

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Horton & Iron Metal Site
Wilmington, New Hanover County,
North Carolina



Proposed Plan Fact Sheet

April 2018

**Public meeting to discuss the
Proposed Plan**

**Thursday, April 19, 2018
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

**Cape Fear Community College
Union Station
5th Floor Rm 527
411 N Front Street
Wilmington, North Carolina**

Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed a plan to clean up the Horton Iron & Metal Superfund Site (Site), located in Wilmington, North Carolina. This fact sheet discusses the EPA's proposed plan to address both environmental impacts and risks to human health resulting from former fertilizer manufacturing and ship demolition at the Site.

The public is encouraged to comment on the plan during the comment period beginning April 16, 2018 ending May 16, 2018. EPA will also hold a public meeting to present the proposed plan and answer questions on Thursday, April 19, 2018 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Wilmington, North Carolina.

Proposed Plan

EPA evaluated various alternatives to address contaminants at the Site, including arsenic, lead, mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and several polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) that have been found in soil, groundwater, boat slip sediment and marsh area sediment. Options were evaluated with respect to their effectiveness in protecting human health and the environment, ease of implementation, time required to achieve cleanup goals, and cost. EPA's preferred cleanup remedies are expected to take two years and cost \$13,122,600 which are to be funded by responsible parties.

- Removal of the sunken barge remnants from the boat slips followed by treatment of the contaminated sediment in place. The boat slips and area between then would be designated as a waste management area, and any "hot spots" of highly contaminated soils within the area would be treated in place.
- Treatment, if required, of contaminated soils outside of the designated waste management area. This soil would be excavated and consolidated within the waste management area. The entire waste management area would then be covered with clean soil.
- If necessary, treatment of contaminated groundwater beyond the limits of the waste management area. Afterward, groundwater would be monitored for a five-year period to determine whether additional groundwater treatment is needed.
- Excavation of the soil immediately adjacent to the tidal marsh area (within approximately 100 feet) to prevent future impacts or ecological risk in the marsh area sediment. Excavated soil will be treated and placed in a designated waste management area onsite.
- Lastly, both existing and new institutional controls would be required to ensure on-Site groundwater is not used for drinking and to restrict current and future land use to commercial uses.

We want your comments!

The EPA relies on public input to ensure the concerns of the community are considered in selecting an effective remedy for each Superfund Site.

The public is encouraged to comment on the documents from:

April 16, 2018 – May 16, 2018

Public Comment

EPA relies on public input to ensure the concerns of the community are considered in selecting an effective remedy for each Superfund site. The 30-day public comment period runs from April 16, 2018 through May 16, 2018.

The Proposed Plan and associated documents related to the Site are posted online and also available for review in the information repository housed at the New Hanover County Public Library, 201 Chestnut Street in Wilmington.

Written comments may be e-mailed to thorpe.peter@epa.gov or mailed (postmarked no later than May 16, 2018) to: Peter Thorpe, U.S. EPA Region 4, Superfund Division - 11th Floor, 61 Forsyth Street SW, Atlanta, GA 30303.

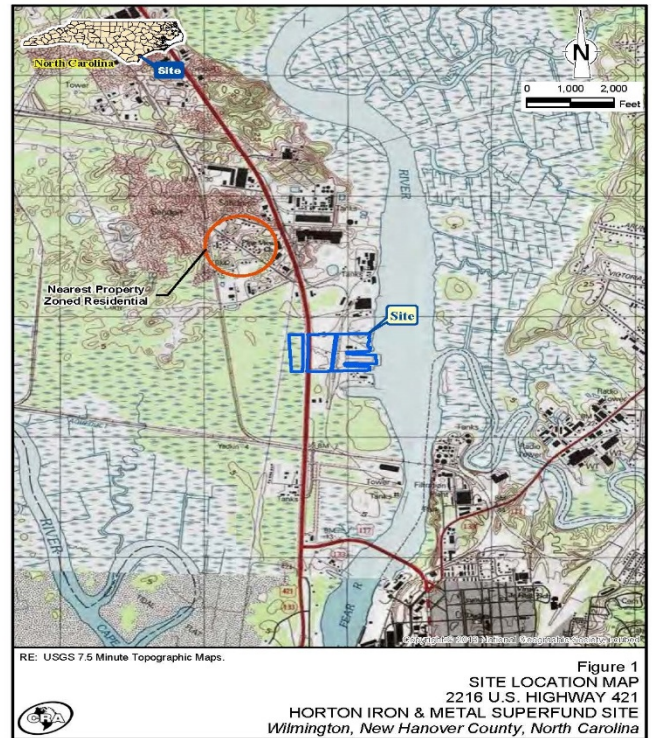
After considering comments and questions during the public comment period, the EPA will summarize the comments and provide responses in a Responsiveness Summary which will be part of the Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD will document the final remedial action chosen and provide the rationale for the EPA's selection.

Background

The 42-acre Site is located at 2216 U.S. Highway 421 North in Wilmington, N.C., and is bounded by the VC Chemical-Almont Works Site to the north, the Northeast Cape Fear River to the east and the Sigma Recycling property to the south (see figure above). Ammonium phosphate fertilizer was produced at the Site between 1911 and 1959, which left contaminants behind. During the 1960s and 1970s, metal salvaging and ship demolition activities were performed at the Site. Contaminants associated with ship breaking include asbestos, PCBs, semi-volatile organic compounds and metals. The portion of the Site located west of the railroad spur between U.S. Highway 421 and the railroad remains in operation by Horton as a metal scrap, salvage and recycling yard, and was never used for fertilizer manufacturing or ship breaking.

Previous Site Activities

The Horton Iron & Metal Site was placed on the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) in 2011. EPA conducted a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study as well as additional sampling investigations from 2013 to 2016. The Remedial Investigation consisted of soil, sediment, groundwater and surface water sampling.



CONTACTS

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Website

www.epa.gov/superfund/horton-iron-metal

Information Repository

New Hanover County Public Library
201 Chestnut Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

Name: _____

Address: _____

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