

NPL Partial Site Deletion Narrative

Jacobs Smelter Stockton, Utah

On November 29, 2005, EPA deleted a portion of the Jacobs Smelter Superfund site from the National Priorities List (NPL). This partial deletion pertains only to Operable Unit 3 (OU3) and does not include the other portions of the site.

The Jacobs Smelter site is located in and around Stockton, Utah. During the late 1800s, Stockton was the home to numerous smelting operations. The Jacobs Smelter was located in the town of Stockton near the current location of the Stockton Yard (OU3). Contamination on OU3 is likely the result of sediments entrained in process water that was allowed to flow down-gradient across the railroad right of way as well as spillage from an ore-loading facility that was built for the transportation of ores to other mills and smelters. OU3 is a long irregularly shaped property consisting of the Union Pacific Rail Road (UPRR) right of way. It is 1,625 feet long and has an average width of 200 feet.

EPA Region 8 conducted a screening investigation of OU3 surface soils to evaluate potential lead and arsenic contamination in August 1998. This investigation identified soil lead concentrations ranging from 837 to 12,000 parts per million (ppm). An analysis for arsenic was also conducted and results appeared correlated. Lead and arsenic were identified as contaminants of concern. Additional sampling was completed in February 1999 on the east side of the Stockton Yard railroad lines to delineate lead contamination. In June 1999, additional investigations of lead in surface soils on the west side of the railroad lines were completed. Total lead concentrations ranged from 164 to 1,958 ppm.

The industrial action level set by the EPA was 1,200 ppm total lead. Soils exceeding this 1,200 ppm cleanup level encompassed approximately 3.6 acres on the east side of the railroad tracks and approximately 0.70 acre on the west side of the tracks. The selected remedy for OU3 was soil cover. Site preparation included the removal of large vegetation and debris from the areas to be capped.

The contaminated soil was compacted and capped with 12 inches of clean soil and 4 inches of top soil. UPRR sowed the remediated area with a combination of wild rye, sagebrush, and two grasses. UPRR also built 6-foot high chain link fences along the edge of Silver Avenue and Plaza Street. A Declaration of Restrictions was filed by UPRR in Toole County to limit future use of the site.

The EPA, with concurrence of the state of Utah, has determined that all appropriate responses under CERCLA have been completed at OU3 and that no further response actions under CERCLA are necessary.