

# Community Informational Group (CIG)

Your Voice in EPA/ADEQ  
Decisions



# What is a Community Informational Group?



- An avenue for community participation in decisions regarding site cleanup
- A way to keep your community informed about environmental issues
- A place to share community views/ concerns with EPA/ADEQ and other government agencies
- **Whatever you want to make out of it!**

# What will a CIG do for you?

- Help keep you informed on environmental issues in your community
- Through you, help inform your community
- Provide a forum for diverse interests to communicate concerns
- Help you make more substantive comments on agency actions



# What Responsibilities do CIG Members Have?

- Attend all CIG meetings for at least 1 year
- Review information about the issues
- Provide data and information to EPA/ADEQ on site issues
- Share information with the community members you represent
- Represent views of the community members YOU represent, and work with agencies and other organizations to address the issues

# Restrictions under a CIG

- CIGs are representative of community concerns and ultimately responsible to community members
- EPA/ADEQ, and co-chairs will encourage that site-related topics are discussed in meetings so as to remain focused and accomplish goals
- If the CIG wanted to act as a body and not as individuals, the AZ Open meeting law would apply.

# What can EPA/ADEQ do to help?

- Attend and present at meetings as needed
- Provide relevant documents
- Provide administrative support, outreach materials
- Provide for independent technical support (TAG, TASC)

# Phoenix Revitalization Corp

- Has agreed to help facilitate and organize meetings
- Outreach assistance
- Food

# Lessons learned from CIGs

- Community must take initiative in formation and operation
- CIG must be inclusive and independent
- Access to independent technical expertise important
- Recognize what is possible and work within these limits

# Lessons learned, continued

- Leaders must make long-term commitment
- Strong leadership: A community and agency co-chair, working together, is ideal
- CIGs are more effective than public meetings and can provide more meaningful comments
- Well defined agendas and goals increase efficiency and productiveness
- Must have a commitment on the part of CIG members to do outreach to their communities

# Membership

- Discussion:
  - Recruitment
  - Criteria: composition, size
  - Membership: formal or informal?
  - Select officers

# Discussion

- Establish mission statement
- Develop ground rules and operating procedures
- frequency and location of future meetings
- Commitments and ideas for outreach

# Next meeting

- Date, time, location
- Proposed agenda

# For more information

- Web site: [www.epa.gov/superfund/community/cag](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/cag)
- Community Advisory toolkit

- EPA Community Involvement Coordinator:

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