



Franklin Slag Pile

Port Richmond, Philadelphia

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Why this meeting? Why now?

- The EPA proposed on Sept. 13 to make the Franklin Slag Pile a Superfund site
- We would like to explain the proposal, get your feedback and answer questions
- Talk about what you can expect in the future

What does it mean to be a Superfund site?

- Environmental contamination at a Superfund site may pose a risk to public health and/or the environment.
- The EPA can use federal funding to address contamination.
- Or, we can get the polluters to clean it up with our oversight.

Where and what is the Franklin Slag Pile? (see map on back of sheet)

- A large pile of copper slag, a byproduct of the former Franklin Smelting and Refining operation which is now defunct.
- The slag contains heavy metals such as beryllium, cadmium and lead.
- Located on a four-acre lot bordered by:
 - CONRAIL to the north;
 - property of the Philadelphia Water Company to the north and east;
 - Delaware Avenue and Tioga Marine Terminal to the southeast;
 - Castor Avenue and the Philadelphia Gas works property to southwest;
 - Delaware River is less than a quarter mile to the southeast.

What is the risk and what has EPA done about it so far?

- The slag blew off site and covered surrounding properties.
- Storm drains that empty into the Delaware River were caked with slag.
- From January to October 2000 the EPA cleaned slag off the surrounding properties and storm drains, put a cover over the slag pile and fenced it off.
- Now, we need a permanent, long-term solution for addressing the slag pile so that slag does not enter the surrounding community or environment.

What are the next steps?

- 60-day public comment period for public feedback— ends November 13, 2001
- Franklin Slag Pile officially put on the Superfund list – winter 2001 or spring 2002
- Comprehensive study of the site called Remedial Investigation
- Feasibility Study which explores options for addressing contamination
- Record of Decision in which EPA chooses the best option
- The EPA or polluter carries out that option to address the contamination