

# NPL Site Narrative for Atlas Asbestos Mine

## ATLAS ASBESTOS MINE Fresno County, California

**Conditions at listing (September 1983):** The Atlas Asbestos Mine operated from 1963 to 1980 on a 16-acre site about 19 miles northwest of Coalinga, Fresno County, California. The abandoned site consists of the asbestos mine, a processing mill, support buildings, and extensive asbestos tailings. Drainage from the site is directly downslope into White Creek, then into the Los Gatos Creek. Los Gatos Creek is a tributary to the Arroyo Pasajero, a flood area along the California Aqueduct. During the rainy season, the California State Department of Water Resources drains the Arroyo into the aqueduct. Analysis of water in the aqueduct, conducted by the Southern California Metropolitan Water District and the Department of Water Resources, indicates high concentrations of asbestos fibers.

**Status (June 1984):** EPA has conducted initial planning activities for this site. The purpose was to gather and review existing data on the site, define areas of insufficient data, and define the scope of any remedial investigation. The plan also examined what remedial actions would be necessary to respond to the release or substantial threat of release of asbestos into the environment. Remedial investigation activities are being formulated and are expected to begin soon.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.