



West Lake Update

August 6, 2019

OPERABLE UNIT 3 REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION AND FEASIBILITY STUDY PROCESS

For Operable Unit 3 (OU-3), the purpose of the Remedial Investigation (RI) is to define the nature and extent of site-wide contamination in groundwater



and to determine whether site-related contamination presents risks to human health and the environment. If unacceptable levels of risk are present now or potentially in the future due to releases from the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site, remedy alternatives to address groundwater contamination will be developed in the Feasibility Study (FS). The purpose of the FS is to identify and evaluate potential remedies to address contamination at a site.

The potentially responsible parties are performing the RI/FS work pursuant to an enforceable agreement under EPA oversight. Some of this work includes, but is not limited to, conducting a well inventory; installing additional groundwater monitoring wells; sampling new and existing groundwater monitoring wells; determining background concentrations; and using predictive groundwater modeling tools. It is anticipated that at least two years of site-wide groundwater sampling will be performed to collect and analyze samples for a wide range of site-related contaminants, including radionuclides. Two years of groundwater sampling is necessary to account for seasonal fluctuations in groundwater and to provide a more robust data set. Risks to human health and the environment will be evaluated in a Baseline Risk Assessment for OU-3.

EPA will continue to engage and work with its state and federal partners throughout the RI/FS process for OU-3. EPA is already working closely with groundwater experts at the United States Geologic Survey (USGS) as well as with the Missouri Department of

Natural Resources in reviewing documents required as a part of the OU-3 RI/FS process. The three agencies will collaborate on technical reviews and oversight of the OU-3 investigative field work.

CURRENT GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS

Groundwater flow in the area is towards the north and generally in the same direction as the flow of the Missouri River. The existing leachate collection system that captures liquid leaching from the Bridgeton Landfill can have substantial effects on groundwater in the immediate area. Waste and native materials in the sub-surface also interact with groundwater. These interactions will be further studied during the OU-3 remedial investigation.

In December 2014, the USGS released an initial report titled, "Background Groundwater Quality, Review of 2012-14 Groundwater Data and Potential Origin of Radium at the West Lake Landfill Site, St. Louis County, Missouri". The OU-3 RI/FS will build upon data and information collected as a part of prior site groundwater investigations and information presented in the USGS report. Existing data from some of the on-site monitoring wells indicates groundwater has been impacted. Landfill leachate has been detected in groundwater sampled on-site, as has radium which exceeded the Safe Drinking Water Act Maximum Contaminant Level. Potential sources of radium in groundwater include naturally occurring materials, radiologically impacted material (RIM) from Operable Unit 1, or possibly other materials not related to the RIM located within the landfill. The sources, levels, and potential risks associated with radium and other site-related contaminants found in groundwater will be further studied and evaluated during the remedial investigation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR OPERABLE UNIT 3

The agency is fully committed to a robust community engagement program to ensure stakeholders and members of the public have an opportunity to meaningfully participate in the Superfund process. We will

continue this commitment to engaging with the public throughout the OU-3 RI/FS process.

The EPA continues to support the Community Advisory Group (CAG), as well as the CAG Technical Committee, to provide project status updates, respond to questions, and engage in site-related discussions with members of the community. The EPA will also continue to publish West Lake Update newsletters at key milestones to provide site-related information and transparency as the investigation progresses.



Consistent with the National Contingency Plan, the EPA will make relevant site-information available to the public and will work to ensure the public has appropriate opportunities for involvement. Further, EPA will make the Administrative Record File available to the public for review prior to issuance of a Record of Decision for OU-3.

Additionally, the EPA will continue to make the Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) contract available for community use. The TASC contractor for this Site, Skeo Solutions, Inc., is an independent contractor that provides technical assistance to the community upon request. Skeo Solutions, Inc. has supported the West Lake Landfill community since 2013 in this role.

On June 10, 2019, EPA provided information regarding the planning phase of the OU-3 RI/FS process to the Technical Committee of the Community Advisory Group. The slides used for this presentation may be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/westlake-landfill>

ADMINISTRATOR WHEELER MEETS WITH WEST LAKE STAKEHOLDERS

On Tuesday, July 30, EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler met with West Lake Landfill site stakeholders in Bridgeton, Missouri. The Administrator met with Harvey Ferdman, chair of the Community Advisory Group; Dawn Chapman and Karen Nickel, Co-founders of Just Moms STL; Ed Smith, policy director for the Missouri Coalition for the Environment; and Bridgeton Mayor Terry Briggs. Administrator Wheeler emphasized the importance of continued progress toward remedy implementation at the site and EPA's commitment to protecting the Bridgeton community.



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