

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN



HIDDEN LANE LANDFILL SUPERFUND SITE TOWN OF STERLING, LOUDOUN COUNTY, VIRGINIA

APRIL 2009

US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 3

THE U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S (EPA)
SUPERFUND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM IS COMMITTED TO PROMOTING
COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CITIZENS AND THE AGENCY.

ACTIVE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IS CRUCIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF ANY PUBLIC PROJECT.



HIDDEN LANE LANDFILL SUPERFUND SITE
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT MISSION STATEMENT

TO **INFORM** THE PUBLIC OF THE NATURE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE SITE, **ENGAGE** THE PUBLIC IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL AFFECT THEM, **INVOLVE** THE COMMUNITY IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS BY CONSIDERING THEIR COMMENTS AND RESPONDING TO THEIR CONCERNS, AND **NOTIFY** THE PEOPLE OF THE PROGRESS BEING MADE TO IMPLEMENT THE REMEDY.

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Section 1.0

Overview of the Community Involvement Plan

EPA developed this Community Involvement Plan to facilitate two-way communication between the community surrounding the Hidden Lane Landfill Superfund Site and EPA. The goals of this plan are:

- to encourage community involvement in Site activities.
- to ensure that residents are continuously informed.
- to provide opportunities to be involved in the cleanup process.
- to provide a listing of resources available (Appendices).

EPA drew upon several information sources to develop this plan, including community interviews and Site files. EPA's Regional Office representatives will oversee the implementation of the Community Involvement activities outlined in this Plan.

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Section 2.0 Capsule Site Description

2.1 Site Description/Location/History

The Hidden Lane Landfill is located in a mixed residential and commercial area of Sterling, Loudoun County, Virginia, approximately 3/4 mile north of Route 7.

The Hidden Lane Landfill was a privately owned and operated disposal facility covering approximately 25 acres. It is immediately adjacent to the floodplain of the Potomac River. Starting in 1971, the facility accepted a variety of solid wastes including construction and demolition wastes, land clearing wastes and other items such as appliances, tires, paper, and cardboard. The county closed down the facility in 1984, pursuant to a local court decision the year before. The Hidden Lane Landfill had been named by county and state health officials as the likely source of the degreasing solvent trichloroethylene (TCE), first detected in the drinking water wells in 1989 of some homes in the Broad Run Farms subdivision, just west of the landfill.

2.2 Hazardous Wastes Produced By or Found at the Site

The contaminants are volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including trichloroethylene (TCE), 1,1,1-trichloroethane and 1,2-dichloroethene. Concentrations of TCE detected in nine drinking water wells located near the landfill were above the EPA's established Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for TCE in drinking water.

2.3 Potential Impacts on Surrounding Community/Environment

Groundwater underlying the Hidden Lane Landfill and adjacent properties is contaminated with TCE. TCE is believed to have migrated from the landfill to residential wells located within one mile of the landfill. There may also be the potential for TCE to vaporize and enter homes located within the area of the TCE-contaminated groundwater.

2.4 On-going Site Investigation Activities

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VA DEQ) installed whole-house carbon filtration systems on a number of residential wells currently known to be contaminated. EPA conducted a Site Assessment of the Hidden Lane Landfill from September 2005 until March of 2007. Based on the results of this Assessment, the Site was recommended for addition to the National Priorities List (NPL) in March 2008.

2.5 Cleanup Activities

The Loudoun County Department of Health collected water samples from 71 wells in the Broad Run Farms area, searching for trichloroethylene (TCE) and other contaminants. The community to the east, Countryside, was not sampled, because the homes in that subdivision use public drinking water. Data results indicated that thirty homes had TCE in their private wells; of those, eighteen were above safe drinking water levels.

Funds from the Virginia Environmental Emergency Fund were used to install twenty one whole-house carbon filtration units for homes that had detectable levels of TCE in their wells. The DEQ also performed two years of operation and maintenance on the filtration units, including four rounds of sampling to ensure that the units are working.

September 2007-Site is proposed to the National Priorities List.

March 2008-Site is added to the National Priorities List.

December 2008- Remedial Investigation begins.

2.6 Map of the Site



2.7 Type of Hazardous Materials Present

The contaminants are volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including trichloroethylene (TCE), 1,1,1-trichloroethane and 1,2-dichloroethene.

2.8 Nature of Threat to Human Health

Trichloroethylene (TCE), a solvent widely used as a degreasing agent, is a common contaminant of air, soil, and water at manufacturing facilities, military installations, and hundreds of waste sites around the country. It is released into the air during degreasing operations; is found in soils and surface water as a result of direct discharges; and in groundwater from disposal operations. TCE can also be released into indoor air if tap water is contaminated, if vapors enter from contaminated groundwater nearby, or if certain consumer products (e.g., adhesives, typewriter correction fluid, paint remover) are used.

2.9 Agency Responsible for the Cleanup

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is the lead agency in this Cleanup, with the support of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VA DEQ), the Loudoun County Department of Health.

Section 3.0 Community Background

3.1 Community Profile

Description of the community

Sterling, Virginia is an unincorporated Washington, DC suburb, located in Loudoun County, Virginia. It is located northwest of Herndon, east of Ashburn, and west of Great Falls, and includes part of Dulles International Airport. There are two distinct areas that border the Hidden Lane Landfill, Broad Run Farms and Countryside. The residents of Countryside were not available for interviewing purposes at this time.

Broad Run Farms has shown the most interest in the Hidden Lane Landfill. This is a residential area north of State Routes 7 and 28, which was incorporated in 1952. As an area much older than the surrounding communities, it has features unique to the region, including large lots, highly wooded old-growth areas, a wide variety of housing and a voluntary civic association. The community banded together in 1995 with state and county help to finance and install its own sewer service, in part through an added property tax. The lien was paid off several years early, and the tax has been retired.

There has been no identified need for translation services.

3.2 History of Community Involvement

EPA Community Involvement actions taken to address problems at site

Prior cleanup activities have had only minor community involvement efforts. As stated earlier, Broad Run Farms is the only community that has been involved to date. As the Site was prepared for listing on the NPL, interviews were held with all potentially affected members of the neighborhood. Fact Sheets have been distributed, giving details of the listing and future sampling events in conjunction with the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS).

Community perceptions of previous cleanup efforts

The Broad Run Farms Civic Association is very active and interested in the Site. They are trusting of EPA and the information that has been given to them. They are very concerned about their drinking water, especially those who have animals that drink the well water. The community is divided on the issue of public water. Segments of the community do not want public water; they would prefer to have a carbon filtration system installed on their wells, so that they can continue to use their well systems. Other segments of the community promote the installation of a public water system.

Community perceptions of various levels of government involvement

Several residents expressed distrust with the Virginia Department of Health and with the Loudoun County Government, these residents stated that government agencies were aware of what was being dumped in the landfill but did not let the community know about it.

EPA found that the county has a readily identifiable and documented historical record of its many attempts to have the State close this private landfill operation through successive court actions and administrative actions. Loudoun County never has had any regulatory authority over private landfills. The county also provided much documentation of what may have been dumped at the Hidden Lane landfill illegally as part of this overall documentation of the enterprise. EPA has made extensive use of this documentation in the Site Assessment process and will utilize this information throughout the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study of the site.

EPA is conducting further investigation into Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) associated with this Site.

3.3 Key Community Concerns

The analysis of major public concerns uncovered in community interviews

The major concern expressed by the residents of Broad Run Farms was the danger to their health from exposure to TCE. Other concerns included the methane gas release, that children continue to play at the landfill, and people continue to dump household items at the landfill. They are concerned that the landfill has not been secured enough to prevent trespassing.

3.4 Summary of Communication Needs

The community expressed the desire to be kept informed by meetings with EPA representatives and Fact Sheets updating them of the situation at the landfill.

4.0 Community Involvement Activity Matrix

ACTIVITY	TIME FRAME
Designate an EPA Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC)	August 2007
Community Interviews	June 2008-August 2008
NPL In brief	October 24th 2007
NPL listing Public Meeting	October 24, 2007
Prepare and distribute site fact sheets and technical summaries	October 2007- Present
Involve students, parents, teachers through area schools	As needed, at least annually
Maintain a mailing list for the Site	Completed / Regular updates to follow
Establish and maintain Information Repositories	Established online, update as needed
Provide Site and Superfund information on the Internet	Currently available; update as needed
Provide Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) information	Initially presented at NPL Public Meeting. TAG application submitted Aug 2008. Further input required
Conduct special events	TBD
Hold public meetings	As required throughout process

Encourage formation of a Community Advisory Group (CAG)	Information presented at NPL public meeting, four core members volunteered
Make informal visits to community	Initiated June 2007- ongoing
Solicit comments during a Public Comment Period	Public Comments submitted for Proposed Listing Sept-Nov 2007. Further public commentary at Proposed Plan submission.
Prepare and issue a Responsiveness Summary	Following public comment periods
Revise the Community Involvement Plan (CIP)	As needed, at least every 3 to 5 years

Superfund Events	Activity
NPL listing	Announced by Paid Ad March 2008
Notice of Administrative Record	Notified by press release/paid ad March 2008
Public Notice of TAG Availability	Notified By Fact Sheet October 2007
Remedial Investigation Begins	December 2009
Proposed Plan notification	TBD
Public Comment on Proposed Plan	Public Meeting TBD/ Public Comment Period
Responsiveness Summary	Upon completion of RI/FS and public comment period
Record of Decision (ROD)	TBD
Revise CIP to reflect ROD	TBD
Public Notice of ROD Availability	TBD
Remedial Design	TBD
Remedial Action Begins	TBD
Remedial Construction Complete	TBD
O&M	TBD
Proposed Deletion from NPL	TBD
Public Commentary for NPL Deletion	TBD
Response to Commentary	TBD
Final NPL Deletion	TBD

Appendix A EPA Regional Contacts

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Appendix B Local Officials

Board of Supervisors

Term of Office: January 1, 2008 - December 31, 2011

Scott K. York, Chairman (At Large)

Susan Klimek Buckley, Sugarland Run District, Vice-Chairman

Jim Burton, Blue Ridge District

Lori Waters, Broad Run District

Sally R. Kurtz, Catoctin District

Stevens Miller, Dulles District

Kelly Burk, Leesburg District

Andrea McGimsey, Potomac District

Eugene Delgaudio, Sterling District

**1 Harrison Street, SE
Leesburg, VA 20175
703-777-0100**

Loudoun County Health Department

Dr. David Goodfriend, Director

1 Harrison Street, S.E., 2nd Floor

Mailstop #68

Leesburg, VA 20175

703-777-0234

Loudoun County Fire Department

Joseph E. Pozzo, Fire Chief

803 Sycolin Road, Suite 104

Mailstop #61

Leesburg, VA 20175

703-777-0333

Loudoun County Sheriff's Department

Stephen Simpson, Sheriff

880 Harrison Street, SE

Leesburg, VA 20175

703-777-0407

Appendix C State Officials

Governor

Timothy M. Kaine
Patrick Henry Building, Third Floor
111 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
Telephone: 804-786-2211

State Legislature

Virginia State Senator 33rd District

Mark Herring
P.O. Box 6246
Leesburg, VA 20178
Telephone: 703-729-3300

Virginia State Representative 32nd District

Delegate David Poisson
2 Pidgeon Hill Drive
Sterling, VA 20165
703-669-4776

Appendix D Federal Officials

U.S. Senate

Senator Jim Webb (D)

144 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Telephone: 202-224-4024

Senator Mark R. Warner (R)*

B40C Dirksen Senate Office Building
WASHINGTON DC 20510
Telephone: 202-224-2023

U.S. House of Representatives

Congressman Frank Wolfe

241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Telephone: 202-225-5136

Appendix E Environmental and Active Citizens Groups

David Greene-Hidden Lane Landfill Taskforce

20254 Youngs Cliff Road

Sterling, VA

Telephone: 703-450-1020

Email: David.r.greene @att.net

Broad Run Farms Civic Association

www.broadrunfarms.org

Appendix G Media Contacts

Television Stations:

WRC TV
WMAL TV
WTTG TV
WUSA TV
Cable Channel 8

Radio Stations:

WTOP AM
WMAL AM

Newspapers:

Loudoun Times Mirror`

Paul Smith, Executive Editor
703-777-1111, ext. 1332
Times Community Headquarters
13873 Park Center Road, Suite #301
Herndon, VA 20171
703-478-6666

Appendix H Meeting Locations

Galilee United Methodist Church
45425 Winding Road
Sterling, VA 20165

Appendix I Repository Locations

Local Repository:

Cascades Library

21030 Whitfield Place
Potomac Falls, VA 20165
Telephone: 703-444-3228

EPA Region 3 Repository:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

1650 Arch St.
Second Floor - 3PM52
Philadelphia, Pa
Telephone: 215-814-5364, by appointment
Hours Open to Public: Monday to Friday from 8 am to 4 pm