



West Lake Update

January 24, 2023

Operable Unit 1 Design Investigation Update; Technical Committee Meeting

Operable Unit 1 Design Investigation Update

The Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs), under EPA oversight, have completed the field work for the Design Investigation (DI) at the West Lake Landfill Operable Unit 1 (OU-1). The purpose of this two-year investigation was to collect additional information necessary to design and implement the remedy selected in the [2018 Record of Decision Amendment \(RODA\)](#). A Design Investigation (sometimes referred to as a Pre-Design Investigation) is commonly conducted at EPA Remedial sites after remedy selection in order to collect any additional data needed to design a site-specific remedy.

The DI for the West Lake Site was required to:

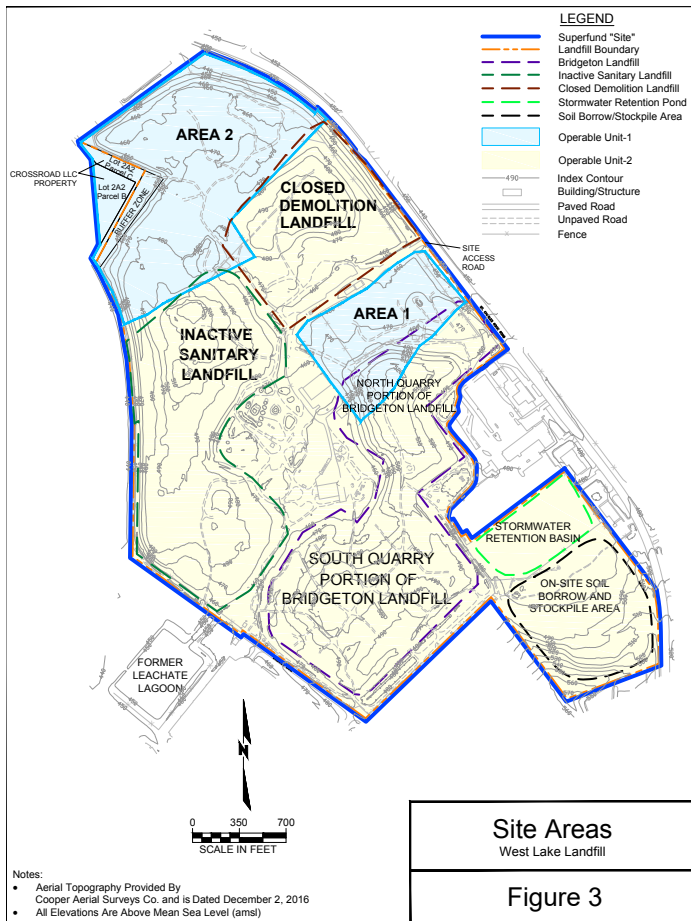
- 1) Evaluate the extent of radiologically impacted material, or RIM, in the Buffer Zone and Lot 2A2 of the Crossroads Industrial Park.
- 2) Perform additional background characterization to determine statistically valid background concentrations for the Buffer Zone and Lot 2A2.
- 3) Confirm the boundary between OU-1 and Operable Unit 2 (OU-2).
- 4) Evaluate the extent of historical impacts, if any, in drainage areas and surface water bodies on the east and west sides of OU-1.
- 5) Perform additional characterization to determine the location and concentration of RIM in order to:

- a. Develop a detailed excavation plan.
- b. Optimize the excavation to remove RIM required by the remedy, but to disturb as little landfill waste as possible.
- c. Identify the area where the engineered cover is required to be placed.
- d. Characterize the materials to be shipped off-site to identify the requirements for a final disposal facility(s), and establish material/waste management handling, loading, and transportation procedures.

OU-1 is comprised of areas that contain RIM greater than 7.9 picocuries per gram (pCi/g), and OU-2 is made up of landfilled areas that do not contain RIM. While implementing the DI requirement to confirm the boundary between OU-1 and OU-2, additional RIM was identified south of OU-1 Area 2 in portions of the Construction and Demolition Landfill (CDL) and the Inactive Sanitary Landfill (ISL). The DI evaluated RIM in the CDL and ISL to establish the new boundary between OU-1 and OU-2. The figure provided, referenced from the 2018 RODA, displays the location of these landfills in relation to Area 1 and Area 2. While this additional investigation did significantly extend the field work schedule, the information collected is critical to ensure that the excavation design will meet the requirement of the RODA and that the engineered cover system will be placed over all RIM that will remain on-site. All the data collected during the DI will be presented in a Design Investigation Evaluation Report, which is due to EPA on Jan. 31, 2023.

Technical Committee Meeting

On Dec. 13, 2022, EPA met with members of the Community Advisory Group (CAG) and Technical Committee (TCAG), along with elected officials at Bridgeton City Hall, to provide an update on the OU-1 Design Investigation and present stormwater sampling data to the group. Members of the site team went through the results of the stormwater samples collected after the historical July 2022 rain event and informed the group there were no exceedances of the radionuclides analyzed. The presentation also provided details regarding the OU-1 Design Investigation field work, which was completed in September 2022. The presentation is available [online](#).



OU-1 2018 RODA Figure 3

Site Resources

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West Lake Community Liaison: EPA's West Lake Landfill community liaison, Jessica Evans, is available every week at Bridgeton City Hall to speak with the public. Please call Jessica at 314-296-8182 for details.