

NPL Site Narrative for Homestake Mining Co.

HOMESTAKE MINING CO. Milan, New Mexico

Conditions at listing (October 1981): The Homestake Mining Co. has operated a uranium mill near Milan, New Mexico, since 1958. Seepage from two large tailings ponds on the site has contaminated a shallow aquifer that provides water to residents in several downgradient subdivisions. The water is unsafe for drinking and cooking.

Status (July 1983): The State is requiring the company to undertake long-term restoration of the aquifer through a Ground Water Discharge Plan. The company is collecting contaminated water in the shallow aquifer in wells and is injecting water from a deeper uncontaminated aquifer in an effort to flush and improve the quality of the contaminated shallow aquifer.

EPA negotiated with the company to supply an alternate source of drinking water for residents of the subdivisions. A Consent Decree signed in June 1983 provides for extension of the Village of Milan public water system to the subdivisions. Under terms of the Decree, Homestake will pay for extension of the system and hookup of individual residences, as well as monthly water charges for 10 years.

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.