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Silver Bow Creek / Butte Area

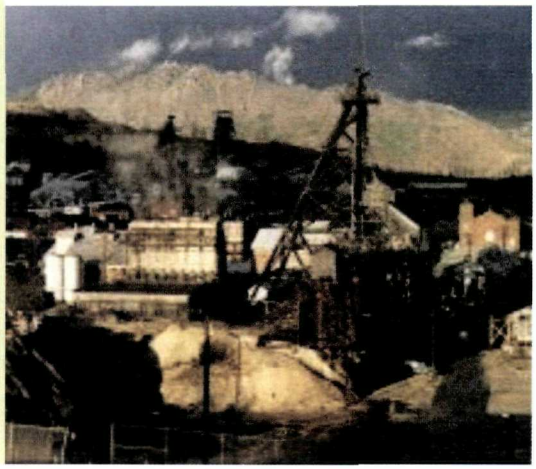
Citizens' Technical Environmental Committee (CTEC) & Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)

Bulletin #11 **January 26, 2011**

The Citizens' Technical Environmental Committee (CTEC) has a core group of 15 volunteer citizens, who facilitate public involvement in the remediation, restoration and redevelopment of the Butte area. Issues are extensive and more public participation is greatly needed. CTEC works with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the state of Montana, responsible parties, and others to help make the Superfund process understandable for the community.

CTEC is a non-profit organization that started in 1989. CTEC's mission Is to provide technical comments and public outreach on the Superfund process for Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area and Montana Pole and Treating Plant National Priority List sites. CTEC aims to improve education services to help young people gain a better understanding of environmental issues associated with Butte-area Superfund sites.

For more than a decade CTEC has been funded by the EPA through a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG). CTEC members represent diverse areas of expertise and provide the Superfund process with an informed local voice and alternative perspectives to help formulate Superfund decisions that reflect community needs.



How can I get involved?

- **Attend the CTEC monthly public meeting found at:**
  www.buttectec.org
  Events and Public Meetings
- **Contact Janice Hogan (CTEC TAG Coordinator) at:**
  (406-723-6247)
- **Visit the CTEC office at:**
  27 West Park Street
- **Write to CTEC at:**
  P.O. Box 593
  Butte, Montana 59703
- **Email CTEC at:**
  buttectec@hotmail.com
- **Fill out an online membership at:**
  www.buttectec.org/form

Technical Assistance Grants (TAG's) are awarded to help community groups understand site-related information and participate in decision-making throughout the cleanup of a Superfund site. Grants are used by a community group to contract with a technical advisor(s) to assist the community in understanding technical information related to cleaning up a Superfund site and how clean-up decisions may affect the community.

With a better understanding of what is going on at a site and what decisions need to be made, community members are more able to comment on the technical aspects of site cleanup. Technical comments provided by community members assist EPA in:

- Identifying and controlling unacceptable human exposures from site contamination
- Monitoring and controlling migration of contaminated ground water
- Improving construction design, and implementing the remedy

Community members also play a key role in determining site reuse. EPA believes that community participation is an important part of cleaning up and bringing land back into a beneficial community use.

Initial awards of $50,000 may be available to nonprofit community groups. Most of the funding must be used to contract the services of a technical advisor(s). By statute, only one TAG at a time can be awarded per site. Additional funding may be available at the end of the project period. Since 1988, over 270 TAGs have been awarded and over $22,000,000 in funding has been provided by EPA.

Do you Need More Information?

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency:

Sara Sparks, Remedial Project Manager, 406-782-7415
Nikia Greene, Community Involvement Coordinator, 406-457-5019
Wendy Thomi, Grant Project Officer, 406-457-5037

www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tag/

Citizens Technical Environmental Committee:

Janice Hogan, TAG Grant Administrator, 406-723-6247
Suzzann Nordwick, President, 406-565-1537

www.buttectec.org