

CROSSLEY FARM SUPERFUND SITE



Huffs Church, Berks County, Pennsylvania

Community Update December 2017

Hot-Spot at Site

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is evaluating a Hot-Spot Area at the Crossley Farm Superfund Site (the Site). The evaluation is focused on an area that has the highest concentrations of contamination, referred to as the Hot Spot Area. The Hot Spot Area is located at the top of Blackhead Hill on the farm property.

What are the Plans?

EPA is performing a Pre-Design Investigation (PDI). During the PDI EPA will gather information on the groundwater quality and amount of contamination to design a way to treat this contamination. The PDI will include drilling a new well in the Hot-Spot Area to compliment the wells already in this area. Using a combination of monitoring wells and extraction wells, EPA will conduct a pump test to determine the volume of water that can be pumped from the wells. The pump test will also help to determine the area of influence and its impact within the fractured bedrock aquifer. This testing will assist EPA to determine how to treat the highly contaminated groundwater from the Hot-Spot Area and develop a design. EPA will be evaluating how the existing groundwater treatment plant could treat this contaminated groundwater.

Why is a PDI necessary?

The goal of this PDI is to collect data and evaluate it to develop a design package. The design package will include construction designs and plans for the Hot-Spot Area. The design will focus on how to treat the contamination in the Hot-Spot area together with the existing remedy that is cleaning up the Valley Plume. Treating the Valley Plume and eventually the Hot Spot Area will be two key parts to contain and treat the contaminated groundwater at the Site.

When will this PDI occur?

EPA is procuring a well drilling company and a company to support any offsite disposal of waste as a result of this investigation. Well drilling, pump testing, and the treatment evaluation will begin late fall 2017 and will last for several months. This PDI and the plans for extraction and treatment of the groundwater from the Hot-Spot Area should be completed next fall in 2018.

Where will the PDI take place?

All PDI activities will be performed within the farm property. The Hot-Spot Area is shown on Figure 1 of this fact sheet.

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About the Hot-Spot

Trichloroethene (TCE) concentrations as high as 1,200,000 parts per billion (ppb) have been observed in the fractured bedrock aquifer in the Hot-Spot Area. To address this contamination, EPA's 2001 Record of Decision (ROD) presented a plan to pump and treat groundwater contaminated with TCE from the Hot-Spot Area. In 2008, EPA amended the ROD to first require installation of extraction wells along Dale Road to cut off the spread of the contaminated groundwater plume (Valley Plume) towards the west and south of the farm property. EPA completed installation of the Dale Road extraction wells and construction of a groundwater treatment plant in 2012. This PDI work is now needed to determine the best method for treating the area of highest contamination, known as the Hot-Spot.

Site Background

The Crossley Farm Superfund Site is approximately 200 acres of farmland. A portion of the land was used for dumping wastes, resulting in primarily TCE contamination of the groundwater. The Site cleanup is divided into three Operable Units (OUs). OU-1 = carbon treatment units on residential wells; OU-2 = regional groundwater contamination and onsite soils; and OU-3 = vapor intrusion mitigation. The groundwater is currently being extracted and treated by an air stripper that is successfully removing TCE contamination. The treatment plant is also stopping the groundwater plume from spreading. Where necessary, residential drinking water is being treated with carbon filtration and monitored by the state. Also, where necessary, residential mitigation systems are addressing potential vapor intrusion caused by groundwater contamination.

Resources

For more information about the Crossley Farm Superfund Site, please visit:

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/crossley>

2001 Record of Decision for OU-2:

<https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/03/377415>

2008 Amendment to Record Of Decision for OU-2:

<https://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/03/2099901>

For more information about EPA's Superfund Program: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund>

This Is Superfund: A Community Guide to EPA's Superfund Program

<http://semspub.epa.gov/work/11/175197.pdf>



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