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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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Information Repositories

EPA has established two information repositories for community members. Documents are available for review at:

Hayden Public Library

175 5th Street
Hayden, AZ 85235

Arthur E. Pomeroy

Public Library
912-A Tilbury Road
Kearny, AZ 85237

The EPA website for this site is found through
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/AsarcoHaydenPlant>



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San Francisco, CA 94105
Attn: Leana Rosetti (ASARCO 2/13)

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**ASARCO
Smelter Site**



February 2013

Phase II Remedial Investigation Begins

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in partnership with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), invites the public to two community meetings to discuss the upcoming fieldwork and status of the ongoing Remedial Investigation of the smelter and concentrator on-facility areas in and around the towns of Hayden and Winkelman.

Both meetings will be held at the Hayden Senior Center, one on Tuesday, March 12th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and the other on Wednesday, March 13th from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 pm. Each meeting will cover the same information.

During each meeting, EPA will present information on the upcoming investigations being performed, the timing of the sampling and how the results of the sampling will be used.

Agenda

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Welcome and Introductions | 4. Risk Assessment |
| 2. Superfund Process | 5. Community Involvement |
| 3. Remedial Investigation Objectives | 6. Adjourn |

Community Meetings

Hayden Senior Center

March 12th, 2013
5:30p.m. to 7:30p.m.

March 13th, 2013
12:30p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

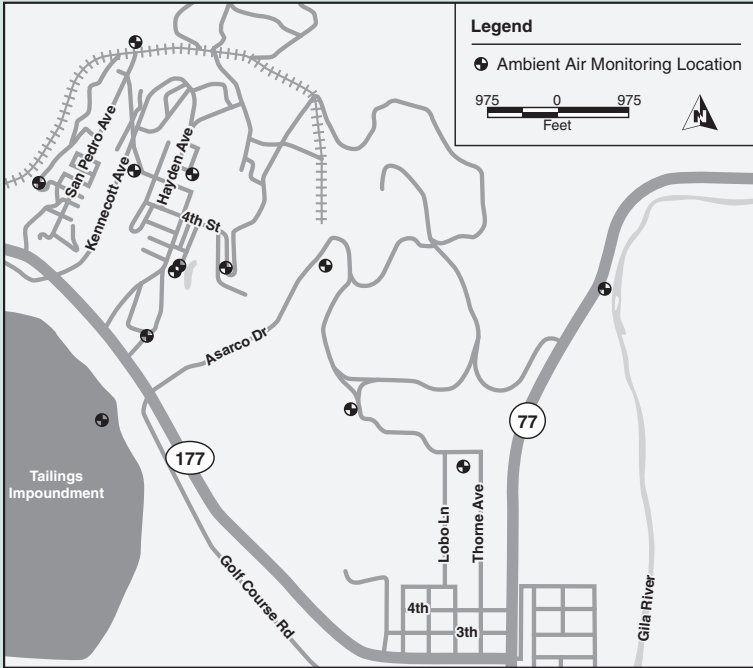


Site Investigation

The Phase I (completed in 2008) site investigation focused on residential soil and air quality investigations in both Hayden and Winkelman related to past and present smelting and milling operations. The Phase I investigation found copper, lead and arsenic in residential soil and elevated arsenic, lead, copper, cadmium and chromium in the air. In 2009, EPA oversaw contaminated soil removal in over 250 residential yards. Phase II of the investigation will concentrate on soil investigations in non residential areas and air sampling in all areas in addition to groundwater and surface water (river and stormwater) sampling.

In the upcoming investigation sampling, EPA and ADEQ will oversee ASARCO and their contractors as they take various water, soil, and air samples according to an EPA written work plan.

The air sampling will involve at least ten long term monitors located in and near the community and several short term near-the-source monitors. These monitors will help determine the



Ambient Air Monitoring Locations at ASARCO

variations of air quality across the community and determine the sources emanating from the smelter and concentrator facilities. See the map below for the locations of the monitors.

Hundreds of soil samples for various metals will be obtained from various areas of the facility. The samples will be from open areas, older piles and active area material piles and will be used to understand the nature and extent of contamination. After determining the nature and extent of contamination, the work plan calls for determining how it effects the environment, such as becoming airborne in dust, leaching to groundwater, or causing an exposure to a local resident through contact with the material.

Water sampling in the Gila and San Pedro Rivers as well as sampling of stormwater will also be conducted to determine the nature and source of contaminants. Past drinking water supply sampling has shown the water is safe to drink. Groundwater sampling in areas away from drinking water supply wells has indicated elevated levels of various contaminants and the upcoming investigation will continue that sampling and install several additional wells to further assess groundwater concentrations of various substances.



Water samples being taken from the Gila River

Sampling for air, groundwater and surface water will continue through 2015 (2013 for soil). After the sampling is complete, the results will be discussed in a Remedial Investigation report (see right).

Field soil sampling as part of the current investigation

Next Steps

Residents may see various activities including soil sampling, well installation, air monitor installation, and stormwater sampling and should be aware that these activities are all part of the ongoing remedial investigation overseen by EPA and ADEQ. EPA has made a number of cleanup documents available on the internet. These include the Phase I Remedial Investigation, and the agreement between EPA, ADEQ and ASARCO to allow EPA to oversee ASARCO's work. To access these documents, go to <http://www.epa.gov/region9/AsarcoHaydenPlant> and scroll to the Documents section.

ASARCO Cleanup to Follow Superfund Process

The ASARCO Smelter site continues to be investigated per the Superfund Alternative Approach as outlined in the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (AOC) and under the requirements of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly referred to as Superfund. The Superfund process has a number of steps. The public is encouraged to share its issues and concerns throughout the Superfund process.

The *Remedial Investigation* determines the nature and extent of contamination. This involves collecting samples of the soil, groundwater and air.

The *Feasibility Study* describes and analyzes the potential cleanup alternatives for the site. Individual alternatives will be assessed against EPA's *evaluation criteria* and a comparative analysis of options will be performed.

EPA, in consultation with ADEQ, will identify the preferred cleanup remedy and will share this in a public meeting which is accompanied by a comment period. After all public comments are reviewed; EPA will document the selected remedy in a legal document called a *Record of Decision* (ROD).