



# Klau / Buena Vista Mine Superfund Site

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \$ Region 9 \$ San Francisco, CA \$ October 2007

## Phase I Remedial Investigation to Begin

### At a Glance

#### Where:

Phase I of the Remedial Investigation (RI) field work begins at the Klau/Buena Vista Mines Superfund Site. EPA will sample soil, sediments, water, and biological (fish and macro-invertebrates) and use the information to plan for the next phase of investigation (Phase II).

#### What:

A RI is an in-depth study designed to gather data needed to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site; establish site cleanup criteria; identify preliminary alternatives for remedial action; and support technical and cost analyses of alternatives. The remedial investigation is usually done with the feasibility study (FS), (a study that identifies all cleanup alternatives). Together they are usually referred to as the "RI/FS".

#### When:

The RI field work began on September 24, 2007 with preliminary site screening and equipment testing. Actual field sampling will begin on October 15, 2007. The field sampling is expected to take approximately six weeks.

#### How:

EPA will take samples of soil, water, stream sediments, and collect tissues samples from various species of fish and other aquatic organisms. Al-

though mercury is the main contaminant of concern, chemical analyses will be performed to determine if other contaminants are a concern to human health and the environment.

#### Next Steps:

Results from the Phase I investigation will be used to refine the sample locations and analysis for Phase II. The resulting data from these phased investigations will be used to determine the extent of contamination and to calculate the risks posed by the site. EPA's preferred alternative for cleanup will then be proposed to the community at a public meeting.

Since samples need to be taken during the wet and dry seasons, field work will be conducted in two major phases. The first phase (dry season) will start in October and will occur over a 6 week period. This phase will involve sampling of soil, sediments, water, and biological sampling. We anticipate that the majority of the sampling will occur in October.

The focus of Phase I will be in the immediate vicinity of the mines. Phase II will focus on the extent of contamination and may involve collecting various samples outside of the immediate mining operations area.

EPA estimates that it will take approximately 12 months to complete both investigation phases.

### Community Involvement Plan (CIP) Is Now Available

The CIP summarizes the feedback EPA received regarding our previous work at the Site and describes how we will involve community members in upcoming Site activities. The CIP establishes a plan to engage the community in the Klau Buena Vista Mine process, provides a public record of our community involvement commitments, describes how we will continue to solicit and understand community concerns and priorities and documents the concerns and priorities we have received through community feedback. What we heard from the community will ultimately affect the cleanup activities of the Site. This plan is available to the community at the Paso Robles Public Library, the EPA Superfund Records Center in San Francisco, and on the web at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r9/sfund/overview.nsf>. Once on the site overview page, please click on Klau Buena Vista Site. You can also obtain a copy of the CIP by calling Lauren Berkman, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, using the contact information on the back page of this fact sheet.

# Klau / Buena Vista Mine Superfund Site

## Contact Information

**Lauren Berkman**  
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More information on the Klau/  
Buena Vista Mine Superfund  
Site is available on our web page:



[www.epa.gov/region09/waste/sfund](http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/sfund)

## Information Repositories

Related documents are available for public review at the locations listed below:

**Paso Robles Public Library**  
1000 Spring Street  
Paso Robles, CA 93446  
(805) 237-3870

**U.S. EPA Superfund Record Center**  
95 Hawthorne Street, Suite 403S  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 536-2000



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United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-3)  
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Attn: Lauren Berkman (K/BVM 10/07)

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