

# Quanta Resources Superfund Site Update



April 2019



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) work to address contamination at the Quanta Resources Superfund site in Edgewater, NJ will be continuing this spring and will include new features in response to feedback from the community. The work to trap harmful contaminants present in soil at the site, called soil solidification, had been suspended in May 2018 to accommodate demolition of the 115 River Road building. Demolition of the building was completed in January 2019. Soil solidification work is expected to resume in early Spring 2019.

## Background on the Cleanup

The Quanta property was the home of a roofing tar plant for more than 100 years. Roofing tar was produced from coal tar, a dark-colored viscous liquid that contains naphthalene and smells like asphalt or mothballs. Under the direction of EPA, Honeywell is cleaning up the Quanta site. Cleanup work includes mixing cement into contaminated soil (a process called solidification) to permanently lock up coal tar, heavy metals, and waste oils so these contaminants cannot move. Some naphthalene vapors are likely when soil containing coal tar is disturbed. These vapors can also linger after construction workers have left the site.

## Changes to Soil Solidification Techniques

To maximize protectiveness to the surrounding community, the majority (90%) of the remaining cleanup activities at the site (soil solidification, stockpile management, and earth moving) will be conducted under tents to reduce emissions into the air as much as possible. These large, specialized structures will be fitted with air handling equipment that allow for work to be safely conducted within them. In addition, the tents' filtration units will remove about 95 percent of the site related airborne contaminants before venting to outside of the tent.



Soil solidification operations under tent

Because of physical interferences along River Road, the bulkhead, and a few other areas, approximately 10 percent of the remaining soil solidification will be performed outside of a tent. Vapor mitigation techniques, such as minimizing the size of the work areas and applying vapor suppression foam, will be used in these untented areas of the soil solidification.



In May 2017, EPA established a task force to restore the Superfund program to its rightful place at the center of the Agency's core mission to protect health and the environment.

[epa.gov/superfund/superfund-task-force](http://epa.gov/superfund/superfund-task-force)



### Actions to Address Vapors

Conservative action and screening levels allow EPA and Honeywell to manage the site in a way that maximizes protection of human health and the environment. When work resumes at the site, stockpiles and soil solidification will be managed under tent structures to control vapors. In addition, vapor mitigation techniques such as reducing the amount of work on exposed areas, covering disturbed soil with Posi-shell clay binders, non-toxic Rusmar foam, and plastic sheeting will continue.

### Outdoor Air Sampling

Multiple real-time fixed and mobile air monitors have been positioned on the perimeter of the Quanta site to measure dust and total volatile

organic compounds in the air. Also, air samples have been collected for laboratory analysis on the fence line of the site as well as residential properties and retail shopping areas north and south of the Quanta site. The data generated from the lab analysis of these samples provides a better understanding of the entire picture of air quality in the surrounding community.

Because EPA’s risk-based screening level for naphthalene is an average over the life of the project, EPA is calculating a running average at each residential building and commercial area. EPA set a risk-based screening level for naphthalene of 3.13  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (micrograms per cubic meter) for a full 24 hour a day residential exposure. The results for both the monitors and samplers are posted on [www.quantaremediation.com](http://www.quantaremediation.com).

### Indoor Air Sampling

In February 2019, EPA conducted the first of three indoor air sampling events on residential floors in buildings directly north of the site. This initial sampling was conducted to help determine a baseline level of naphthalene in the air entering the buildings during times when no work is occurring. These buildings were selected for sampling because they are directly adjacent to the Quanta site and first impacted by prevailing winds. Air samples will be analyzed for naphthalene, which is the primary constituent in the vapors coming from the Quanta Resources Superfund site during past earth moving activities. Two additional sampling events will be conducted while work is occurring at the site.

Proposed Monitoring Network for Phase 2



Air Monitoring/Sampling Locations

### Advancing Our Mission

EPA continues to protect public health and the environment by cleaning up the Quanta site. As we do this, we remain vigilant to ensure our mitigation efforts are done in a way that is mindful of impacts of the cleanup on our neighbors who live and work in the immediate vicinity. We welcome public feedback on our efforts and any concerns from the surrounding community.

#### For More Information, Contact:

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Call Quanta hotline at: 201-807-0991

Visit EPA’s website:

[www.epa.gov/superfund/quanta-resources](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/quanta-resources)

For project updates, schedule, and air monitoring data from Honeywell, visit:  
[www.quantaremediation.com](http://www.quantaremediation.com)

### Community Hotline

A hotline has been established a hotline that people can call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. During hours when work is being conducted at the site, complaints and concerns will be relayed to a supervisor at the site and to EPA. **The hotline number is 201-807-0991.**