports, and response documents regarding a Superfund site. The Information Repository is usually located in a public building that is convenient for local residents, such as a public library.

Operation and Maintenance (O&M)

Activities conducted at a site after a response action occurs, to ensure that the cleanup or containment system is functioning properly.

Potentially Responsible Party (PRP)

Any individual(s) or company(s) (such as owners, operators, transporters, or generators) potentially responsible for, or contributing to, the contamination problems at a Superfund site. Whenever possible, EPA requires PRP's, through administrative and legal actions, to clean up hazardous waste sites they have contaminated.

Proposed Plan

The documentation of EPA's proposed remedy for a Superfund site based on the RI/FS. The Proposed Plan is put out for public comment and serves as the basis for input from all concerned parties. Comments generated from the Proposed Plan are compiled and considered by EPA and presented in the Record of Decision (ROD).

Public Comment Period

A time period during which the public can review and comment on various documents and EPA actions. For example, a Public Comment Period is provided when EPA proposes to a remedy at a site through a Proposed Plan.

Public Hearing

A public meeting held during the Public Comment Period where public testimony is taken by the EPA from any concerned parties. Comments provided during the Public Hearing are recorded in the record and are responded to by the EPA in the Responsiveness Summary.

Record of Decision (ROD)

A public document that explains which cleanup alternative(s) will be used at a Superfund site. The Record of Decision is based on information and technical analysis generated during the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and consideration of public comments and community concerns.

Remedial Action (RA)

The actual construction or implementation phase that follows the Remedial Design of the selected cleanup alternative at a Superfund site.

Remedial Design (RD)

An engineering phase that follows the Record of Decision when technical drawings and specifications are developed for the subsequent Remedial Action at a Superfund site.

Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)

Two distinct but related studies. They are usually performed at the same time, and together referred to as the "RI/FS". They are intended to:

- Gather the data necessary to determine the type and extent of contamination at a Superfund site;
- Established criteria for cleaning up the site;
- Identify and screen cleanup alternatives for Remedial Action;
- Analyze in detail the technology and costs of the alternatives.

Remedial Project Manager (RPM)

The EPA official responsible for overseeing the Remedial Response activities at a Superfund site.

Responsiveness Summary

A summary of both oral and written public comments received by EPA during a Public Comment Period on key EPA documents and EPA's response to those comments. The Responsiveness Summary is included in the Record of Decision as the record of community concerns for EPA decision-makers.

Superfund

The common name used for the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act.

ACRONYMS

CERCLA

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, & Liability Act

FS

Feasibility Study

O&M

Operations & Maintenance

PRP

Potentially Responsible Parties

ROD

Record of Decision

RA

Remedial Action

RD

Remedial Design

RI/FS

Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study

RPM

Remedial Project Manager

For Additional Information

For additional copies of this fact sheet, or for other information on the Waste Disposal, Inc. Superfund site, please contact:

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