



# CASMALIA RESOURCES SUPERFUND SITE

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY • REGION 9 • JULY 2005

## U.S. EPA Proposes Two Cashout Settlements With *De Minimis* Waste Generators

U.S. EPA has proposed two settlements involving over 275 parties to provide \$6.2 million in additional cleanup funds for the former Casmalia Resources Hazardous Waste Facility, located near the town of Casmalia, California.

The 45-day public comment period on these proposed settlements will run from July 11, 2005 to August 26, 2005. A public hearing will be held on Monday, July 18, 2005, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, at the County Administrative Building, 511 E Lakeside Parkway, Santa Maria, California.

The settlements require each settling party to pay its *pro rata* (proportional) share of total estimated Site costs — based on the amount of waste that party sent to the Site as a percentage of the total waste disposed of at the Site — plus “premium,” which is an additional payment to cover the uncertainties associated with the estimated cost of cleanup actions at the Site. A premium functions like an insurance policy because once a party has settled, the risk that the cost of cleanup will be higher than estimated is transferred to the government.

Each of these settling parties is considered *de minimis* waste generators because each party sent waste to the Site that is minimal in both quantity and toxicity, based on the total amount of waste sent to the Site.

If you wish to submit written comments on the proposed settlements, please send your signed original comments to Karen Goldberg (RC-3), U.S. Environmental Agency, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA, 94105, postmarked August 26, 2005, and refer to *Casmalia Resources Superfund Site, Santa Barbara County, California*.

You may Fax comments to her by August 26, 2005, at (415) 947-3570 or send e-mail comments by August 26, 2005, to [goldberg.karen@epa.gov](mailto:goldberg.karen@epa.gov).

The U.S. EPA will consider all comments it receives during this period, and may modify or withdraw its consent to either of the settlements if any comments disclose facts or considerations indicating that the settlement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate.

The proposed settlements are part of U.S. EPA’s overall enforcement strategy at this site. In 1997, U.S. EPA entered into a partial work settlement with the Casmalia Steering Committee. Prior “cashout” settlements include *de minimis* settlements with 430 parties in 1999, 24 parties in 2001 and 192 parties in 2004. U.S. EPA has also settled with the State of California in 2002, the facility owner/operator in 2002 and other “major” waste generators in 2003. Prior cashout settlements have resulted in payments totalling over \$100 million.



Casmalia Resources site

**Proposed DeMinimis Settlements  
Public Comment Period  
Ends August 26, 2005**

# Casmalia Resources Proposed Settlements

## For further information, please contact:

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## Information Repositories

You may review extensive background information related to the Casmalia Resources Superfund Site, at either of the following:

**Santa Maria Library**  
420 South Broadway  
Santa Maria, California  
(805) 925-0994

**EPA Superfund Records Center**  
95 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, California  
(415) 536-2000

## U.S. EPA's Web site:

<http://www.epa.gov/region9/waste/sfund/superfundsites.html>

***(800) 231-3075 Toll-Free Message Line***

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United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-3)  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
Attn: David Cooper (Casmalia 7/05)

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