

Valmont TCE Superfund Site

Community Update

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION 3

DELAWARE, MARYLAND, PENNSYLVANIA, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

December 2024

Cleanup Work Underway by EPA

This Site is one of many across the country that has received funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), which invested \$3.5 billion in environmental remediation at Superfund sites on the National Priorities List. The funds are being used to perform a cleanup at the Site which includes thermal treatment to clean up the contaminated soil and bedrock and a groundwater extraction system to prevent mobilization of contamination off-site. EPA expects that the cleanup will be complete in Winter 2028.

Will the Cleanup Work Affect the Community?

EPA is working closely with PADEP, Hazle Township, West Hazleton Borough, our contractors, and others to minimize any disturbances to the community during construction. There will be some truck traffic generated at the beginning and ending of the construction phases. There may also be some noise during some phases of work that includes drilling and other construction activities. All construction work will be done during regular working hours.

Site Background

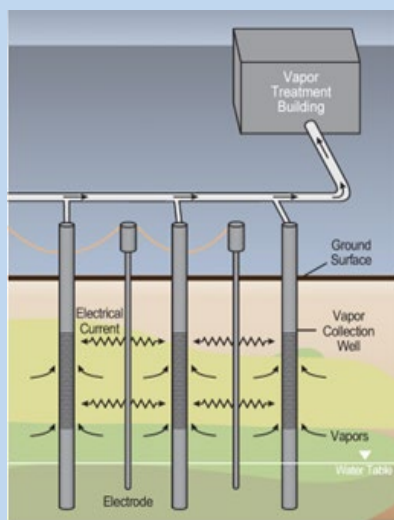


Photo caption: Diagram of an example in-situ thermal treatment system showing the underground portion of the treatment. Thermal treatment removes contamination from below the ground surface using heat. The chemicals will be collected as vapors and then destroyed.

The Valmont TCE Superfund Site is in Hazle Township and West Hazleton Borough, Pennsylvania. From 1972 to 1993, an upholstery manufacturing warehouse treated fabrics with stain replants as part of the manufacturing process. The facility historically spilled trichloroethene (TCE) and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contaminated water on site. The historical spills have led to the contamination of the soil and groundwater underneath of the former manufacturing building by these contaminants. In September 2001, the site was added to the Superfund program's National Priorities List, making it eligible for federal funding for cleanup.

EPA identified contaminants in groundwater underneath the Site as well as former residential wells in the neighborhood adjacent to the Site. Homes in the neighborhood were connected to the public water in 1987.

Join us for a Community Meeting!

Join us to learn more about the upcoming cleanup at the Valmont TCE Superfund Site. The meeting will include a brief presentation the upcoming cleanup, referred to as an Interim Remedial Action.

EPA, PADEP, and their contractors will also be available to answer questions, and share maps, figures, and educational materials on the site.

Date and time:

Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024
6:00pm – 7:30 pm EST

Location:

Hazle Township Municipal Building (Commons)
101 W 27th Street
Hazle Township, PA 18202


What Is the Current Site Status?

In September 2024, EPA awarded a construction contract with BIL funding to complete the Interim Remedial Action detailed in the Interim Record of Decision (ROD) from [September 2021](#). The Selected Remedy consists of [In Situ Thermal Remediation \(ISTR\)](#) to address VOC contamination in the source area and groundwater extraction to prevent migration of PFAS with on-Site treatment and monitoring.

The ISTR will address high levels of TCE that are underneath the warehouse floor, which is the source area of contamination. The depletion of contamination from the source area will help the downgradient plume since there will no longer be high levels of contamination to feed a dissolved plume.

Below is the tentative schedule for the construction activities and the anticipated start dates.



| Site Remedial Action Timeline | |
|---|---|
| Preconstruction (permits, submittals, etc.) | In Progress  |
| Interior Building Demolition | March 2025 |
| Groundwater Extraction Construction | March 2025 |
| Groundwater Extraction Start Up | September 2025 |
| ISTR Construction | January 2026 |
| ISTR Operation | May 2026 |
| ISTR Decommissioning | December 2026 |
| Groundwater Extraction Decommissioning | October 2028 |
| Project Completion (Demobilize from Site) | November 2028 |

Questions? Please Contact Us!

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

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