SITE DESCRIPTION

ADEQ is investigating groundwater and soil contamination at the Central and Camelback WQARF Site. The ADEQ WQARF program, which is also known as state superfund, investigates and cleans up contaminated groundwater and soil sites across the state. The Central and Camelback WQARF Site is located in central Phoenix. The area of study is bounded by Missouri Avenue to the North, Pierson Street to the South, Third Avenue to the West and First Street to the East.

WHAT ARE THE CONTAMINANTS AT THE SITE?

Groundwater at the site is contaminated with the following: tetrachloroethene (PCE), a commonly used solvent in the dry cleaning process; trichloroethene (TCE), a solvent primarily used in metal degreasing and cleaning operations; cis-1,2-dichloroethene (cis-1,2-DCE), used to produce solvents and in chemical mixtures, benzene, a component of gasoline, and 1,2-dichlorothane (1,2-DCA), a lead scavenger which was used in leaded gasoline to reduce the effects of lead oxide formation in automobile engines.

HEALTH/WATER QUALITY

Any risks associated with exposure to contaminated groundwater are principally through drinking water. The groundwater under the site is not used in the public drinking water system. Without a direct route of exposure, such as drinking the groundwater, there should be no risk to you.

NOTE: If your drinking water is provided by the City of Phoenix, it meets all regulatory drinking water standards.

The City of Phoenix is required by law to provide water that meets all state and federal drinking water standards. The City of Phoenix conducts regular testing of your drinking water to ensure that standards are met and to ensure that safe drinking water is delivered to the community. For more information concerning your drinking water quality, please contact the City of Phoenix Water Services at (602) 262-6251. If you are using a private well located within the boundary of the Central and Camelback WQARF site and are concerned about the water quality, please call Kevin Snyder, ADEQ Project Manager, at (602) 771-4186 or, toll free at (800) 234-5677, Ext: 771-4186.

For more information about possible health issues, please call the Department of Health Services, Office of Environmental Health, (602) 364-3118 or (800) 367-6412.

SITE HISTORY

The Central and Camelback WQARF Site was listed on the WQARF registry in 2000 due to the presence of PCE in groundwater. Historically, several dry cleaners operated in the area. Several other businesses are known to have sold petroleum fuel in the area and experienced leakage from underground storage tanks. An early response action (ERA) was initiated at the site with the installation of four groundwater extraction wells intended to prevent the plume from spreading. A groundwater pump and treat system began operating in 2003, initially pumping 90 gallons per minute. A soil vapor extraction (SVE) system was installed in November 2007, to treat soil contamination at the former Maroney’s Dry Cleaner location (southwest corner of Central Avenue and Camelback Road).
SITE INVESTIGATION/CLEANUP ACTION

ADEQ continues to operate ERA that uses both a groundwater pump and treat system and a SVE system to treat contamination. The systems prevent the contaminated groundwater plume and associated soil vapors from migrating further away from the source area. The SVE system is currently removing contaminant vapors in soil from three vapor wells. To date the system has cleaned up approximately 5,000 pounds of PCE. SVE draws gases from underground contaminated soils through the extraction system where the gases are treated and discharged clean into the air.

For treated groundwater, ADEQ was granted a renewal for its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for discharge to Salt River Project’s (SRP) Grand Canal. The permit, now governed by the State of Arizona, allows for treated, clean groundwater to leave the site via the SRP irrigation system.

WHAT ARE ADEQ’S PLANS AT THIS SITE?

ADEQ plans to continue the remedial investigation field work for the Central and Camelback Site. This involves determining the extent of the groundwater contamination and collecting the information necessary to evaluate areawide remediation and cleanup options. As part of the continuing Remedial Investigation (RI) ADEQ is planning to conduct soil vapor sampling along Central Avenue north of Camelback Road to investigate soil vapors in the subsurface and to install two groundwater monitor wells to investigate groundwater contamination. One well will be located by Colter Street west of Second Street and one will be located by Medlock Drive east of Central Avenue. The draft RI report will be prepared to capture information needed to present cleanup options. These options will be outlined in a feasibility study. The draft RI report will be made available for public comment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

A community advisory board (CAB) for the site was established in 2000. The primary purpose of the CAB is to advise ADEQ and the public of issues and concerns related to the remediation of the site. The CAB consists of a diversified cross-section of the community and meets on a regular basis. Details of CAB meeting agendas and minutes can be viewed at the ADEQ Web site. All CAB meetings are open to the public.

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Hearing-impaired individuals may call our TDD line at (602) 771-4829.

Complete public files regarding this site are located at ADEQ. With 24 hours notice, an appointment to review related documentation is available, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at ADEQ, Records Management Center, 1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona. Please contact (602) 771-4380 to schedule an appointment to review these documents.

For more information on this WQARF site or others sites in Arizona, please visit the ADEQ Web site at: www.azdeq.gov. In the left hand column, click on Waste Programs, then Superfund/WQARF. Look for site information and map link.

Para información en español sobre este sitio, comuníquese con Cecilia Montiel al (602) 771-4151.