

SHAFFER EQUIPMENT ARBUCKLE CREEK AREA SUPERFUND SITE

Minden, West Virginia



EPA

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN



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Version: June 2019 (unless otherwise indicated)

1. Introduction

Under the Federal Superfund program, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is overseeing a comprehensive environmental investigation and cleanup of the Shaffer Equipment/Arbuckle Creek Area Superfund site.



Figure 1: Arbuckle Creek, downstream from Shaffer Equipment Site.
Photo: Jill Dyken, ATSDR, 2019

The Shaffer Equipment Company (Shaffer) is a former manufacturer of electrical substations located in Minden, West Virginia. Shaffer used oil containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the electric transformers and other equipment to build those substations. Historical leaks, spills and dumping appear to have contributed to the PCB contamination at the Shaffer facility and the adjacent Arbuckle Creek. EPA, in coordination with West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), took actions through EPA's removal authorities in 1985-1987, 1991-1992, and 2001-2002 to address the immediate risks to PCB exposures.

Throughout the cleanup process, EPA is committed to involving the public and keeping the community informed about cleanup activities and how these activities may impact them. In keeping with that commitment, this Community Involvement Plan (CIP) has been developed to facilitate two-way dialogue between the community affected by the Shaffer Equipment/Arbuckle Creek Area Superfund site and EPA to encourage dynamic

participation throughout the cleanup process. The CIP is a site-specific resource for EPA staff, state and local partners, and the community that provides general Superfund program information, describes the site and impacted community, identifies and assesses community needs, concerns, and expectations, and shares planned participation activities and communication options.

This document was prepared in accordance with regulations and guidance documents for conducting community involvement activities related to environmental restoration. The CIP is an evolving document that will be updated as needed to ensure the community remains informed and involved throughout the cleanup process.

2. What is Superfund?

To participate in or follow the Superfund process as it unfolds in your community, it is important to know what Superfund is and how it works. EPA's Superfund Program, enacted in 1980 under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and amended in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), is responsible for

cleaning up some of the nation's most contaminated land and responding to environmental emergencies, oil spills, and natural disasters. To protect public health and the environment, the Superfund Program focuses on making a visible and lasting difference in communities, ensuring that people can live and work in healthy, vibrant places.

The CERCLA law gives EPA the authority to require those parties responsible for contaminating sites to clean up those sites or to reimburse the government if EPA cleans up the site. EPA compels responsible parties to clean up hazardous waste sites through administrative orders, consent decrees and other legal settlements. Superfund

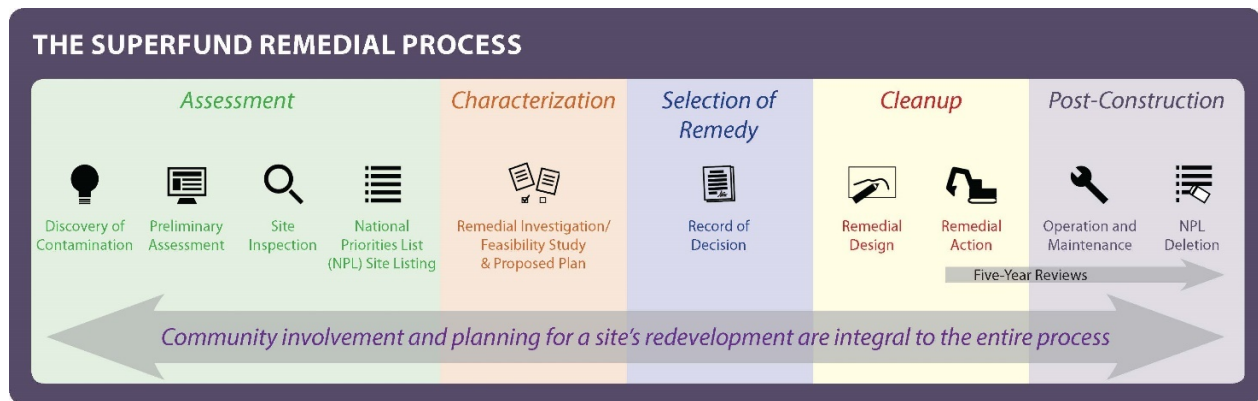
The goal of Superfund community involvement is to advocate and strengthen early and meaningful community participation

site identification, monitoring and response activities are coordinated with state, tribal and territorial environmental protection or waste management agencies.

There are several steps involved in cleaning up a contaminated site. Once EPA has been made aware of a contaminated site from individual citizens, local or state agencies or others, EPA follows a step-by-step process to determine the best way to clean up the site and protect human health and the environment. If the site poses an immediate threat to public health or the environment, EPA can intervene with an emergency response or removal action.

For more information, please visit: [EPA's Superfund website](#) or [This is Superfund: A Community Guide to EPA's Superfund Program](#).

2.1 The Remedial Process



Site Discovery & Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation (PA/SI) – This stage includes reviewing historical information and visiting a site to evaluate the potential for a release of hazardous substances. EPA determines if the site poses a threat to human health and the environment and whether hazards need to be addressed immediately or if additional site information will be collected.

National Priorities List (NPL) Site Listing – The NPL is an information resource that identifies sites that warrant cleanup. It is a list of the worst hazardous waste sites identified by the Superfund program. The list is largely based on the score a site receives from the Hazard Ranking System (HRS) during the Site Assessment process.

Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) – This stage involves an evaluation of the nature and extent of site contamination and an assessment of potential threats to human health and the environment. It also includes the evaluation of the potential performance and cost of treatment options identified for a site.

Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) – The Proposed Plan summarizes the RI/FS and identifies the preferred cleanup remedy that EPA thinks balances all considerations.

Record of Decision (ROD) – Following a PRAP public comment period, a final ROD is issued, explaining which cleanup alternative(s) will be used at the site.

Remedial Design (RD) and Remedial Action (RA) – Detailed cleanup plans are developed and implemented during this stage. RD includes development of engineering

drawings and specifications for a site cleanup. RA follows design and involves the actual construction or implementation phase of site cleanup.

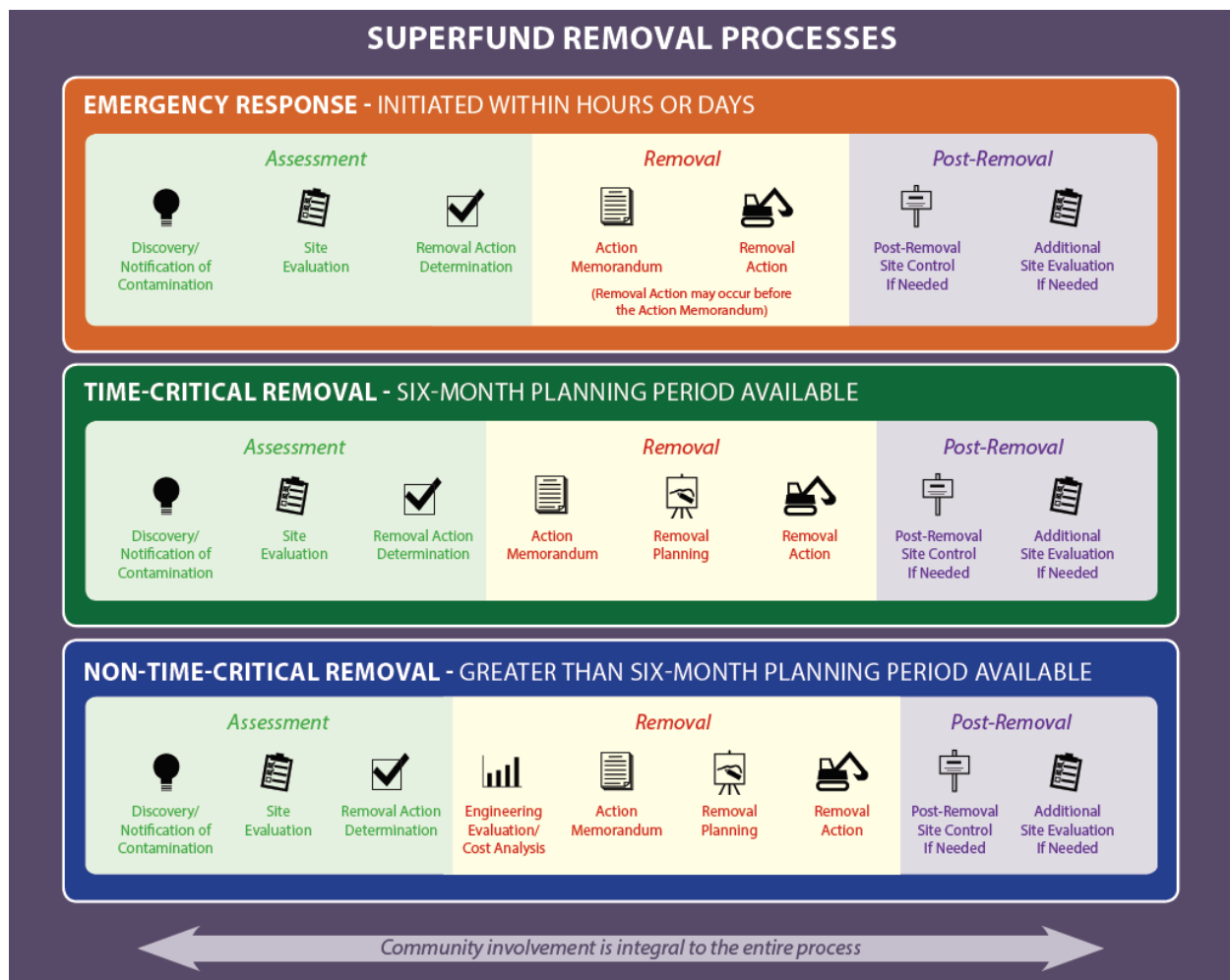
Five-Year Review (FYR) – This is an analysis prepared every five years to determine if site cleanup remedies remain protective of human health and the environment. A five-year review is required when hazardous substances remain on site above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. The community is notified of the five-year review and asked to provide any information it has about the operations of the as-built remedy or any issues and concerns that have arisen regarding the cleanup.

Operation and Maintenance (O&M) – After EPA determines that the physical remedial construction at a site is complete, activities are put in place to ensure that the cleanup actions will protect human health and the environment over the long-term. For example, these activities may include routine maintenance at the site, such as making sure signs and fences are intact, ensuring treatment systems are running smoothly, and enforcing any long-term site restrictions.

NPL Deletion – Once cleanup goals have been achieved and a site is deemed fully protective of human health and the environment, EPA deletes it from the NPL.

Site Reuse – EPA's goal is to make sure site cleanup is consistent with the likely future use of a site. Consideration of reuse and redevelopment at a site can occur at any point in the Superfund cleanup process. EPA works with communities to make sure a site or portions of a site are used safely and in a beneficial way for the community.

2.2 The Removal Process



Removal actions are responses to releases or discharges that threaten the public health, welfare or the environment of the United States. Removal actions tend to be rapid in order to address immediate threats from hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants.

EPA is required to make a determination that a removal action is appropriate. Removal actions are initiated when an “Action Memorandum” (action memo) is signed. The action memo designates the type of removal action to be conducted. Alternatively, EPA can use a Special Bulletin to quickly begin removal actions in emergency situations. There are three categories of removal actions:

1. **Emergency Removals** require an immediate response to releases or threatened releases to the environment.
2. **Time-Critical Removals** are situations for which EPA determines, based on a site evaluation, that a removal is appropriate and onsite removal activities must begin within six months of the determination.
3. **Non-Time-Critical Removals** are undertaken when EPA determines, based on a site evaluation, that a removal action is appropriate and there is a planning period of at least six months before on-site activities must begin.

3. The Shaffer Equipment/Arbuckle Creek Area Site



3.1 Site Overview

The Shaffer Equipment/Arbuckle Creek Area Site encompasses Shaffer Equipment Company property, Arbuckle Creek contaminated sediments, and other areas where contamination may be located. The specific boundaries of the Site will be further defined during the remedial investigation. Site soils and sediment were historically contaminated with PCBs, which were used by the Shaffer Equipment Company from 1970 to 1984 to manufacture electrical substations for the local coal mining industry.

The company stored nonessential, damaged, or outdated transformers and capacitors on the Site property. Leaks from the equipment, possible spills, and dumping practices contributed to PCB contamination in on-Site soils and washed into nearby Arbuckle Creek, where elevated PCB levels have been found over one mile downstream. Low levels of contamination have also been observed in Arbuckle Creek within the boundary of the New River Gorge National River property. New River is home to sensitive environments and is also used for recreation and fishing.

EPA, in coordination with WVDEP, took actions through EPA's removal authorities in 1985-1987, 1990-1992, and 2001-2002 to address the immediate risks to PCB exposures. At the request of the community, EPA's Removal program collected additional soil, surface water and sediment samples in 2017-2018 to determine if there was PCB contamination at residents' properties, within Arbuckle Creek, and if there was any residual PCB contamination at the Shaffer Equipment property. Results from the sampling did not indicate an immediate threat to human health but indicated the need for additional evaluation. The site was added to the National Priorities List in May 2019.



Figure 2: Proximity of Minden homes to Arbuckle Creek. Photo: Jill Dyken, ATSDR, 2019.

3.2 Site History (1984 through Listing)

September 1984	WVDEP conducted inspection at Shaffer Equipment Company.
October 1984	EPA & WVDEP conducted site investigation at Shaffer Equipment Company facility and surrounding area.
December 1984 – December 1987	EPA conducted removal action at Shaffer Equipment Company property. PCB contaminated soils >50 parts per million (ppm) were removed & disposed off-site (4,735 tons of from ~1-acre area). Other excavated soils <50 ppm were

	backfilled with soil and/or capped. Berm constructed along Arbuckle Creek.
March & June 1990	EPA conducted additional sampling on Shaffer Equipment Company, residential properties & Arbuckle Creek.
November 1990	EPA conducted 2nd removal action consisting of excavation & off-site disposal.
February 1997	Vandalism resulted in fire on Shaffer Equipment Company property. This fire caused the need for subsequent removal action in 2001-2003.
July 2001	Arbuckle Creek flooded & engulfed town in Minden in several feet of water. FEMA responded to flooding.
October – December 2001	EPA conducted 3rd removal action at Shaffer Equipment Company property, installing a clay cap over ~1-acre area on Shaffer Equipment Company property & metal sheet pilings along Arbuckle Creek.
October 2002	USACE inspected cap, no issues noted.
June 2016	1,000 yr flood occurred in Fayette County.
January 2017	Residents contacted EPA & WVDEP regarding community's continued concern about PCBs migrating off-site.
June 2017	Severe flooding at Minden; Roads closed due to Arbuckle Creek flooding the streets.
June 2017	Removal assessment showed slight degradation to cap; soil & sediment samples collected.
October 2017	Public meeting held to inform citizens of June sampling results, community notified via fact sheet mailer.
December 2017	Removal program collected additional soil & sediment samples.

March 2018	Public meeting held to inform citizens of December 2017 sampling results, community notified via fact sheet mailer and newspaper ads. EPA & WVDEP conducted sampling for Hazard Ranking System package
April 2018	Listening session for community held with EPA Headquarters.
May 2018	EPA held availability sessions for community to document any remaining areas of concern. EPA conducted wetlands survey & site reconnaissance for other potential areas of concern.
June 2018	Listening session with community with EPA Regional Administrator and Hazardous Site Cleanup Division Director, community notified via postcard mailer. EPA collected samples for other areas of concern posed by residents.
September 2018	Site proposed to National Priorities List in Federal Register. Community informed via press release, newspaper ads, postcard. Information repository established.
October 2018	EPA met with local elected officials. Public meeting held to discuss NPL proposal.
November 2018	Community Involvement Plan interviews and discussions held. Community notified via postcard.
May 2019	Site added to National Priorities List, EPA Administrator event.

3.3 Contaminants

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) are a group of man-made organic chemicals consisting of carbon, hydrogen and chlorine atoms. The number of chlorine atoms and their location in a PCB molecule determine many of its physical and chemical properties. PCBs have no known taste or smell, and range in consistency from an oil to a waxy solid. PCBs were domestically manufactured from 1929 until manufacturing was banned in 1979.

PCBs have been demonstrated to cause a variety of adverse health effects. They have been shown to cause cancer in animals as well as a number of serious non-cancer health effects in animals, including: effects on the immune system, reproductive system, nervous system, endocrine system and other health effects. Studies in humans support evidence for potential carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic effects of PCBs.

For more information on PCBs, visit:

<https://www.epa.gov/pcbs/learn-about-polychlorinated-biphenyls-pcbs>

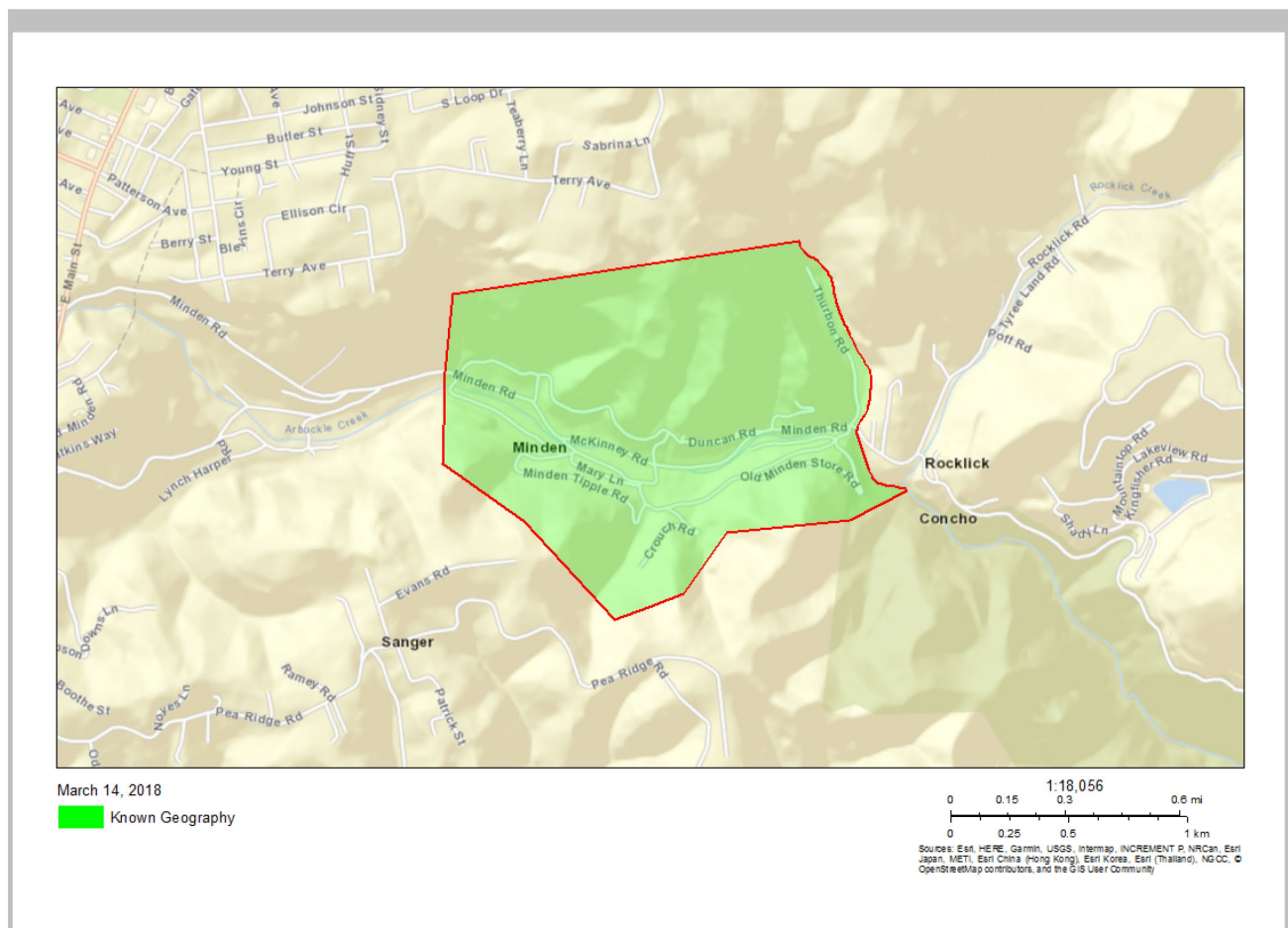
4. The Community

4.1 Community Demographics & Economic Profile

City: Minden CDP, WEST VIRGINIA, EPA Region 3

Approximate Population: 308

Input Area (sq. miles): 0.49



*CDP is the abbreviation for Census Designated Place, the statistical counterpart of an incorporated place.

Minden American Community Survey (estimates 2011-2015)

	Number	%
Population	308	
Minority Population	20	6%
Households	110	
Housing Units	128	
Housing Units Built Before 1950	57	
Per Capita Income	14,663	
Low Income Population		65%
Population with Less Than High School Education		47%
Population by Race		
Population Reporting One Race	308	
White	289	94%
Black	18	6%
American Indian	2	1%
Population by Sex		
Male	176	57%
Female	133	43%
Population by Age		
Age 0-4	26	8%
Age 0-17	85	28%
Age 18+	223	72%

Age 65+	47	15%
Population Age 5+ Years by Ability to Speak English		
Total	282	
Speak only English	276	98%
Non-English at Home	7	2%
Speak English “very well”	4	2%
Speak English “not well”	2	1%
Speak English “less than well”	2	
Speak English “less than very well”	2	1%
Occupied Housing Units by Tenure		
Owner Occupied	75	69%
Renter Occupied	35	31%
Employed Population Age 16+ Years		
In Labor Force	105	
Not in Labor Force	131	

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2011-2015.

4.2 Community Feedback

One of the main goals of a Community Involvement Plan (CIP) is to identify the community's needs and concerns, as well as the most effective activities and outreach strategies EPA can use when working with the community. Prior to developing the CIP, EPA conducts community interviews to learn more about the community. The interviews are held in person or over the phone, with residents, local officials, and other stakeholders to gather information and identify key community needs, concerns, and questions.

This CIP is intended to summarize, record, and reflect the issues and concerns expressed to and interpreted by EPA. It is a collection and summary of thoughts, observations and, in some cases, opinions of residents, officials, and others.

The consequences of former Shaffer Equipment Company operations have extended far beyond environmental contamination in the community of Minden, West Virginia. The community feels they have experienced disproportionate health effects and unfair treatment by government officials for decades; frustrations are extremely high. The community continues to express the detrimental effects they feel the site has had on their lives.



“Gaining trust back from community will be harder than cleaning up the site.” -Minden resident

Health effects: Residents of Minden have experienced high incidences of cancer and illness. The community feels they all are being made sick by their environment, reporting that virtually everyone who has grown up or currently lives in Minden has cancer or some other illness or has passed away from cancer or illness.

Economic stress: The property values and economic opportunities in Minden are low, leaving the residents feeling trapped and with little option for change.

Personal consequences: The publicity, stigma, and reputation of the contaminated town has left residents feeling oppressed, bullied, and mistreated.

Distrust: Lack of trust in government is an issue across the community. The community feels that EPA, WVDEP, and other government agencies have historically failed them. At least one resident spoke adamantly that EPA is not telling the truth and is not sharing all the information that may be available. The community's relationship with the City of Oak Hill officials is also hostile and distrustful. The community feels consistently attacked and believes that Oak Hill officials do not have their best interests in mind. Many Minden residents expressed fear that EPA is only responding to their concerns due to pressure by Oak Hill or local tourism interests.

Flooding:

Flooding in Minden is a significant issue. The community is very concerned about both the consequences from historic flooding and the future potential for more flooding events; this concern is compounded by the fear of floods spreading site-related contamination.

Many homes and properties have been damaged by flooding, some now uninhabitable. Residents believe PCBs remain in the soils and sediments in Minden, on the former Shaffer property, and in Arbuckle Creek due to the flooding.

The community feels any excavation, flooding, or contact with soils cause exposure to contamination and leads to adverse health effects.

Contamination:

The community has expressed dissatisfaction with the sampling efforts to date by EPA and WVDEP. The community feels the sampling has not been comprehensive, in either location or method. They would like to see more sampling in the former mine areas and outfalls, as well as a more robust effort to characterize the residential areas. They have also requested sampling be conducted to a deeper soil depth.

Minden residents do not feel the past cleanups (i.e. EPA removal actions) have removed the contamination and seem unconvinced that the town will ever be fully cleaned up.

Many residents feel that relocation is the only option to keep the residents truly safe.

The community expressed that EPA has not heard or recognized their concerns about other environmental issues. For example, residents report that fires historically burned in and around the mines, exposing the community to air pollution. Community concerns remain about the past exposures, as well as the legacy contamination from those fires. The community believes they are also being exposed to contaminated soil once it becomes airborne.



Feedback on Public meetings:

The community members report that EPA's meetings are too technical and difficult to understand. The community does not always feel comfortable asking clarifying questions and often leave the meetings feeling as though no useful information was shared. Messaging can be too blunt and government officials are not empathetic to the community's situation.

Residents are wary and suspicious of EPA meetings with Oak Hill and elected officials prior to the public meetings. The community feels information shared in public settings may be inconsistent or incomplete, and that the local residents are not treated as the priority.

The "town hall" format is appreciated; the community wants the chance to be heard during EPA public meetings.

A local environmental organization and advocacy group would like to have more discussion regarding meeting structures and agendas prior to the event.

Input on other communication tools:

Overall, EPA received inconsistent feedback on preferred communication tools and techniques.

- One resident suggested door to door sharing of information, but others would not recommend this approach.
- EPA received mixed feedback on postcards; some find them the most effective outreach tool, while others throw them directly in the trash.
- Some people use email and social media, but many do not.
- The Register Herald and Fayette Tribune are the most widely read newspapers.
- Many residents use their own local networks to get information, while many community members refer to a few community leaders as trustworthy and good sources of information.

Other suggestions include: create and share videos, use local news channels, attend or host informal community events, use a robocall service by EPA to contact residents, hang posters in the post office, incorporate more personal touches in outreach (use photos and more inviting language in mailers), expand mailing list beyond post office boxes in Minden.

5. Community Involvement Action Plan

The foundation of Superfund's Community Involvement program is the belief that members of the community affected by a Superfund site have the right to be informed and involved in EPA's decision-making process. EPA recognizes the benefits that an engaged public brings to the Superfund cleanup process and is committed to providing and encouraging public participation so that the people whose lives have been impacted by hazardous waste sites, and EPA's actions to clean them up, have a say in what happens in their community. EPA's Community Involvement program strives to maintain a consistent community presence and build relationships with the community and local stakeholders, as well as local, state, and other federal government agencies.

This Community Involvement Action Plan highlights EPA's key objectives, methods, and timeline for conducting site-specific activities to keep residents, community stakeholders, and local officials informed and involved throughout the cleanup process.

The elements of the plan implemented, and the frequency will reflect the stage in the process and level of interest expressed by the community. To establish this plan, EPA considers several factors, including federal requirements and EPA policy, that assess the nature and extent of known or perceived site contaminants and known community needs, concerns, and recommendations. For a comprehensive description of available resources and opportunities, please visit [EPA's Superfund Community Involvement Website \(https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-community-involvement\)](https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-community-involvement).

EPA Community Involvement Action Plan

Tools & Methods

Assign CIC	Maintain a consistent contact to build relationships in the community. Conduct early, frequent, and meaningful community involvement activities using a wide variety of tools and strategies to engage and communicate ongoing and planned site activities with the community
Establish an information repository	When EPA formally proposes a cleanup plan, it collects every document that was used or relied upon to develop and analyze the proposed action. This collection of technical documents is called the Administrative Record (AR). The AR and other documents can be found, locally, at: Oak Hill Public Library 611 Main Street Oak Hill, WV 25901-3452 Phone: 469-9890 http://fayette.lib.wv.us/fohours.html
Establish and maintain the Site Profile Page	https://www.epa.gov/superfund/shaffer
Mailings: post or email	Provide community updates and notifications. Create a mailing list beyond the PO Boxes located in Minden, using meeting sign in sheets, available databases, etc.
Develop fact sheets	Explain site information in an understandable format. For example, develop a fact sheet to summarize technical

	documents, reports, and workplans. Provide updates on site activities
Host Open Houses or Availability Sessions	An informal face to face way for EPA to interact and connect with community
Hold public meetings	Explain technical site activities and findings in an understandable format Provide opportunity for public comments (formal or informal) and question and answer sessions
Distribute press releases	Media notifications for public comment periods, meetings, information sessions
Publish newspaper advertisements	Notifications for public comment periods, meetings, information sessions
Hang posters in public places	Use public spaces, like the post office board, to hang meeting notifications and fact sheets
Use existing community networks	Rely on word of mouth, local organization's social media and outreach to help disseminate EPA's messages
Explore the possibility of the use of a robocall service	Notifications could be sent for upcoming events and site updates
Capture site activities with photos and/or videos and share on Site Profile Page	Provide community with a "behind the scenes" view of site work with a more personal approach

5.1 Technical Assistance for Communities

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-technical-assistance-communities>

<u>Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) Program</u>	This program provides services through a national EPA contract. Under the contract, a contractor provides scientists, engineers and other professionals to review and explain information to communities. TASC services are determined on a project-specific basis and provided at no cost to communities.
<u>Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Program</u>	TAGs are awarded to non-profit incorporated community groups. With TAG funding, community groups can contract with independent technical advisors to interpret and help the community understand technical information about their site. The TAG recipient group is responsible for managing their grant funds and contributing a 20 percent award match. Most groups meet this requirement through in-kind contributions such as volunteer hours toward grant-related activities.
<u>Community Advisory Group (CAG)</u>	A CAG is designed to serve as the focal point for the exchange of information among the local community and EPA, the State regulatory agency, and other pertinent Federal agencies involved in cleanup of the Superfund site.

Appendix A: Acronyms

Please also see the EPA Superfund Glossary at <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-glossary>

ACS	American Communities Survey
AR	Administrative Record
ATDSR	Agency for Toxics Substances and Disease Registry
CAG	Community Advisory Group
CDP	Census Designated Place
CERCLA Act	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CIC	Community Involvement Coordinator
CIP	Community Involvement Plan
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
NPL	National Priorities List
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyls
PPM	Parts per million
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
RPM	Remedial Project Manager
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
TAG	Technical Assistance Grant
TASC	Technical Assistance Services for Communities
WVDEP	West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Appendix B: EPA and other Agency Contacts [June 2019]

U.S. EPA Region 3

Community Involvement Coordinator

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215-814-2746
kennedy.cathleen@epa.gov

West Virginia State and Congressional Liaison

Mark Ferrell
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On Scene Coordinator

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Remedial Project Manager

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CAG, TAG, and TASC Coordinator

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Press Officer

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West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection

Program Manager-Superfund and Federal Facilities Restoration

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Public Information Officer

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terry.a.fletcher@wv.gov

Agency for Toxics Substances and Disease Registry/Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Regional Director

Region 3, Division of Community Health Investigations
Lora Werner
215-814-3141
lkw9@cdc.gov

West Virginia Bureau for Public Health
Office of Environmental Health Services
350 Capitol Street
Charleston, WV 25301-3713
304-558-2981

Fayette County Health Department
202 Church Street, Fayetteville, WV 25840
304-574-1617

Appendix C: Elected Officials [June 2019]

U.S. Senators

Senator Joe Manchin

The Honorable Joe Manchin
United States Senate
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-4804
202-224-3954

900 Pennsylvania Ave, Suite 629
Charleston, WV 25302
Phone: 304-342-5855
Toll-Free Phone: 855-275-5737

Senator Shelly Moore Capito

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senate
172 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-6472

220 North Kanawha Street, Suite 1
Beckley, WV 25801-4514
304-347-5372

U.S. House of Representatives, 3rd District

Carol Miller

605 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-3452

Beckley Office
307 Prince Street
Beckley, WV 25801
Phone: 304-250-6177

State of West Virginia

Governor Jim Justice

1900 Kanawha Boulevard, E
Charleston, WV 25305
304-558-2000 or 1-888-438-2731

WV State Senators, District 10

Kenny Mann

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State Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305
Capitol Phone: 304-357-7849
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Stephen Baldwin

Capitol Office:
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State Capitol Complex
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WV State House, District 32

Kayla Kessinger

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Tom Fast

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Margaret Staggers

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State Capitol Complex

Charleston, WV 25305

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margaret.staggers@wvhouse.gov

City of Oak Hill

100 Kelly Avenue

Oak Hill, WV, WV 25901

304-469-9541

Room 220E, Building 1

State Capitol Complex

Charleston, WV 25305

Capitol Phone: 304-340-3170

tom.fast@wvhouse.gov

Appendix D: Media Contacts [June 2019]

Newspaper

The Register-Herald

P.O. Box 2398

801 N. Kanawha St.

Beckley, WV 25802

Main telephone number: 304-255-4400

Main fax: 304-255-4427

Fayette Tribune

417 Main Street

Oak Hill, WV 25901

Phone: 304-469-3373

Television

WOAY-TV (ABC affiliate, located in Oak Hill, WV)

WVVA (NBC affiliate, located in Bluefield, WV)

WSWP-TA (PBS, located in Grandview, WV)

WLFB (Independent, located in Bluefield, WV)

WVNS-TV (CBS affiliate, located in Lewisburg, WV)

Radio

West Virginia Public Broadcasting

600 Capitol Street

Charleston, WV 25301

304-556-4900 or 1-888-596-9729

Appendix E: Potential Meeting Locations

Minden
Community
Center/New
Beginning
Apostolic Church
179 McKinney
Rd, Minden, WV
25901



For smaller capacity informal meetings:

Dr. Amjad's office
225 Church Street, Oak Hill, WV 25901

Appendix F: Information Repositories

When EPA formally proposes a cleanup plan, it collects every document that was used or relied upon to develop and analyze the proposed action. This collection of technical documents is called the Administrative Record (AR) and is available in the information repository. The following information repositories have been established for the Shaffer Equipment/Arbuckle Creek Area site:

Oak Hill Public Library

611 Main Street
Oak Hill, WV 25901
(304) 469-9890

U.S. EPA Region III

Public Reading Room
1650 Arch Street - 6th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 814-3157

Please call to schedule an appointment.

Online: <https://semspub.epa.gov/src/collections/03/AR/WVD981038300>

Appendix G: Sample Interview Questions

Sample questions included for reference. Each discussion is unique and individual to the interview participant.

Community Interview Questionnaire: Shaffer Equipment/Arbuckle Creek Area Superfund Site (November 2018)

General Information:

- How long have you lived in this neighborhood/community?
- Are you a member of any civic, religious, community, etc. groups within your community?
- Who do you consider to be leaders in your local community?

Present and Future Communications:

- How have you received information about the site (e.g. newspaper ads, flyers, mailings, flyers in post office, website, EPA, other sources)?
- How effective have EPA communications been?
- Do you recall receiving outreach materials from EPA? If so, have outreach materials been easy to understand?
- Have you attended the public meetings (last Oct, March, June, October)? Did you find the information presented to be valuable? Did you have opportunities to share your concerns and get your questions answered by EPA?
- Are there ways EPA could communicate better with the community?
- How can we best continue our conversations?
- What type of information would you like to ensure is communicated?
- How often? Do you prefer regular updates or just when there is activity or milestones reached?
- How would you like to receive information and updates regarding the site and cleanup
 - Mailings (via PO Boxes, or other?)
 - e-mail (provide one)
 - phone (provide #)
 - newspaper (which ones do you read regularly?)
 - Website (have you been to EPA's Shaffer webpage?)
 - social media (which platforms are most used?)
 - Radio (station?)
 - Television (channel?)
 - information sessions: formal or informal
 - Community group interactions? (share info)
 - TASC? (share info)

- Are you aware of the site repository in Oak Hill? Have you visited, if so how was your experience; where you able to view the information you were looking for easily? Were there any issues with finding the materials?
- Do you know of any residents in the site vicinity who have communications differences, such as hearing or visual impairments?
- Do you know of residents in the site vicinity who may require translation services?

Planning Community Events:

- If EPA wanted to hold a meeting or an open house, can you suggest any locations, besides the New Beginning Apostolic Church, that are convenient and easily accessible for residents? There may be times that we need to use an alternate location, if this church is holding services or is unavailable.
- Are there any nights of the week that we should avoid when scheduling meetings (e.g. Wednesday evening church services, municipal business/board meetings)?
- Are there seasonal community activities that are important and widely attended?
- Are there other outlets (e.g. community members/groups) that you would recommend we speak with and/or distribute site-related information to?

Site Background, Importance, and Concerns:

- How do you learn and get information about the site? What/who is the source of this information within the community?
- Do you think this information is trustworthy?
- In your opinion, what does the community think about the site?
- Do you have any other environmental concerns in your community, or beyond?
- What is your knowledge or understanding of the operations historically at the site?
- Did you or anyone you know work at the site or play at the site after it closed?
- Since the site ceased operations, do you know if it is used for recreational purposes?
- Is there recreational/subsistence fishing in the site vicinity? If so, do people eat the fish they catch?
- Are you aware of any incidents, not related to cleanup, that have occurred at the site in the past five years (e.g. vandalism, trespassing, emergency response)? What needs our immediate attention going forward?

Community Relationship with EPA, State, etc:

- What has your experience been like working with government agencies (e.g. EPA, WVDEP) at the site? Recognizing that historically the relationships have been lacking, do you feel things have progressed in the past two years? What else could EPA do to help build the relationship with the community?
- Do you think the government is committed to cleaning up the site? What can we do to be more transparent in our work and our goals?
- In your opinion, what do community members think about the local presence of government agencies?
- Is there anything else that you would like to share regarding the site, cleanup, or your community?

Appendix H: Additional Websites & Resources

Shaffer Equipment/Arbuckle Creek Area Superfund Site Profile Page:

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/shaffer>

Superfund Community Involvement:

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-community-involvement>

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

<http://semspub.epa.gov/src/document/HQ/175197>

ATSDR ToxFAQs:

<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>

Appendix I: More information on PCBs

PCBs in Soil-What do all those numbers mean?

Description	Purpose	Concentration	Source	Associated Risk*
Regional Removal Management Level (RML)	RMLs are risk-based concentrations for individual contaminants. When exceeded, the need for a removal action is considered due to the potential for immediate health threats.	24 ppm**	EPA's RML Table	1 in 10,000 (1E-04)
Regional Screening Level (RSL)	RSLs are risk-based concentrations for individual contaminants. When exceeded, the need for additional evaluation is considered due to the potential for health threats from long-term contact.	0.24 ppm**	EPA's RSL Table	1 in one million (1E-06)
Remedial Clean-Up Level	A Remedial clean-up level is a concentration that is protective of long-term contact with a contaminant. Because the health threat is not immediate, more time is spent understanding the contamination prior to clean-up. The final clean-up level is based on several site-specific factors, including the location and number of contaminants and the likelihood of exposure.	0.24 – 24 ppm**	Code of Federal Regulations	1 in one million to 1 in 10,000

TSCA Regulation	Applies to soil contaminated by PCB spills in unrestricted access areas, such as residential properties.	1 ppm	EPA's PCB Spill Clean-up Policy	4 in one million (4E-06)
West Virginia Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP)	The VRP was established to encourage voluntary clean-up of contaminated sites and redevelopment of abandoned/under-utilized properties. The PCB level established under this program is applied when a site-specific risk assessment is not performed by the property owner. A site-specific risk assessment would consider exposures and property use and could result in a higher clean-up goal than is allowable under this program.	0.33 ppm	Voluntary Remediation and Redevelopment Act (W. Va. Code §22-22)	1.4 in one million (1.4E-06)

*This column represents the chance of getting cancer from exposure to site-related contaminants. The estimated risks are based on residential contact with soil, which is assumed to occur 350 days/year for 26 years. A risk less than 1 in one million does not warrant action. A risk greater than 1 in 10,000 generally does trigger action. The need for action within this range is based on site-specific conditions.

** Specific to PCB Aroclor 1260. Other values are for general PCBs.