



# Baird and McGuire Superfund Site Community Involvement Plan

March 2022

## INTRODUCTION

The goal of this Community Involvement Plan (CIP) is to encourage and facilitate community engagement throughout the remainder of the Baird and McGuire Superfund site (Site) cleanup. The CIP describes how EPA will involve the community and address local needs moving forward during the cleanup process. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the community will work together by using the tools described in this plan. Active public involvement is crucial to the success of any project. EPA's community involvement activities at the Site are designed to inform the public of all cleanup activities and include the community in the decision-making process.

EPA defines the "community" as those people and entities who have an interest in or are affected by the Site. EPA also recognizes that other stakeholders, including local, state, and federal agencies, may have an interest in the Site. This CIP is based on a series of community interviews, focus group meetings, and an online survey conducted beginning in October 2020 and continuing through September 2021 with the affected community and stakeholders in accordance with EPA's Superfund community involvement and cleanup guidance. The CIP is a "living document," meaning that it can be updated or revised over the course of site cleanup to reflect long-term changes in the community.

# Community Involvement at the Baird and McGuire Superfund Site

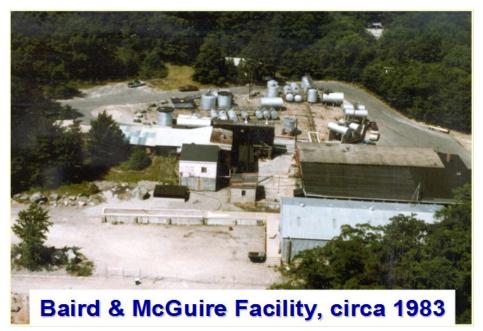
Active and participatory community involvement is an important part of the cleanup process. It is also regulated under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), also known as "Superfund." This CIP follows community involvement requirements in the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) §117 and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) §300.430. EPA's Community Involvement Program is designed to facilitate participation of community members throughout the cleanup process, including the investigation phase and the remedy selection phase. EPA works closely with state and local agencies to provide community involvement throughout the Superfund process.

#### THE COMMUNITY

This section provides a brief introduction to the Site and community and identifies issues and concerns raised during the community interviews.

## Site Overview

The Baird and McGuire Superfund Site is located on South Street in Holbrook, Massachusetts, on the western edge of the town close to the border with Randolph, Massachusetts and approximately 15 miles south of downtown Boston. Overall, the Site consists of approximately 33.1 acres, including 8.7 acres that at one point had Baird and McGuire ownership, and 24.4 that consist of portions of two privately owned lots and three municipally-owned lots. Historically, the area has been host to a number of chemical/industrial sites, including the Baird and McGuire site but also an adjacent site that formerly was home to Holbrook Chemical, a chemical distribution company. The Baird and McGuire Site is located close to the Randolph-Holbrook commuter rail stop and the Holbrook-Randolph town line.

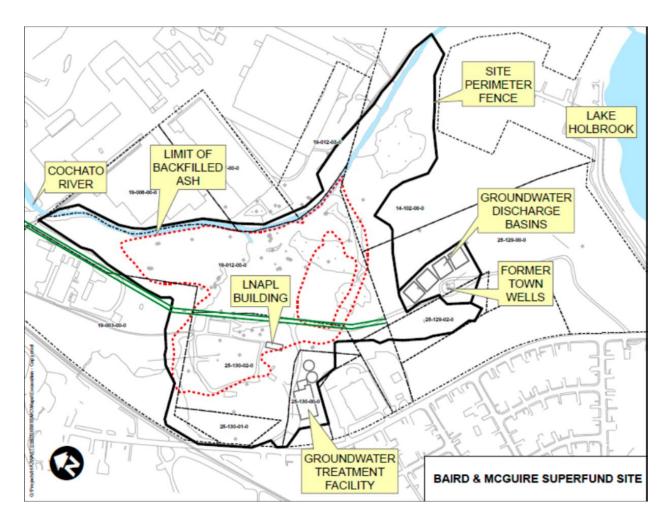


The site is located 500 feet west of the Cochato River, with groundwater and surface water from the site running north into Randolph. At one time, the Cochato River flowed into the Richardi Reservoir, a water system serving nearly 90,000 people in the Towns of Holbrook. Randolph, and Braintree. Currently, the Cochato River is not being used as a supply source for the Richardi

Reservoir. The site is also within 1,500 of the South Street well field, which at one time was part of the municipal water support for Holbrook. The South Street well field was shut down in 1982.

The Site has been subject to environmental cleanup activities for close to 40 years. From 1912 to 1983, Baird and McGuire Inc. operated a chemical mixing and batching facility at the Site. For decades, the company mishandled dangerous contaminants such as pesticides, herbicides, disinfectants, and other toxic solvents, creating a legacy of contaminated soil and groundwater in Holbrook, Randolph, and surrounding communities.

Baird and McGuire Inc.'s methods of waste disposal at the Site included direct discharge into the soil, a nearby brook and wetlands, a former gravel pit in the eastern portion of the site, and underground disposal systems. Hazardous wastes historically were disposed of in an on-site lagoon and cesspool. There were two lagoons on the site, which were open to rain, and large areas of buried wastes such as cans, debris, lab bottles, and hundreds of bottles of chemicals.



Following a series of violations and fines issued by the state from 1954 to 1977 and the identification of questionable disposal practices at the Site, the Town of Holbrook revoked Baird and McGuire's permit to store chemicals at the Site and operations were terminated. Initial response actions at the Site included some cleanup activities by Baird and McGuire Inc., before the company became bankrupt in 1983.

On September 8, 1983, the Site was added to the National Priority List (NPL) — a list of hazardous waste sites in the United States eligible for cleanup under the Superfund program — as the fourteenth worst Superfund site in the country. EPA also initiated removal actions in 1983, which resulted in the disposal of 1,020 cubic yards of contaminated soil, 1 ton of waste creosote, 25 gallons of waste coal tar, 155 pounds of solid hazardous waste and 47 drums of flammable liquids and solids, and 2 drums of corrosives. EPA also oversaw construction of a clay cap, installation of a groundwater interception-recirculation system, and erection of fencing. The groundwater treatment facility and interception-recirculation system have been in operation since 1993.

In 1986, EPA announced plans to incinerate toxic soil dredged from the nearby Cochato River on the Site. Some community groups resisted the plan due to fears of air pollution, but the plan proceeded with incineration activities beginning in 1995 and ending in 1997. Between 1995 and 1997, a total of more than 220,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil were incinerated on Site. From 1994-1997, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MassDPH) monitored hair and urine samples from

children living near the site, testing for elevated levels of arsenic. Although some community members have questioned whether MassDPH should have tested for other cancer-causing chemicals as well, the study found no elevated levels of arsenic among the samples from children living close to the site.

In 2004, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) took over management and funding of cleanup activities at the site. Currently, properties located around the Site have institutional controls in place to restrict the use of groundwater and stormwater. Access to the Cochato River is restricted due to the presence of the security fence and institutional controls. Overall, cleanup activities on the Site related to contaminated soils, sediment in the river, and water supply have been completed since the conclusion of incineration activities in 1997. Cleanup activities related to



groundwater are ongoing through operation of the groundwater treatment facility and interception-recirculation system.

Starting in 2020, MassDEP began conducting a Pilot Test to evaluate new options for groundwater remediation that involve injecting chemicals into the groundwater plume to prevent arsenic and other contaminants from entering groundwater. Because the efficiency of the pump-and-treat system has been in steady decline, EPA and MassDEP have been exploring the potential for alternative treatment methods that could result in a faster and more effective cleanup. The Pilot Test is expected to conclude in 2022.

Photo: Existing groundwater pump-and-treat system

# About the Community

The community close to the site is in Holbrook and Randolph in Norfolk County Massachusetts. There are an estimated 7,898 people within a 1-mile radius around the site with a per capita income of \$31,117, which is almost 20% lower than the median per capita income in Massachusetts of \$37,886. An estimated 52% of this population reports being members of a minority group, including 35% Black, 11% Asian, and 4% Hispanic/Latino. In addition, 33% of the population reports not speaking English in the home. EPA considers portions of the community within a 1-mile radius of the site to be an area of further consideration for environmental justice.

Although they are both suburban towns located south of Boston, Holbrook and Randolph differ demographically and culturally. Holbrook, where the Site is located, has a population of just over 11,000 and is 75% white, 17% Black, 4% Asian and 7% Hispanic or Latino with a per capita income of \$36,633. Under Holbrook's town meeting form of government, an elected, five-member select board serves as the town's chief policymaking body, while a 240-member town meeting carries out legislative responsibilities. A paid

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>Institutional controls</u> are administrative and legal restrictions or requirements related to land or resource use. They restrict how the land or resource can be utilized in order to minimize the potential for human exposure to contamination and/or protect the integrity of the cleanup.

Town Administrator reports to the Board of Selectmen. Holbrook area residents describe a community that, while historically white and working class, has now begun attracting more upwardly mobile young professionals and immigrants from diverse backgrounds due to its relatively low housing costs compared to other towns in the region.

Randolph, located northwest of Holbrook with a town border adjacent to the Site, has a population of close to 34,000 and is 38% white, 41% Black, 12% Asian and 9% Hispanic or Latino with a per capita income of \$33,476. Randolph uses a council-manager system of government with a 10-person town council that carries out legislative functions, and a professional town manager. Randolph area residents describe the community as representing an important cultural and residential center for Black Americans in the Boston area.

Both Randolph and Holbrook are somewhat lower income than neighboring municipalities of Avon, Braintree, Weymouth, and Abington. In addition, the area of Holbrook and Randolph in close vicinity to the Site is of lower average income than either town overall.

## Environmental Justice

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

EPA Region 1 programs collaborate closely to make sure underserved, low income and tribal communities facing disproportionate environmental risks have opportunities for meaningful participation in environmental decision-making. Region 1 also coordinates closely with EPA Headquarters and states to support initiatives that provide all people living near Superfund sites with technical assistance, training opportunities and other services. EPA has a variety of environmental justice resources available at <a href="https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice">www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice</a>, including:

- The Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (CPS) Cooperative Agreement
  Program provides funding for eligible applicants for projects that address local environmental
  and public health issues in an affected community. The program assists recipients in building
  collaborative partnerships to help them understand and address environmental and public
  health concerns in their communities.
- <u>The Environmental Justice Small Grants Program</u> supports and empowers communities working on solutions to local environmental and public health issues. The program is designed to help communities understand and address exposure to multiple environmental harms and risks.
- The State Environmental Justice Cooperative Agreement Program (SEJCA) provides funding to eligible applicants to support and/or create model state activities that lead to measurable environmental or public health results in communities disproportionately burdened by environmental harms and risks. These models should leverage or utilize existing resources or assets of state agencies to develop key tools and processes that integrate environmental justice considerations into state governments and government programs.

# **EJSCREEN**

EJSCREEN is an environmental justice mapping and screening tool. It uses environmental indicators for a community to show potential exposures and demographic factors to show potential susceptibility.

# EJSCREEN Quick Facts

To summarize how environmental indicators and demographics come together in the same location, EJSCREEN uses EJ Indexes. EJSCREEN has 11 EJ Indexes that reflect the 11 environmental indicators below. In the EJ Indexes, environmental indicators are combined with information about the low-income and minority population in a Census block group. EJSCREEN presents results in terms of percentiles, allowing the community to be compared to the rest of the state, EPA Region or nation.

- National Scale Air Toxics Assessment Air Toxics Cancer Risk
- National Scale Air Toxics Assessment Respiratory Hazard Index
- National Scale Air Toxics Assessment Diesel Particulate Matter (DPM)
- Particulate Matter (PM2.5)
- Ozone
- Lead Paint Indicator
- Traffic Proximity and Volume
- Proximity to Risk Management Plan Sites
- Proximity to Treatment Storage and Disposal Facilities
- Proximity to National Priorities List (NPL) Sites
- Wastewater Discharge Indicator

As shown in the table below, an EJSCREEN analysis for the Site in 2019 found environmental justice concerns in the surrounding community; all 11 indicators were at the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile or above compared to the rest of EPA Region 1, and the 61<sup>st</sup> percentile or above compared to the rest of the United States.



#### **EJSCREEN Report (Version 2018)**



1 mile Ring Centered at 42.150822,-71.028765, MASSACHUSETTS, EPA Region 1

Approximate Population: 7,898
Input Area (sq. miles): 3.14
Baird & McGuire

Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	EPA Region Avg.	%ile in EPA Region	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Environmental Indicators							
Particulate Matter (PM 2.5 in µg/m³)	6.97	7.27	19	7.37	24	9.53	8
Ozone (ppb)	39.3	38.6	72	39.6	55	42.5	26
NATA* Diesel PM (µg/m³)	0.662	0.872	45	0.713	50-60th	0.938	<50th
NATA* Cancer Risk (lifetime risk per million)	32	35	40	33	<50th	40	<50th
NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	1.3	1.6	35	1.5	<50th	1.8	<50th
Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)	130	290	59	320	59	600	55
Lead Paint Indicator (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.43	0.51	41	0.45	51	0.29	72
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.89	0.14	97	0.14	97	0.12	97
RMP Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.11	0.66	28	0.56	35	0.72	27
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.46	3.3	30	2.5	37	4.3	50
Wastewater Discharge Indicator	7.7E-06	0.082	37	0.11	35	30	49
(toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)							
Demographic Indicators							
Demographic Index	35%	25%	75	24%	78	36%	57
Minority Population	52%	26%	84	23%	85	38%	68
Low Income Population	19%	24%	51	25%	47	34%	29
Linguistically Isolated Population	8%	6%	76	4%	81	4%	80
Population With Less Than High School Education	13%	10%	73	10%	75	13%	62
Population Under 5 years of age	5%	5%	48	5%	50	6%	38
Population over 64 years of age	18%	15%	69	16%	66	14%	72

<sup>\*</sup> The National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) is EPA's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. EPA developed the NATA to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that NATA provides broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the NATA analysis can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/national-air-toxics-assessment.

#### **Partners**

EPA's government partners in the cleanup and related issues include the following government entities:

• Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP): The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection is an agency in the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, responsible for protecting the environment in the Commonwealth. MassDEP currently manages and funds cleanup activities on the Site, including the operation and maintenance of the groundwater treatment facility and the groundwater extraction/recharge system. MassDEP is currently conducting investigations intended to optimize groundwater cleanup operations. MassDEP is also responsible for solid waste

- permitting decisions related to the TLA-Holbrook site, which is adjacent to the Baird and McGuire site.
- Holbrook Board of Health: The Holbrook Board of Health performs duties related to the protection of public health, the control of disease, the promotion of sanitary living conditions, and the protection from damage and pollution in the Town of Holbrook. The Board currently consists of three members and a single staff person.
- Randolph Board of Health: The Randolph Board of Health acts as an advisory and oversight Board to the Randolph Public Health Department. The Randolph Board of Health develops, implements and enforces local health regulations, oversees environmental health inspections to maintain minimum standards for sanitation in housing and food service, and assures that the basic health needs of their community are being met. It consists of five members appointed by Town Manager.

# Key Contacts

#### EPA contacts:

- Kimberly White, Baird and McGuire Site Remedial Project Manager: 617-918-1752, white.kimberly@epa.gov
- Zanetta Purnell, Public Affairs Specialist, Community Involvement Coordinator: 617-918-1306, <a href="mailto:purnell.zanetta@epa.gov">purnell.zanetta@epa.gov</a>

#### Partner contacts:

- Dorothy Allen, Environmental Engineer, MassDEP, Contact for Baird and McGuire: 617-292-5795, <a href="mailto:dorothy.t.allen@state.ma.us">dorothy.t.allen@state.ma.us</a>
- Dan Connick, Environmental Engineer, MassDEP, Contact for TLA-Holbrook: 508-946-2884, <a href="mailto:daniel.connick@state.ma.us">daniel.connick@state.ma.us</a>
- Dalene LaPointe, Principal Investigator, MassDPH, Point of Contact for Bureau of Environmental Health: 617-624-5757, <u>dalene.lapointe@state.ma.us</u>
- Katie Goldrick, Chair, Holbrook Board of Health: 781-767-3030, KGoldrick@holbrookmassachusetts.us
- Abbey Myers, Holbrook Health Agent: 781-767-3030, <u>AMyers@holbrookmassachusetts.us</u>
- Jim O'Mara, Holbrook town Administrator, <u>JOMara@holbrookmassachusetts.us</u>, 781-767-4312
- Gerard Cody, Public Health Commissioner, Randolph: 781-961-0924, gcody@randolph-ma.gov
- Christine Griffin, Town Attorney, Randolph, 781-961-0910, cgriffin@randolph-ma.gov
- Brian Howard, Town Manager, Randolph: 781-961-0911 bhoward@randolph-ma.gov

#### Elected officials:

- U.S. House of Representatives. Visit <a href="www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative">www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative</a> for contact information for your current congressional representative. The Baird and McGuire site is in the 8<sup>th</sup> congressional district. The Town of Randolph is in the 7<sup>th</sup> congressional district.
- U.S. Senate. Visit <u>www.senate.gov/senators</u> for contact information for your current U.S. senators for Massachusetts.
- State House of Representatives. Visit <a href="www.malegislature.gov/Legislators/House">www.malegislature.gov/Legislators/House</a> for contact information for your current state representative. The Baird and McGuire is close to the boundary between three districts. The Site itself is in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Norfolk district. The area

- immediately west of the Site in Randolph is in the  $7^{th}$  Norfolk District, and the area to immediately north of the Site is in the  $5^{th}$  Norfolk district.
- State Senate. Visit <a href="https://malegislature.gov/Legislators/Senate">https://malegislature.gov/Legislators/Senate</a> for contact information for your current senator. The Baird and McGuire site is in the Norfolk and Plymouth district.

# Overview of the CIP Process

In preparing this CIP, EPA with the assistance of the <u>Consensus Building Institute</u> (CBI),<sup>2</sup> conducted a series of interviews, meetings, focus groups, and an online survey beginning in October 2020 and continuing through September 2021. EPA conducted in-depth interviews with 22 community members, including community members in Holbrook and Randolph who live near the site, local business owners, Holbrook and Randolph town officials, and other community leaders and representatives. EPA also launched an online survey that attracted a total 441 responses, with a significant number of responses from both Holbrook and Randolph.<sup>3</sup> EPA, in collaboration with DEP, hosted a community meeting about the Baird and McGuire site on February 10, 2021, during which community members provided feedback on recent developments at the site and nearby properties. EPA also reviewed publicly available news articles and online sources to understand the history and current issues of concern to the public.

After producing a draft of this CIP in July 2021, EPA conducted a series of focus group conversations with members of the Holbrook and Randolph communities to vet and improve EPA's ideas for community engagement.<sup>4</sup> EPA conducted a total of seven focus group conversations with Holbrook and Randolph residents in September 2021. During the focus group discussions, EPA shared a high-level summary of its understanding of community concerns and EPA's plans for engagement moving forward, then asked the focus group participants to share their reactions and offer feedback.

# Community Issues and Concerns

Overall, EPA's activities in preparation for this CIP suggest that community members are intensely concerned about activities on or adjacent to the Baird and McGuire site. Many interviewees, survey respondents, and meeting participants expressed feelings of frustration, anger, and fear around the site and its past, and apprehension about future impacts on the community. As will be discussed below, current community concerns and tensions are focused on the adjacent TLA-Holbrook site (formerly

Holbrook Chemical) and plans to build a waste transfer station on that property. However, some community members also expressed an interest in supporting EPA and MassDEP efforts to accelerate the cleanup of the Baird and McGuire site and imagining future productive uses for the property that are line with the wishes of the community.

Many community members are intensely concerned about activities on or adjacent to the Baird and McGuire site.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>CBI is a non-profit, non-partisan facilitation and mediation contracted to EPA Region 1 under EPA's Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution national contract.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Survey results can be viewed in the record center at EPA's Baird and McGuire website: <a href="www.epa.gov/superfund/baird">www.epa.gov/superfund/baird</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> EPA advertised the focus group conversations through an email list, the Holbrook and Randolph Town websites, and through requests to town officials to post about the conversations on relevant social media groups and send out information via their own email lists. Conversations were open to Holbrook and Randolph residents.

By and large, stakeholder concerns fell into the following categories, each of which is described in more detail below:

- The history of the cleanup
- Adjacent site uses
- Environmental justice
- Health and environmental concerns
- The status and future of the cleanup
- Future land use possibilities
- Communications and engagement

# History of the Cleanup

Historically, federal, state, and local officials have had a complicated relationship with the community close to the Site, which complicates efforts at engaging effectively with the community today. Residents close to the site, especially those who have lived in the area since the 1980s, may feel like the Town of Holbrook and the State did not do enough or act quickly enough when complaints about contamination from Baird and McGuire began to surface in the 1970s and 80s.

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EPA's decision to incinerate contaminated soil on site in the 1990s also looms large over the current situation. As noted above, from 1995 to 1997, EPA oversaw the incineration of more than 220,000 tons of contaminated soil on the Site. The on-site incineration project was a source of controversy and community division, with some residents and citizens groups strongly opposed to the project due to health concerns.

After the incineration ended in 1997, the controversy surrounding the site died down and residents say they received little communication about the site or health impacts from EPA in the intervening decades. Nevertheless, many residents have not forgotten the history, and there is still a general atmosphere of fear around health impacts and distrust towards EPA among at least a vocal subset of residents. For example, while most members of the Baird and McGuire citizens Task Force (a group formed in the late 1980s to facilitate communication and engagement among EPA, residents, and officials) no longer live in the area or have passed away, some remain, and these citizens may vividly recall intense conflicts both within the Town of Holbrook and with EPA about the incineration project, as well as issues around protecting drinking water. Other residents who grew up in the area in the 1980s and 1990s may recall MassDPH taking their hair and urine samples, or the multiple lawsuits by residents against Baird and McGuire alleging that the company's actions caused various cancers and other health issues. These residents may be distrustful of EPA, the State, and the Town of Holbrook.

Overall, a significant number of survey respondents, interviewees, and focus group participants brought up stories of exposure from decades in the past, negative associations with EPA's incineration decision, and ongoing fears about health impacts. These residents are likely to distrust statements from local, state, and federal officials, and doubt they are getting the "true story" about the site. In Holbrook, the history of the Site and more recent events related to the adjacent TLA-Holbrook property have led to a broad distrust of town officials in general, and the Town Council in particular. To some of these residents, it is good to see that EPA has now "come back" to engaging with them about the site; others report that there is little the agency could do to restore their trust and may be worried that the

agency's re-engagement signals that it plans to do something that goes against the community's interests.

#### Adjacent site uses

Another, more recent source of distrust and controversy relates to the TLA-Holbrook property (formerly Holbrook Chemical), which is adjacent to Baird and McGuire (with a small portion overlapping the Baird and McGuire Site). In 2005, the Town of Holbrook was awarded title to the Holbrook Chemical property due to unpaid taxes from the company. That same year, a local developer proposed

Some residents closely link the TLA-Holbrook issue with Baird and McGuire.

building a trash transfer station on the property. In recent years, the proposed waste transfer station has become highly controversial within Holbrook and Randolph, as well as neighboring towns like Braintree and Avon that may see in increase in truck traffic if the transfer station is constructed. The Town of Randolph has sued TLA-Holbrook to prevent the project from going forward.

Overall, there is bitterness and division among residents about how decisions have been made regarding the TLA-Holbrook site and communication about these decisions to the public. Some residents closely link the TLA-Holbrook issue with Baird and McGuire and believe EPA should do whatever is in its power to stop the project. These residents are typically unmoved by EPA's explanations about the limits of its jurisdiction with respect to state 21E sites.<sup>5</sup> (Other residents, especially those who may be less involved or who support the TLA-Holbrook project, are less likely to connect it to Baird and McGuire or expect EPA to insert itself into the controversy.) Residents expressed concerns that contaminants from Baird and McGuire have spread onto the TLA-Holbrook property, that the developer cannot be trusted to follow through on its commitments to clean up the TLA site or operate the facility safely, and that the cumulative impact of building a waste transfer station within a community with such a troubled history of contamination is simply unacceptable. Some have expressed concerns that EPA's institutional controls will fail to prevent the developer from negatively impacting the soil and groundwater.

Among some residents, there is also distrust of Holbrook town officials who have championed the TLA development. Some residents have suggested that town leaders have a "hidden agenda" and will push through the development no matter what. (Many of these same residents expressed more trust in the Holbrook Board of Health, which may be perceived as more responsive to community concerns.) Overall, both the Holbrook population and its government are sharply divided over the issue, creating an atmosphere of polarization and conflict, while in Randolph residents report that the community is more universally opposed to the project.

#### Environmental justice

In Randolph, there is an additional racial and environmental justice overlay to these concerns. Residents note the predominantly Black demographics of the affected community in Randolph and suggest that they been left unprotected for decades by activities across the municipal boundary in predominantly white Holbrook. To these residents, the current situation is part of a pattern: federal, state and Holbrook town officials first "stood by" and failed to protect them from contamination coming from

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Under the Massachusetts Oil and Hazardous Material Release Prevention Act, also known as the State Superfund Law, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 21E tasks MassDEP with ensuring the permanent cleanup of contamination of sites like TLA-Holbrook.

In Randolph, there is a racial and environmental justice overlay to the community's concerns.

Baird and McGuire. Now, these same institutions are again failing to protect them from smells, traffic, and the potential for further contamination from TLA-Holbrook.

Some Randolph residents are disappointed and frustrated that no federal or state agency or court has stepped in to prevent the TLA-Holbrook project from moving forward, despite the long history of health impacts on their community associated with the Baird and McGuire site and cleanup. They

may feel like they have been excluded from EPA community outreach in general because outsiders incorrectly perceive it as a "Holbrook issue," or because their needs and concerns are given less weight. In contrast to Holbrook, stakeholders described Randolph residents and the Town as largely united behind the concerns of the community living close to the site. They want to see these historical and ongoing EJ issues acknowledged and discussed, and feel that they are entitled to ongoing, dedicated outreach and input on decision-making about the Site.

Residents from both Randolph and Holbrook highlighted specific populations in the vicinity of the Site that should be the focus of dedicated outreach, including a significant elderly population that is not computer literate, single parents and shift workers who may have trouble attending in person community meetings at specific times, people with preexisting health conditions, and people for whom English is not their first language. Residents encouraged EPA to work with local stakeholder groups to connect with these populations and ensure they are included in outreach and decision-making.

#### Health and environmental concerns

In the absence of solid, reputable information about health impacts of contamination in the area, many nearby residents have lingering, painful, and chronic anxiety around their own and loved ones' health. Some residents remain convinced that the site and incineration led to cancers and other illnesses, and for many the fear compromised health remains ever-present. These residents expressed a desire for a clear picture of what happened in the past, and what potential impacts these activities could have had on them and their loved ones (e.g., cancer, developmental impacts on children, etc.). Some of them expressed an interest in learning more about MassDPH's arsenic study from the 1990s, but also concerns that the study leaves many

Many stakeholders expressed concrete, ongoing concerns about their own and their families' health and safety living, working, or commuting in the area close to the site.

questions unanswered and requests for additional, broader research into community health impacts from the history of contamination on the Site.

Many stakeholders also expressed very concrete, ongoing concerns about their own and their families' health and safety living, working, or commuting in the area close to the site even today. They are unsure about how clean the soil and water are and what we know about the risks associated with specific activities. For example, is gardening safe within the floodplain of the Cochato River close to the site? Can they eat vegetables grown in this soil? What about vegetables grown farther away, or other activities connected to the land, like beekeeping? Should residents be concerned about breathing in contaminated dust? How concerned should they be about floodwaters and surface runoff from the Cochato River entering their property? How far (if at all) does contamination currently extend into neighborhoods like Sylvan Lake or the Grove? Are there any remaining specific risks to children playing in these neighborhoods, or in areas closer to the Site?

Residents in both Holbrook and Randolph expressed significant concerns about the safety of their town drinking water. Many did not understand that the sources of their drinking water are unconnected to groundwater coming from the Site or the Cochato River. Some also expressed specific concerns about activities they see others participating in, such as fishing in Sylvan Lake, and wondered whether the signage around fishing is sufficient and whether more should be done to raise awareness and/or prevent fishing. Some Randolph residents further commented that they did not know what if anything they *should* be worried about in terms of health risks and called on EPA to be more proactive about educating them on historical or potential health risks. Overall, the communities in both Holbrook and Randolph are extremely interested in learning about the potential health impacts of engaging in different activities considering current, future, and past levels of contamination at the Site.

# Status and future of the cleanup

Stakeholders have a mix of perspectives on the status and future of the cleanup. For most stakeholders, the specifics of the cleanup have not been in the forefront of their minds, and they know relatively little about it. Instead, their current focus is on the TLA-Holbrook issue. Among those with opinions on the issue, some suggested the cleanup seemed to be going well overall and cited the long-term decrease in groundwater contamination. Others were more critical and focused on the fact that the cleanup is taking a long time and/or has not gone far enough. They may want more clarity on when the cleanup will be done and feel frustrated that it still isn't complete. They may also want more clarity on the cleanup costs, what will happen when EPA is no longer involved, and how decisions around that issue will be made.

Stakeholders indicated that they have little knowledge about the continuing site cleanup, why a remedy change might be necessary or helpful, or the potential costs and benefits of a new groundwater treatment approach.

Overall, stakeholders indicated that they have little knowledge about the continuing site cleanup, why a remedy change might be necessary or helpful, or the potential costs and benefits of a new groundwater treatment approach. Generally, they indicated strong interest in future meetings with EPA to learn more about the pilot study results and the pros and cons of different cleanup options. Most stakeholders have yet to form an opinion about the use of established groundwater remediation methods, like the current pump-and-treat system, versus newer methods like injecting chemicals into the groundwater plume. Some stakeholders have expressed openness to new methods if they will reduce contamination more effectively and quickly, while others have expressed concern about Baird and McGuire being a site for experimentation with unproven or novel techniques. Whatever EPA decides, stakeholders suggested the community should have the most effective remedy available given their status as an EJ community and the history of the Site.

#### Future land use possibilities

With respect to the future of the cleanup and the site overall, stakeholders expressed concerns about re-using the property. Some noted that the wells on the land should never be re-used for drinking water. Others urged that the soil should not be disturbed and expressed concerns about digging that could be associated with future development. Others highlighted the potential for increased flooding due to climate change and wanted more information about how this might impact the site and the broader area moving forward.

Although stakeholders expressed skepticism about any kind of future development on the site that might disturb the soil or groundwater, in general they reacted positively when asked about productive

or public benefit land use possibilities that would not result in any negative impacts to the cleanup or to the broader community. Examples included a solar farm and modest ecological restoration, such as replanting native vegetation or vegetation that provides greater ecosystem services (infiltration, pollination, etc.). A subset of stakeholders expressed a strong interest in seeing something positive come from the site over the long-term, however modest. Others were less willing to entertain the idea of future productive uses. Any immediate engagement with the community around future uses could be challenging, given that many stakeholders currently lack trust that the relevant authorities will handle questions around reuse in a way that would result in broad community benefits. Stakeholders suggested that future use could be a productive issue to discuss, but only after the current issues have been resolved and they see positive results from any new groundwater treatment remedy.

# Communications and engagement

Throughout the history of the Baird and McGuire Superfund Site, EPA has and will continue to employ a variety of tools to reach and engage the community; for example, remote and in-person public meetings, fact sheets, mailings, emails, social media outreach, press releases, invitations for public comments on proposed plans for cleanup, a website, public information meetings, local TV coverage of public meetings, and local information repositories, amongst others. EPA's fact sheet on the Site, released in August 2021, addressed a variety of community questions and concerns raised in EPA's February 2021 public meeting and elsewhere. Moving forward, EPA will continue to engage through these methods and others, including public meetings, smaller community information sessions, fact sheets and other written updates, and updates to the Site website. Residents strongly supported EPA engagement through a variety of modes and formats to maximize its reach.

Residents strongly supported EPA engagement through a variety of modes and formats to maximize its reach. Overall, while residents are divided over the TLA-Holbrook and some are distrustful towards EPA, MassDEP, and other officials, many still welcomed renewed EPA engagement at the site. Almost universally, they expressed an active interest in seeing EPA answer questions about health issues and provide more clarity on the future of the cleanup. Some community members may have expectations or requests around EPA's engagement that the agency may not be able to meet. For example, some have pushed for EPA to spearhead or

support a community health study to evaluate environmental harms from the past; others may want to enlist EPA to block the TLA-Holbrook development by engaging in actions beyond the agency's regulatory authority.

For other members of the community, there may be a sense of frustration that the community's focus on issues that they perceive as beyond the scope of EPA's authority or as related to past harms (like TLA-Holbrook and past health impacts) makes it harder to learn about and discuss issues that will impact the community going forward and that EPA can influence more directly (like data gathering and decision-making around the potential for a change in the remedy for groundwater remediation). There were suggestions that it will be important for EPA to engage effectively with highly active community members (for example, those living in the Grove area in very close proximity to the Site), while also reaching beyond this core group to engage with impacted community members from neighborhoods that have not been so active (such as off Union Street and elsewhere).

Despite these differences, there is strong interest overall in the kinds of information and engagement that EPA can provide on issues related to human health and the environment. In terms of the type of outreach they prefer, most respondents indicated a preference for remote, online meetings, fact sheets,

and online information on the EPA website. Others noted that meeting and accessing information online can be challenging for some members of the community, in particular older residents who are less used to using technology, so it will be important to utilize physical mailings and in-person meetings as well. Many respondents also indicated a preference for meetings in the evening and active involvement of their town government in meetings. Others cautioned that EPA must consider the distrust that many residents feel towards town officials, especially in Holbrook, and that Holbrook has not been effective in its communications with residents about the public health issues. Members of the Randolph community expressed interest in dedicated outreach from EPA to their community and potentially hosting one or more public meetings in Randolph.

Nearly all interviewees and focus group participants encouraged EPA to use simple and clear language in its presentations and messaging. Some suggested that past communications from EPA, MassDEP, and others have not been sufficiently not simple or straightforward and have left residents more confused and distrustful as a result.

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTION PLAN

This section provides EPA's plan for communicating and engaging with the community. It also describes how EPA will address the issues and concerns identified in the interviews and focus groups. The Community Involvement Plan relies on tools and techniques that EPA has developed over the years at hundreds of Superfund sites. EPA used information gathered during community interviews and focus groups and from other sources to develop this Action Plan to address the community's needs, concerns, questions, and expectations as well as the community's communication styles and preferences.

# Community Involvement Objectives

EPA has the following objectives in engaging with the community:

- Increase transparency about agency decision-making and the future of the Site
- Clearly inform the community about the risks and protectiveness of the current remedy, and how it compares to potential alternatives
- Ensure EPA hears and addresses community concerns as much as possible before deciding on the groundwater remediation remedy
- Clarify the scope of EPA's responsibilities related to Superfund issues versus other issues involving the Site and adjacent areas
- Help the community understand approaches and resources for obtaining information about issues that have limited or no involvement of EPA
- Identify key stakeholders and partners for implementation
- Clearly explain roles and responsibilities of government agencies and property owners for operations and maintenance and long-term services

#### Community involvement activities

Considering the history of the Site and ongoing community concerns, EPA plans to engage in a variety of activities designed to build and improve relationships and communication with the local community over the long term.

Consistent outreach and communications with key group and individuals

EPA will continue work to identify key stakeholder groups and specific methods of outreach for each, including through designated points of contact. Key stakeholder groups include the following:

- Nearby residents concerned about past and current health issues.
- Long-term residents who were part of or connected to the Baird and McGuire citizens Task Force.
- Residents in Holbrook and Randolph concerned about a potential remedy change at Baird and McGuire.
- Residents from vulnerable or marginalized groups who have not had significant opportunities to learn about the Site or health impacts and share their perspectives and concerns.

During the interviews and focus groups, residents suggested specific groups that could help EPA engage effectively with these stakeholders. For example, Holbrook residents highlighted their Board of Health, Council on Aging, the Town Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee, PTA groups, library, TV station, and popular social media groups, among others, as key potential points of contact or modes of outreach. In Randolph, residents pointed to their Board of Health, Conservation Commission, Senior Center, activist groups focused on food security, and church groups.

EPA will develop a working list of key points of contact from groups within both towns and solicit feedback on effective modes of outreach. When it comes time to publicize meetings, distribute fact sheets, and provide other information about ongoing activities on the Site, EPA will reach out to these contacts by email and, when necessary, by phone to solicit their support in reaching residents via multiple channels, including social media.

EPA will also develop and maintain a larger email list containing the contact information from all attendees at public meetings and use this list when communicating more generally about project activities. In addition, several stakeholders suggested that for older residents living near the site, internet use is inconsistent and a mailing would be the best way to reach people and ensure broad awareness of the meeting. For future large, open meetings or key information sharing, EPA will use a mailing to residents within one mile of the site.

In addition to publicizing and updating key information on its own dedicated <u>website</u> for the Site, EPA will also work with both Holbrook and Randolph to get key, up-to-date information about the Site and community engagement activities up on the websites of their respective Boards of Health.

In general, EPA expects to be in regular contact with key representatives from both Holbrook and Randolph, such as their Boards of Health, as it plans for ongoing community engagement. Immediate activities beginning in early 2022 will include further publicizing EPA's <u>FAQs</u> about the Site, working to get up-to-date information about the Site publicized on the towns' websites, and making individual connections with additional point of contact from groups within both towns to plan for more effective outreach moving forward. In addition, EPA has resources available through its <u>Technical Assistance</u> <u>Grant (TAG)</u> Program and its <u>Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) Program</u> to help communities understand technical issues related to superfund sites. EPA will be responsive to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> TAG provides funding to community groups to contract their own technical advisor to interpret and explain technical reports, site conditions, and EPA's proposed cleanup proposals and decisions. The TASC Program provides independent assistance through an EPA contract to help communities better understand the science, regulations and policies of environmental issues and EPA actions.

community inquiries about these programs and provide relevant information if the community expresses interest in them.

#### Key Indicators of Success

- EPA maintains a robust and inclusive contact list of organizations and individuals interested in EPA's work and updates this list annually;
- EPA is in direct communication with citizens and neighborhoods to announce meetings, major milestones, and key cleanup actions;
- EPA's website includes a dedicated Site presence that is kept up-to-date and includes clear, accessible language and navigation to various issues and documents; and
- EPA issues at least one fact sheet per year provided to all residents that provides work completed in the previous year and proposed for the coming year.

#### Environmental justice considerations

To address environmental justice issues in the surrounding community, EPA will engage in dedicated outreach to community organizations and leaders with connections to marginalized and vulnerable populations and solicit their input on community needs and preferences regarding outreach, meeting venues, times, formats, and access issues. EPA will begin with contacting the groups noted in the section above (e.g., Randolph Senior Center, Randolph community groups addressing food security, Holbrook Council on Aging, Holbrook DEI Committee), and seek these groups' input on who else should be contacted as well.

EPA will continue outreach to these stakeholders in advance of key project milestones, for example before any large-scale community meetings on public health, meetings on the results and implications of the pilot study, and any meetings on the potential remedy change.

Based on feedback from the interviews and focus groups, EPA expects it will be important to address EJ issues in an ongoing fashion through multiple measures, including providing translation of materials into multiple languages (Haitian Creole, Spanish, and Portuguese); providing physical mailings with FAQs, meeting announcements, and other relevant information; using dedicated outreach channels to reach specific populations; mixing the use of in-person and online meetings; hosting meetings at different times of day; and ensuring meetings are covered by local TV.

#### Key Indicators of Success

- EPA materials are translated into Haitian Creole, Spanish and Portuguese;
- EPA hosted meetings are held in a multiple of formats, times of day, days of week, to increase accessibility for diverse populations;
- EPA conducts active outreach to EJ designated neighborhoods through readable fact sheets, periodic direct engagement through neighborhood meetings, and door-to-door engagement periodically and when possible.

#### Interagency coordination

EPA will remain in regular contact with key interagency partners through frequent check-ins and planning meetings. For example, EPA will connect with MassDEP in advance of all community engagement meetings and workshops, and in general seek to co-design these meetings and workshops with MassDEP input. EPA will also connect with other state and federal agencies for specific

engagements. For example, EPA may connect with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and/or MassDPH in advance workshops or information sessions addressing public health issues. EPA will also bring in municipal staff and officials with responsibilities and expertise on these issues, such as the Holbrook and Randolph Boards of Health, to support the design of public meetings and other forms of engagement.

In general, EPA will serve in the lead role designing and coordinating engagement activities related to EPA regulatory activities but will consult closely with these partners to ensure coordination and integration for success with and for the community. EPA will also try to act as an effective conduit between members of the community that may have concerns or requests that go beyond EPA's jurisdiction or control, and other agencies that may be in a better position to respond to or meet the community's needs. For example, EPA will work to connect members of the community with an interest in additional health studies with agency representatives from MassDPH who may be able provide information or guidance on the steps needed to advance such a study. When it comes to the TLA-Holbrook issue, EPA will connect with MassDEP to get clarity on their public outreach and how interested residents can get engaged.

#### Key Indicators of Success

- EPA maintains regular communication with state agencies included MassDEP and MassDPH;
- EPA maintains regular communication with Towns' Boards of Health and Health Agents;
- EPA convenes an interagency meeting at a minimum every five years as part of the five-year review process, to engage all relevant state and federal agencies to share work being completed and issues raised by the public, and to develop, where possible, joint or at least coordinated communication, and additional meetings as needed as site work changes.

### Designing and managing effective meetings

EPA will strive to design and manage tailored and effective meetings to meet the community's needs. The breadth, variety and strength of community concerns suggest that it may be difficult to address too many issues or goals in a single meeting. Not all community members are interested in or prepared to engage on the same issues, and the strength of opinions among some members of the community, while important to hear and acknowledge, may make it difficult for other members of the community to participate effectively.

To address these dynamics, EPA will use a mix of small and large group meetings. Some smaller, more focused meetings will address issues of particular concern to specific subsets of the community, and present opportunities for participants to meet agency officials, ask questions, share information, and have more open discussions. EPA will work diligently to get the right people in the room (both participants and presenters) who can speak to or are interested in the topic and use a meeting format that is conducive to achieving the meeting goals.

In general, smaller meetings will allow for more participant interaction and less temptation to grandstand. To help get the right people in the room, EPA will work with credible, trusted town officials (such as the Holbrook Board of Health) to identify and invite community members with interest in engaging around the issue being addressed.

On issues where there is widespread community interest, however, small meetings may not be possible or advisable. EPA will host larger meetings open to all interested members of the community at key

milestones, including completion of the Pilot Test and consideration of any potential remedy change. The formats and agendas of such meetings will be conducive to community participation, questions, and feedback. For example, for large meetings, the "open house" or "poster session" meeting format can help support effective information sharing, and sometimes be combined with the town hall format. The formats can also be combined effectively in specific circumstances. While it is more difficult to host these kinds of meetings virtually, it is not impossible. (One option is the use of Zoom meetings where participants are allowed to move in and out of breakout rooms, each of which is addressing a different specific topic or is hosted by a different official.)

In all cases, EPA will provide clarity on the purpose of the meeting and role of the community, for example whether EPA is consulting with the community and seeking their input, simply sharing information, or in fact seeking to engage in joint decision-making with the community and/or its representatives.

In sharing information on the Site, EPA will use a variety of formats including narratives and words, charts, graphs, visual and graphic tools like storyboards, short videos, and fact sheets. EPA will strive as much as possible to keep its language and messaging extremely simple, clear, and accurate, and avoid technical jargon.

Overall, EPA expects to engage in small and/or large community meetings that touch on a variety of issues of interest to the community. On issues of <u>public health</u>, for example, EPA will seek to proactively provide answers to common health-related questions regarding both past and current exposure to contaminants on or near the Site, and bring in federal, state and/or local public health officials and experts who address additional questions and concerns in real time. EPA will seek to provide clarity on what kinds of current resources may be available to address the community's public health concerns and how to take advantage of them, and what kinds of resources are not available or unlikely. EPA will also seek to clarify opportunities and a potential pathway for the community to access additional resources. EPA will seek to involve MassDPH in sharing information on its past study on arsenic levels, and the possibility of additional studies moving forward.

EPA will ensure that whoever is presenting on public health information has significant expertise in the relationships between public health and environmental issues, and is skilled at communicating using simple, clear, and accessible language, and being sensitive to and responsive to residents' worries and questions. EPA will ensure that these presenters are perceived as impartial, expert, and trusted by bringing in independent scientists, doctors, or public health professionals and/or representatives from other agencies like ATSDR, if necessary.

With respect to issues related to the <u>pilot test results and potential remedy changes</u>, EPA will inform the community using simple, non-technical (but not overly simplified or inaccurate) messaging on opportunities and potential tradeoffs of the remedy change. EPA will provide basic information on issues like why a remedy change may be needed, why EPA conducted a pilot study, what the pilot study showed, the potential pros and cons of the remedy change, any risks, and what has happened at other sites where similar remedies have been utilized. EPA will be as clear as possible about opportunities for public comment and other forms of community input and respond to and address as much as possible community concerns about the remedy.

If, as EPA hopes, the agency can improve its relationship and communication with the community over time, in the future EPA could explore whether there is community interest in meetings and

communications about <u>potential future uses of the Site</u>. The goal of these sessions could be to help develop a positive community vision around how the site could be used to support and protect community needs and interests, as a guide for future decision-makers. For this type of meeting to work, however, there needs to be a baseline of trust and goodwill between the community and EPA, and a sense that difficult ongoing or past issues have been dealt with seriously and appropriately. Otherwise, community members may interpret the meeting as an effort to distract attention from these more difficult or immediate issues. Although EPA will plan for such meetings, they will therefore be contingent on making ongoing progress building community trust and relationships.

It will be important in future engagements that EPA listen to and address community concerns regarding the adjacent <u>TLA-Holbrook site</u>. In general, EPA will seek to provide clarity on EPA's role and jurisdiction with respect to the TLA-Holbrook site, and information on how members of the community can connect with other responsible parties/agencies such as the Solid Waste Division of MassDEP. EPA will provide as much clarity as possible how institutional controls on the TLA-Holbrook property are designed to protect the integrity of the Baird and McGuire cleanup, and how EPA works in coordination with MassDEP to implement them. At the same time, while respecting and acknowledging community concerns, EPA will provide consistent and clear messaging on the bounds of its authority. If the TLA-Holbrook issues come up in meetings that are intended to address other topics, EPA will listen respectfully, but also ensure that the discussion of TLA-Holbrook does not prevent or limit the exchange on other important issues impacting the community where EPA has more of a direct role.

## Key Indicators of Success

- EPA hosts a range of small meetings of local residents by neighborhood or interests as well as open, large public meetings;
- Participants in meetings report that such meetings are informative, understandable and provide for meaningful communication with EPA;
- EPA uses a variety of formats including narratives and words, charts, graphs, visual and graphic tools like storyboards, short videos, and fact sheets.
- EPA's materials are accessible to individuals with a range of education levels, ethnicities, races, first languages, and other differences.

## **APPENDICES**

#### List of Acronyms

ATSDR Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

CBI Consensus Building Institute
CIP Community Involvement Plan

El Environmental Justice

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

TAG Technical Assistance Grant

TASC Technical Assistance Services for Communities

## Baird & McGuire Community Assessment Survey Questions

Instructions: This survey is part of a Community Assessment that EPA is conducting regarding the Baird & McGuire Superfund Site in Holbrook, MA. The goal of the survey and the assessment overall are to better understand the interests of community members and other stakeholders on the cleanup and future of the site. In addition, EPA will be hosting a community meeting in early 2021 to share information on recent investigations at the site, introduce possible next steps, and receive additional community input. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability.

- 1. Your name (optional)
- 2. Which of the following describe you? (Check all that apply)
  - a. I am a resident of a neighborhood in close proximity to the Baird & McGuire site (i.e. within a half mile or 10-minute walk)
  - b. I own or work in a business in close proximity to the site (i.e. within a half mile or 10-minute walk)
  - c. I am a Holbrook resident
  - d. I am a Randolph resident
  - e. I am a member of the Holbrook town government
  - f. I am a member of the Randolph town government
  - g. Other (please specify)
- 3. How long have you lived or worked in this area?
  - a. Less than 5 years
  - b. 5-10 years
  - c. 10-15 years
  - d. More than 15 years
  - e. I do not live or work in the area

# 4. Which of the following describe your awareness of the Baird & McGuire site? (Check all that apply)

- a. I recall discussions in the 1980s and 90s around the Baird & McGuire site
- b. I became aware of the Baird & McGuire site more recently, for example because of the controversy over a Waste Transfer Station that has been proposed for a neighboring site
- c. I am not aware or have a very limited understanding of the Baird & McGuire site
- d. Other (please specify)
- 5. Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements on a scale of 1-5
  - a. I consider myself well informed about site cleanup that happened in the past
  - b. I consider myself well informed about continuing site cleanup
  - c. I want to see the site re-used for other activity
- 6. In any future community meetings with EPA and other agencies, I am most interested in (rate 1-5)
  - a. Learning about the pros and cons of different options for cleanup of the groundwater at the site (e.g., speed, effectiveness, proven track record, cost)
  - b. Learning about avenues for me and other community members to provide feedback on decisions about the cleanup moving forward
  - c. Learning about the potential exposure to contaminants and health impacts of engaging in different activities in light of current, future and past levels of contamination at the site
  - d. Sharing my perspective about the cleanup and other issues
  - e. Discussing whether or how the site could be re-used for other activity
  - f. Having an opportunity to connect with other members of the community who share an interest in the future of the site
  - g. Other (please specify)
- 7. In order to participate in any future community meetings with EPA, I prefer (select all that apply)
  - a. Remote, on-line meetings
  - b. In-person meetings, when possible
  - c. Day-time meetings
  - d. Night-time meetings
  - e. Fact sheets and written updates mailed to me
  - f. Access to on-line information from EPA about the site
  - g. Active involvement of my town government in these meetings
  - h. Other (please specify)
- 8. What forms of outreach would you recommend for informing people about upcoming community meetings (e.g., Facebook posting, mailings, flyers at Town Hall, email announcements, etc.)?
- 9. What else would you like us to know about your perspective on the site, the cleanup, or upcoming community engagement?
- 10. Would you like to be contacted regarding future meetings and other opportunities for community input and/or information sharing regarding the Baird & McGuire site?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No

At what email address would you like to be contacted? (optional)