



West Lake Update

April 25, 2023

Upcoming Public Meeting and Operable Unit 3 Update

Upcoming Operable Unit 1 Design Investigation Public Meeting

EPA will host a Public Meeting on the Operable Unit 1 Design Investigation on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at Machinists Hall, 12365 St. Charles Rock Rd., Bridgeton, Missouri. The meeting will consist of a Public Availability Session starting at 6 p.m., followed by a Technical Presentation and Question-and-Answer Session beginning at 7 p.m. At the Public Availability Session, representatives from EPA will be available with maps and figures for one-on-one discussions and questions. The Technical Presentation will include an update on the recent Design Investigation work for Operable Unit 1, the areas at the West Lake Landfill that have radiological contamination, and information about the next steps in the Remedial Design process. Following the formal presentation, EPA will facilitate a Question-and-Answer Session until 9 p.m.

Operable Unit 3 Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Update

Summary

Additional groundwater monitoring well drilling and installation activities are planned to begin this spring, as part of the ongoing West Lake Landfill Operable Unit 3 (OU-3) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). West Lake Landfill OU-3 addresses sitewide groundwater. Work performed for the OU-3 RI/FS does not affect the OU-1 Remedial Design work or timeline.

While EPA has not identified any current way for the public to come into contact with, or be impacted by, groundwater from the site, the OU-3 investigation performed over the last two years

has identified some potential contamination in the groundwater off-site. Additional well locations are needed to define the extent of off-site contamination and complete the Remedial Investigation (RI). Final conclusions regarding the source and extent of contamination and any potential exposures will be presented in the RI report. If EPA identifies any potential exposures during the RI process, the Agency will address them promptly. Additional information regarding the OU-3 groundwater investigation and RI/FS can be found on the [West Lake Landfill Site Profile page](#), and specifically in previous [West Lake Updates](#) from September 2022, July 2021, June 2020, and August 2019.

Field Work Update

Groundwater sampling of the existing wells started in November 2020 and continued quarterly while the new wells proposed in the [RI/FS Work Plan](#) were being installed. As new wells were completed, they were added to the sampling program. The first round of quarterly sampling with all site wells, including off-site wells, was conducted in August 2022. Laboratory data from that sampling event identified some groundwater contamination in off-site wells.

Detections of contaminants in off-site groundwater monitoring wells include metals, radionuclides, semi-volatile organic compounds, and volatile organic compounds. A comprehensive list of all chemicals detected above screening levels at off-site wells can be found in the [Step-In/Step Out Well Installation Addendum](#). Screening levels are used during the RI to help evaluate whether additional investigation is necessary. It is important to note that many metals and radionuclides, such as arsenic and radium, are naturally occurring and additional evaluation is necessary to determine

if they are contamination coming from the site. It is too soon to know whether the radionuclides are related to the Manhattan Project waste in the landfill or are naturally occurring.

While concentrations of certain analytes in groundwater may exceed a screening level and require additional investigation, that does not mean that anyone is being exposed to contamination in the water. There are no known private drinking water wells, public water supply wells, or surface water intake locations in or immediately downgradient of the area where off-site groundwater contamination has been detected. This information will continue to be reviewed on a regular basis as new data is collected. If you are aware of any private wells in the vicinity of the West Lake Landfill, please contact Jessica Evans at 314-296-8182 or evans.jessica@epa.gov with that information.

In accordance with the RI/FS Work Plan, a Step-In/Step-Out Well Installation Addendum was submitted to EPA, proposing installation of seven additional off-site wells with a total of 15 sampling intervals. Placement of the proposed wells was based upon groundwater flow data, indicating a generally west-northwesterly flow, and contaminant-specific data. While EPA approved the proposed well locations depicted in the figure below, it is possible that additional wells may be needed

in the future to define groundwater contamination from the site and support decisions about clean-up activities. If EPA determines that additional groundwater monitoring wells are necessary, additional Work Plan Addenda will be developed to support completion of the groundwater monitoring well network.

EPA presented this information, including a summary of OU-3 findings to date, at the Community Advisory Group (CAG) Technical Committee meeting held April 6, 2023, at Bridgeton City Hall. The slides presented at that meeting are available on the [West Lake Landfill Site Profile page](#).

2022 Annual Report

EPA is currently reviewing the West Lake Landfill OU-3 2022 Annual Report, which provides updates on the work completed over the last year, including the first quarter of groundwater data collected from the off-site and background groundwater monitoring wells. Once EPA has completed reviewing the 2022 Annual Report, a copy will be shared with the public on the [West Lake Landfill Site Profile page](#) along with any comments generated during the review.

Site Resources

[West Lake Dashboard](#)
[Superfund Site Profile](#)

Find us on

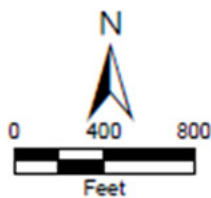
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West Lake Community Liaison: EPA's West Lake Landfill community liaison, Jessica Evans, is available every week at Bridgeton City Hall to speak with the public. Please call Jessica at 314-296-8182 for details.



Note:
 For clarity, this figure is focused on a portion of the Site to show the proposed well locations and does not illustrate the full extent of the on-site and off-site monitoring well network.

- Legend**
- Proposed Well Location
 - Onsite Monitoring Well Location
 - Offsite Monitoring Well Location
 - X Site Fence Line
 - West Lake Landfill Site Boundary



West Lake Landfill
 Bridgeton, Missouri

Figure 1
 On-Site and Off-Site Well Locations
 April 2023



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 Source: ESRI Data Map, Imagery, 2022

Date: 4/17/2023

Drawn By: U.S. EPA Region 7