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US Magnesium Superfund Site

Rowley Facility, Tooele County, Utah

Community Involvement Plan

September 2012

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is committed to promoting communication between citizens and the agency.

Active public participation is crucial to the success of any public project.

This Community Involvement Plan is the foundation for community involvement activities at the US Magnesium Superfund Site.

Community involvement activities are designed to, at a minimum:

- ***Inform and involve the public in the investigation and identification of the environmental issues associated with the site,***
- ***Involve the public in the development of feasible remedial responses,***
- ***Involve the public in the Superfund decision-making process to determine final remedial actions, and***
- ***Inform the public of the progress being made to implement the remedy***

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Introduction

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) was passed by Congress in 1980 to address the dangers of abandoned or uncontrolled sites contaminated with hazardous substances. CERCLA-implementing regulations of the National Contingency Plan (NCP) (40 CFR, Subchapter J, Part 300) is the federal government's blueprint for responding to both oil spills and hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. The NCP established the National Priorities List (NPL), which is a list of some of the most contaminated sites in the nation, commonly referred to as Superfund sites. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) added US Magnesium to the NPL in November 2009. As a result, EPA is implementing an environmental investigation and cleanup at US Magnesium in accordance with CERCLA and the NCP, referred to as the Superfund cleanup process.

EPA recognizes that Americans have the right to be involved in the governmental decisions that affect their lives. CERCLA, as implemented by the NCP, requires that specific community involvement activities must occur at certain points throughout the Superfund process. In CERCLA, Congress was clear about its intent for EPA to provide every opportunity for residents of affected communities to become active participants in the process and to have a say in the decisions that affect their community. The intent of the law stated in the NCP [40 CFR 300.430(2)(ii)]: is "(A) Ensure the public appropriate opportunities for involvement in a wide variety of site-related decisions, including site analysis and characterization, alternatives analysis, and selection of remedy; and (B) Determine, based on community interviews, appropriate activities to ensure such public involvement."

The foundation for involving the interested public and stakeholders at Superfund sites across the nation is the Community Involvement Plan (CIP). The CIP is one of a number of community involvement activities required by the NCP [40 CFR section 300.430(2)(ii)(A-C)]. The NCP states that "The lead agency shall provide for the conduct of the following community relations activities to the extent practical, prior to commencing field work for the remedial investigation: (ii) Preparing a formal Community Involvement Plan based on the community interviews and other relevant information, specifying the community relations activities that the lead agency expects to undertake during the remedial response."

The CIP should be a living document and is most effective when it is updated or revised as site conditions change. The NCP requires that the CIP be reviewed and revised, if appropriate, after the final remedy decisions are issued in a Record of Decision, during the remedial design, but before remedial action. Additionally, EPA will update this CIP on an ongoing basis throughout the process when site activities warrant, or at least every three years, as stated in the 1993 Government Performance and Results Act.

The CIP specifies the outreach activities that EPA will use to address community concerns and expectations, as learned from the community interviews and by other means. EPA will work with US Magnesium to ensure that the communities receive up-to-date and accurate information regarding the site.

The CIP is useful to the site team in determining appropriate activities for community involvement throughout the Superfund Process. A CIP should also enable community members affected by a Superfund site to understand the ways in which they can participate in the Superfund site cleanup decision making process and to ensure that EPA is being responsive. Plans are individualized to the needs of each affected community and are based largely on community interviews and information obtained from media reports, informal conversations, and other means.

EPA and Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ) staff have met many stakeholders interested in the US Magnesium site numerous times since 2009. EPA community involvement staff defines stakeholders at the US Magnesium site as anyone interested in or affected by the site. In September and November 2011, and April 2012, EPA and UDEQ staff met with local residents, government officials, elected officials, business leaders, tribal leaders, members of community organizations, and others in and around Tooele County and Salt Lake City, Utah. These formal community interviews plus earlier meetings and conversations serve as the foundation of this Community Involvement Plan.

US Magnesium and Nearby Community Description and Background

Site Overview

The area of remedial investigation studies for the US Magnesium site encompasses approximately 75 square miles in Tooele County, Utah, in which EPA has established a 5-mile radius remedial investigation/feasibility study boundary around the facility. At the center of the study area is an active magnesium manufacturing facility and associated wastes on company-owned and leased land. The current owners/operators are US Magnesium, LLC. The site is located in a scarcely populated area, with the closest population center being the town of Grantsville, approximately 25 air miles away. The town of Tooele is approximately 35 air miles southeast of the site and Salt Lake City is approximately 40 air miles to the east. The Goshute Skull Valley Reservation is located approximately 30 miles to the south, and various ranches and recreational areas are scattered throughout the area.

US Magnesium sits between the Lakeside Mountains, two miles to the west, and the Great Salt Lake directly to the north and east. Skull Valley, bounded by the Cedar Mountains and the Stansbury Mountains, begins just below the site and runs southward.

The site is located within three miles of the Great Salt Lake water line, and is immediately adjacent to the Great Salt Lake shoreline mudflats. The Great Salt Lake is an ecosystem that attracts millions of birds per year and houses many unique plants and animals as well as certain species of federal and state concern.

The US Magnesium facility has been producing magnesium at the site since 1972 and is the only remaining magnesium producer in the United States. Other countries that produce magnesium include Venezuela, the Russian Federation, Israel, and China (with the largest production into the global market). The number of global producers of magnesium metal has decreased markedly in recent decades. Magnesium is an important component of metal alloys, and is a critical catalyst required in producing titanium. These metals are increasingly important in 21st-century manufacturing and products. The US Magnesium facility employs 530 people, 125 contractors, and supplies critical raw materials to the ATI titanium manufacturing and Hill Brothers Chemical plants.

The primary chemical process conducted at the US Magnesium facility is the concentration and refinement of magnesium metal from Great Salt Lake brine. To accomplish this, Great Salt Lake water is delivered via a canal to a series of large evaporation ponds to the southeast of the facility. The concentrated brine solution from the last of these evapo-concentration ponds is pumped into a series of lined ponds located at the facility for concentrated brine storage. The final concentrated brine is then treated to remove boron and sulfates.

The resultant brine is then spray-dried to produce an impure anhydrous magnesium chloride-rich powder. This powder is then melted and chlorinated to convert the magnesium oxide into magnesium chloride, which then undergoes an electrolysis process to separate molten magnesium metal from chlorine gas. The molten magnesium is cast into ingots and other products. Chlorine and hydrochloric acid are also produced from plant processes, and are then used in other processes or sold. These processes generate acidic waste streams containing organochlorine contaminants.

EPA added US Magnesium to the NPL of Superfund sites based on known releases of hazardous substances into the air and soil. Remedial investigations at the site will evaluate all potential sources, releases, and pathways of exposure. Past investigations have indicated contaminant concentrations at the site that were elevated above risk-based thresholds. Contaminants consist of: acidic waste water, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), dioxins/furans, hexachlorobenzene (HCB), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and metals.

Area Maps

US Magnesium, Great Salt Lake and Surrounding Communities

US Magnesium Remedial Investigation Study Area

US Magnesium Facility Map/Site Features

US Magnesium Site Photos

Pipe leading to "chlorine ditch."

Ditches leading to waste lagoons.

Slurry-wastes discharging onto Gypsum Pile.

"Active" waste-lagoon, landfill and plant in distance.

"Old Lakebed" waste-lagoon.

Electrolytic-cell residue.

Regulatory History

On September 3, 2008, EPA announced in the Federal Register its proposal to add US Magnesium to the NPL. EPA received input from area stakeholders in advance of the proposal. EPA also announced the proposal in the *Salt Lake Tribune* newspaper on September 3, 2008 and on its website.

EPA held a comment period of 60 days on the proposal to list US Magnesium on the NPL. EPA received 115 letters and petitions in support of the listing and 3 in opposition. US Magnesium requested an extension to the public comment period of 60 days, and EPA granted a 20 day extension to the public comment period.

On November 2, 2009, EPA, with support from the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ), announced in the Federal Register and issued a press release that it had added US Magnesium to the NPL. On November 4, EPA sent an email to stakeholders on its mailing list and updated its website with information regarding the NPL listing. EPA issued a public notice in the *Tooele Transcript* on November 26 and the *Salt Lake Tribune* on November 25 to announce the NPL listing.

On Nov. 4, 2009 US Magnesium filed with the U.S. District Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C. an appeal of EPA's listing as a Superfund Site. This Court of Appeals issued rulings in August 2010 rejecting US Magnesium's appeal.

In January 2010, EPA and UDEQ community involvement staff and project managers held a series of meetings to introduce themselves to interested stakeholders and to discuss the listing.

On August 4, 2011, EPA filed an administrative order on consent with US Magnesium, LLC for the performance of the remedial investigation (RI) and feasibility study (FS). The consent order provides that US Magnesium will conduct the Superfund RI/FS for the site in accordance with EPA direction, procedures and subject to EPA oversight. The goal of the RI is to determine the nature and extent of contamination at the site. The purpose of the FS is to evaluate potential cleanup alternatives based on information gathered during the RI.

In September and November 2011, and April 2012, EPA and UDEQ community involvement and project management staff conducted formal community interviews with interested stakeholders as a basis for developing this CIP.

Community Profiles

Grantsville Town Hall

Historic Hilda Erickson Cabin

Tooele City Hall

Timpie Springs Wildlife Management area

EPA recognizes that the people living and working closest to the site are most affected by the Superfund designation and subsequent activities. Once a site such as US Magnesium is listed on the NPL, EPA community involvement staff work to ensure that the communities surrounding the site are informed and involved throughout the Superfund process.

EPA considers residents in Tooele County as the local and potentially most affected community because these residents are living nearest the site. EPA also considers residents of the Salt Lake Valley, including residents of Salt Lake and Davis Counties, as members of the interested community.

In a CIP, EPA typically provides a profile of the local communities most potentially affected by the site contamination, NPL designation, and subsequent activities. Below are the community profiles for Tooele County and the towns of Grantsville and Tooele. The information was collected mainly from the U.S. Census Bureau, the Tooele city and county websites, and the Grantsville website.

Tooele County

Tooele County is a Basin and Range County. Most of the towns located in the county lie in a broad valley between the Oquirrh mountains to the east and the Onaqui and Stansbury mountains to the west. The Great Salt Lake Desert covers most of western Tooele County, except the southwest corner where the Deep Creek Mountains rise. The total area of Tooele County is 7,287 square miles, and it is the second largest county in Utah.

Prehistoric Indian sites have been discovered in the county, but it is the Goshutes, a branch of the Western Shoshone, who claim the area as their ancestral homeland. The Skull Valley band of the Goshutes currently has a reservation in Skull Valley.

In 1849, the first white settlers, Latter-day-Saints, led by Ezra T. Benson established a permanent settlement in the area calling it “E.T. City” after Benson. Tuilla, as it was originally spelled, was one of six counties created in January 1850. Its boundaries were changed a number of times before it achieved its present size. The early settler farmed, built gristmills and sawmills, and manufactured salt, charcoal, lime, adobe bricks and woolen products. Large sheep and cattle herds were developed, and hay and grain became important crops. However, mining and smelting led the county’s growth from the 1860s to World War II.

Military installations built during World War II boosted the county's population and continue to pump millions of dollars into the local economy. Wendover Air Base (now closed), near the Nevada border, became an important site for bomber training with almost 20,000 military and civilian personnel. Tooele Ordnance Depot (now Tooele Army Depot), built in 1942 on a huge tract of land south of Tooele City, served as a major supply storage and repair center employing almost 2,000 civilians in 1944. Activity at Toole Ordnance/Army Depot peaked during the Korean War and again during the Vietnam War. Dugway Proving Grounds, a chemical and biological warfare test center built in the 1940s, became controversial in the 1970s when a large number of sheep in the area were killed, presumably a result of testing. Today most of western Tooele County is reserved for military use.

Citizens of Tooele County received a major economic blow in 1993 when the Tooele Army Depot was included on a Defense Department list of bases to be closed. The site was placed on the Environmental Protection Agency’s National Priority List in 1990.

Demographics:
In 2010, Tooele County had a total population of 58,218 (28,891 females and 29,372 males). The median age is 29.6 years.

Income:
In 2010, the median income for a household in Tooele County was $59,528. Males had a median income of $43,505 versus $24,681 for females. The per capita income for the

county was $21,613. About 6.9 percent of families and 7.2 percent of the population were below the poverty line.

Education:
The Tooele County School District contains 16 elementary schools (Copper Canyon, Anna Smith, Dugway, Grantsville, Ibapah, Rose Springs, Settlement Canyon, Stansbury Park, Vernon, Willow, East, Sterling R. Harris, Middle Canyon, Northlake, Overlake, and West), three junior high schools (Grantsville Jr. High, Tooele and Clarke N. Johnsen) and six high schools (Grantsville High School, Tooele High School, Blue Peak High School, Dugway High, Stansbury High School, Wendover High School).

Media
Tooele County is serviced by three major newspapers, the *Tooele Transcript Bulletin* (Tooele), *The Salt Lake Tribune* (Salt Lake City), and *Desert News* (Salt Lake City)

Townships:
The largest town located in Tooele County is Tooele, with a population of 31,605 and is the county seat. Other townships within Tooele County include: Grantsville (pop. 8,893), Ophir (pop. 38), Rush Valley (pop. 447), Stockton (pop. 616), Vernon (pop. 243), and Wendover (1,400).

Government Structure:
The governing body in Tooele County is the Tooele County Commission. There are three county commissioners. The commissioners prefer to be contacted through one point of contact – their office assistant.

Relevant Community Characteristics:
Tooele County is a rural county. The county identity is one of rural, self-reliance. A presentation on the county website called “Code of the West” warns newcomers that Tooele County government services are limited. The presentation makes it clear that reliance on self, rather than the government, is a valued characteristic of Tooele County residents.

Tooele (City):

Tooele is located 32 miles southwest of Salt Lake City at the western base of the Oquirrh Mountains, which form the eastern border of the city. To the west lies the Stansbury Range; to the north is the Great Salt Lake; and on the south, Stockton Pass separates Tooele from Rush Valley. Tooele was incorporated on June 19, 1853 and has a total area of 21.2 square miles.

Mining:
Tooele transformed into an industrialized city during the first half of this century and the population increased to 5,000 people by 1930. The transformation was boosted by the construction of railroads and the opening of the International Smelting and Refining

Company, east of Tooele. The Tooele Valley Railroad, a seven mile line, ran from the smelter west to the Union Pacific Railroad main line. In the eastern section of Tooele, "Newtown" was built for many of the 1,000 smelter workers. Families from the Balkans, Italy, Greece, and Asia lived in this area and formed their own community. Newtown included its own school, church, culture and numerous languages.

Demographics:
In 2010, Tooele had a total population of 31,605 (15,772 females and 15,883 males). The median age was 29.2 years.

Income:
In 2010 the median income for a household in Tooele was $57,556. Males had a median income of $47,299 versus $32,476 for females. The per capita income for the city was $20,500. About 7.2 percent of families and 6.5 percent of the population were below the poverty line.

Government Structure:
Tooele City is the only city in Utah administered under a "home rule charter" created under the Constitution of the state of Utah. All other cities and towns in Utah operate under forms of government established by the legislature. The Charter, which was approved by voters in 1965, allows Tooele City to operate under its own rules of administration. The City Charter can only be changed by approval of the voters in a municipal election.

Mayoral candidates must declare if they intend to serve as a part-time or a full-time mayor and whether they intend to hire an assistant mayor after elected. The Tooele mayor functions as both the chief executive officer and the city manager. The mayor serves a four-year term. Department heads are hired and dismissed by the mayor with consent of the city council. The mayor also breaks a tie city council vote, and has veto power.

The City Council consists of five nonpartisan members, elected at large. A term is four years with no term limit. The Tooele City Council also functions as the Tooele City Municipal Building Authority and Tooele City Water Special Service District. Members of the council serve on several committees including Planning Commission, Council of Governments, Tooele City Library Board, Tooele County Council of Aging, Tooele County Board of Health, and Employees' Grievance Board. The City Council meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. They are held at the in the City Council Room, Tooele City Hall, 90 North Main Street.

Members of the City Council and the Mayor also function as the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) of Tooele City. Tooele currently has three RDA project areas: historic downtown, a commercial park on West Vine Street, and the Utah Industrial Depot. The Utah Industrial Depot, which is owned and managed by Depot Associates, is 1,700 acres of industrial land and buildings located on property previously occupied by Tooele Army Depot. Source: http://www.tooelecity.org/ourgovernment)

Grantsville:

Grantsville is located thirty-three miles southwest of Salt Lake City. Grantsville is bordered on the south by South Mountain, the Stansbury Range to the west, Stansbury Island to the north, and the town of Tooele and the Oquirrh Mountains to the east. Grantsville was incorporated on January 12, 1867 has a population of 8,893 and has a total land area of 17.8 square miles. Grantsville is the second most populous city in Tooele County.

Grantsville was first known as Twenty Wells due to the many sweetwater artesian springs in the area and was first settled in 1848 as a seasonal livestock grazing site for stock owners in Salt Lake City. The first permanent settlers arrived in 1850 to establish one of Brigham Young's more than 350 Mormon colonies throughout Utah Territory. By then, the town was known as Willow Creek. Three years later it was renamed Grantsville in honor of George D. Grant, the leader of a detachment of the Nauvoo Legion militia sent to control Native Americans in the Tooele Valley.

The construction of the Tooele Ordnance Depot in 1943 (later known as the Tooele Army Depot) brought employment and a population increase to the area. Grantsville has grown slowly and steadily throughout most of its existence, but increases in growth occurred during the 1970s and 1990s. Recent rapid growth has been attributed to the nearby Deseret Peak recreational center, the Miller Motorsports Park raceway and the newly built Wal-Mart Distribution Center located just outside the city.

Demographics:
In 2010, Grantsville had a total population of 8,893 (4,421 females and 4,472 males). The median age was 31 years.

Income:
In 2009, the median income for a household in Grantsville was $64,824. Males had a median income of $49,505 versus $33,565 for females. The per capita income for Grantsville was $21,150. About 3.6 percent of families and 4.5 percent of the population were below the poverty line.

Government Structure:
Grantsville has a mayor and a five-person city council. The mayor prefers to be the point of contact for the city council.

Community Interests and Concerns
Summary of community interviews and EPA responses

CERCLA requires EPA community involvement staff to identify key stakeholders, including elected officials, interested individuals, community members, and others to interview about the Superfund site. The goal is to share information and learn how the community would like to be involved throughout the cleanup process. These community interviews form the basis this Community Involvement Plan.

After researching the communities in the vicinity of US Magnesium, EPA identified a number of potentially interested stakeholders for community interviews. In September and November 2011, and April 2012, EPA and UDEQ community-involvement staff conducted 19 interviews with approximately 32 individuals. These interviews included local citizens, elected officials, union representatives, nearby business owners, tribal leaders, interest groups and other interested stakeholders in the US Magnesium Superfund Site cleanup. A summary of those interviews follows, along with specific EPA responses to issues and concerns raised:

Current knowledge of the U.S. Magnesium Superfund Site

Most of the individuals who were interviewed knew about the U.S. Magnesium facility and that regulators and others had concerns about the facility's environmental impacts. However, the range of knowledge was quite broad, from one interviewee not knowing the location of the site to a few who have been involved in previous state and federal efforts to investigate and/or address environmental impacts at the site.

Some interviewees have been involved in various local, regional, and national advocacy groups. Additionally, some interviewees have extensive historical and technical knowledge about the site and some were former employees at the site. Nearly all of the interviewees expressed interest in the technical details of the sampling and analysis plan, remedial investigation activities, and the site cleanup plans in general.

EPA Response: *EPA is committed to working with interested stakeholders throughout the Superfund process. Based on feedback from stakeholders during these interviews, EPA will employ many of the community involvement tools described in the following section to provide technical information as soon as it is available and ensure that it is presented in a way that is easy to interpret and understand. These tools will include, but are not limited to, organizing a community advisory group, and issuing fact sheets and email updates on a regular basis.*

Environmental Concerns

All interviewees had some type of environmental concern regarding the site. Most were quite familiar with the site and some have been concerned about the site going back to 1988, when the site was listed as the nation's worst air polluter on the EPA Toxic Release Inventory. Most were also aware that U.S. Magnesium has subsequently reduced chlorine air emissions by approximately 97 percent. There were broad concerns and questions about what type of contamination has entered into the surrounding environment and how far the contamination has spread. There were other concerns about how contamination at the site has affected the Great Salt Lake ecosystem and the industries that harvest brine shrimp and salt. Many interviewees were specifically concerned about the chlorine emitted from the U.S. Magnesium facility. Some interviewees had concerns about chlorine being blown from the site to Grantsville and Tooele. A few interviewees expressed concern and had questions about whether groundwater around the site had been tested or is contaminated.

A few interviewees had very specific environmental concerns regarding the site. Some of those concerns were focused on chlorinated hydrocarbon formation and where it went once it was released, the waste migratory pathway from the site, and heavy metal contamination at the site and in the surrounding environment.

EPA Response: *While previous environmental investigations at the site have focused on many of the above concerns, CERCLA makes it possible for EPA to look comprehensively at the site and thoroughly investigate all media: air, groundwater, surface water, and sediments. Through this Superfund process EPA will identify chemical contaminants of concern, the fate and transport of those contaminants, and many other factors addressing the environmental concerns described above.*

Superfund Stigma

Some interviewees expressed concern that local residents may not know how environmental remediation works and expressed concerns over the stigma it might have for Tooele County. However, many of the interviewees from Tooele County indicated that the people there are very familiar with government-led environmental cleanups, noting as examples the nearby Tooele Army Depot, Deseret Chemical Depot, and Energy Solutions. They said that many of the local residents were familiar with government processes and would not likely be afraid of, or particularly concerned about, another cleanup site such as the US Magnesium Superfund Site.

Some had concerns about the image of the Great Salt Lake and that public information about contamination at US Magnesium might further a negative stigma for the lake, the state parks around the lake, and the Great Salt Lake Marina. They were concerned about the public perception that the Great Salt Lake is a dumping ground for wastes.

EPA Response: *EPA will be sensitive to the impact a new Superfund site along the Great Salt Lake shores might have on the image of the Great Salt Lake. All of EPA public information will be produced with this sensitivity in mind.*

Health Concerns

Most interviewees expressed concern over the health of the workers and their families, specifically regarding the potential for chlorine exposure at the site. Some interviewees know of incidences where workers have been exposed to chlorine at the site, but would like to know what else they may have been exposed to. Many interviewees would like to know what the incidents of cancer and respiratory disease are in previous and current workers. Some interviewees are concerned about exposure to contamination from the site to individuals that recreate in and around the Great Salt Lake. There were a number of interviewees who expressed concerns about chlorine from US Magnesium contaminating the air over the Salt Lake Valley.

There is a large concern that contamination emitted from the U.S. Magnesium facility has had a negative impact on the health of bird and animal species around the site. There is also a concern on the effects of contamination on the brine shrimp located in the Great Salt Lake that are harvested and circulate globally.

A few interviewees expressed concern that a “Soup” of contaminants exists including hexachlorobenzene (HCB) and other unknown compounds at the site. They are concerned that EPA and others may not know the true extent of the health effects of these compounds. Additionally, one concern brought up was that many compounds that might be found at the site might not have toxicity values or have not been widely studied.

EPA Response: *While previous risk assessments have been performed at US Magnesium, they were not intended for the type of comprehensive investigation that CERCLA requires. Under EPA’s review, ERM will prepare human and ecological risk assessments for final approval by EPA as a part of the Superfund Process. In addition, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) will be conducting a public health assessment for people that live and work in the vicinity of the U.S. Magnesium facility.*

A public health assessment is conducted to determine whether and to what extent people have been, are being, or may be exposed to hazardous substances associated with a site and, if so, whether that exposure is harmful and should be stopped or reduced. The public health assessment process enables ATSDR to prioritize and identify additional steps needed to answer public health questions, and defines follow-up activities needed to protect public health.

Economic Concerns

Generally, most interviewees expressed concern that the Superfund process will take way too long and will almost certainly lead to job losses. Interviewees also were concerned about the long term capability and solvency of EPA given the current political climate and economy. Local officials mentioned the importance of US Magensium to the local economy as it employs more than 400 people and benefits the county in the form of indirect taxes. US Magnesium seems to be particularly important to the local economy since Tooele County's largest employer, the Department of Defense, has begun the process of closing the Army's incineration facilities. Also, the neighboring company Allegheny Technologies (ATI) depends exclusively on US Magnesium production.

EPA Response: *EPA has no interest in shutting US Magnesium down. EPA simply wants to ensure that hazardous substances are addressed in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment. There are many examples across the country where a facility continues to operate while all or a portion of it is designated a Superfund site. Operating facilities can operate and benefit an area economically while at the same time protecting surrounding environmental resources.*

Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study, and Sampling Investigation Concerns

There is some sensitivity on the part of some of those who live in the area and work at US Magnesium of government, media, and local officials making decisions or developing opinions without Tooele County consideration.

There was concern about how EPA will test the waste ponds and lagoons. A few interviewees with knowledge about the site stated that it would be hard to get into the middle of the waste ponds and lagoons to collect samples. There was concern that EPA would only be able to conduct opportunistic sampling in these areas. It was suggested by a few interviewees that EPA have a reasonable risk-based and cost-effective solution for cleanup, which might be as simple as capping wastes in place.

EPA Response: *At this time, it is unknown how long EPA Superfund investigations and decisions with respect to cleanup actions will take. EPA will continuously provide the public with updated timelines on work as soon as they become available. EPA will continue to stress in all communications that the Superfund actions are not intended nor expected to result in job losses at the U.S. Magnesium facility. Regarding EPA solvency, it is useful to point out that US Magnesium is presently responsible for the carrying out and bearing the cost of the Superfund investigations and EPA oversight at US Magnesium.*

As to sampling details, EPA will be working closely with members of a community advisory group of stakeholders to discuss plans for sampling approaches. As the

environmental investigation and risk-assessment leads to remedial decisions for the site, EPA will evaluate various risk-based and cost-effective solutions.

Communication and Public Outreach

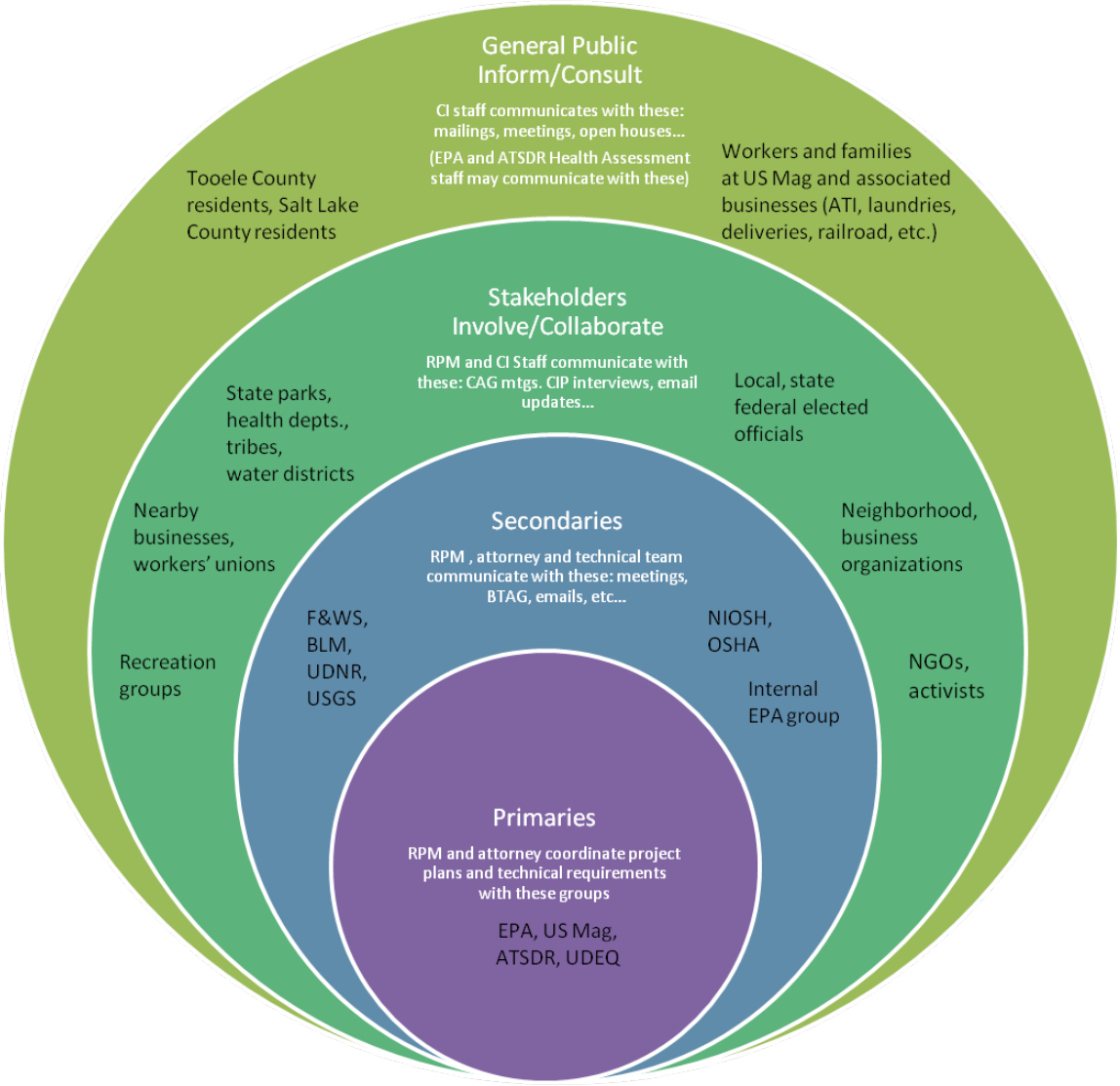
Most interviewees preferred to have information about the site emailed to them. It was also suggested that EPA set up a listserve email service that goes out when new meeting dates are announced or new documents are available for public review. Most interviewees also suggested EPA places notices for meetings and other important information about the site in the *Tooele Transcript* and the *Salt Lake Tribune*. A few interviewees thought that EPA needs to reach out to past workers of U.S. Magnesium and other individuals that work nearby the facility.

All interviewees expressed interest serving on a community advisory group (CAG). However there was some concern about having too many individuals from one or two environmental groups showing up to meetings. It was expressed by many that the CAG meetings need to have an equal representation of all stakeholder groups to be effective.

It was suggested that EPA hold public meetings to show good faith and allow locals to come ask questions about the site and be involved in the Superfund process. Many interviewees agreed that EPA needs to establish a "trusted face" in the community that can be called upon to dispel rumors and answer public questions truthfully and quickly. It was mentioned that during previous cleanup efforts at US Magnesium, government regulators were not pro-active in sharing information with the community, and many inaccurate rumors and information were spread among the workers and the community. Some interviewees were concerned that rumors could spread that EPA is going to take away jobs if EPA is not proactive with its public information. It was expressed that EPA needs to stress that the intention is to clean up the site while keeping jobs and keeping the facility operating.

EPA Response: *It appears that most of the interviewees are happy that EPA is undertaking comprehensive investigations, assessments of risk, and consideration of cleanup actions at the U.S. Magnesium facility. Many of the interviewees were appreciative that EPA is taking the time to conduct community interviews and involve the public in the Superfund process. There seems to be a need to provide different levels of information to different audiences. There is clearly support for a strong, proactive EPA public information approach and a consistent and visible site team.*

The Community Involvement Plan
Stakeholder levels of engagement at US Magnesium



Stakeholder levels of engagement: One of the first steps in defining community involvement objectives at US Magnesium is to define the target audience. EPA community involvement staff has identified various stakeholders by researching community leaders, elected officials, businesses, tribal leaders, environmental organizations, and workers. From this initial list of stakeholders, EPA was referred to a number of others, and the list is ever evolving. EPA's community involvement objective for the site is to include stakeholders in the community at a level of participation most suitable to them. Below is a graphic that shows many of the stakeholder groups at the site and the level at which EPA intends to the engage them in the process, based on our legal requirement to do so, as well as their preference, as expressed to EPA via community interviews and other means. The levels of participation are adapted from the *International Association of Public Participation's (IAP2) Spectrum of Public Participation, 2007*

presented below *(note that IAP2's fifth level on the spectrum extends beyond what EPA can offer at Superfund sites, since EPA cannot delegate decision-making by placing decisions entirely in the hands of the public)*:

IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation

iap2
International Association for Public Participation

Increasing Level of Public Impact

	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower
Public participation goal	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
Promise to the public	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.
Example techniques	▪ Fact sheets ▪ Web sites ▪ Open houses	▪ Public comment ▪ Focus groups ▪ Surveys ▪ Public meetings	▪ Workshops ▪ Deliberative polling	▪ Citizen advisory committees ▪ Consensus-building ▪ Participatory decision-making	▪ Citizen juries ▪ Ballots ▪ Delegated decision

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General Community Involvement Tools

This section describes the community involvement tools that EPA community involvement staff has identified as potentially the most useful to engage and communicate with the community. These are tools that EPA will draw from throughout the Superfund process.

Mailing List

EPA maintains a mailing list for the U.S. Magnesium Superfund Site for distribution of fact sheets and meeting notices. To be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact Jennifer Chergo or Chris Wardell (see Contacts section).

Email Notification

EPA is committed to directly emailing individual stakeholders with updates on site activities and significant developments during the environmental investigation and cleanup. Nearly all participants in the community interviews expressed a desire to receive emails as relevant site information develops.

> **Pros:** Can distribute information to a targeted audience based on their specific interests.
>
> **Cons:** Can potentially exclude some interested members of the public who do not have access to email or have not provided EPA their email address.

Printed Public Information Materials
Fact Sheets, Newsletters, and Brochures

EPA uses printed public information materials as a key way to provide site-related information to the public. They are short (2-4 pages) documents, written in non-technical language to describe current events, cleanup progress, or announce events at the site. EPA will post these materials on our website and mail them out to our mailing list. EPA will create fact sheets, newsletters and/or brochures as events dictate or in response to community requests for specific information.

> **Pros:** Can reach a large but specific target audience
>
> **Cons:** Limited capacity to communicate complicated concepts

Advertisements
Public Notices, Display Ads, Flyers

EPA will advertise community meetings, decisions, comment periods, and other information that the public should know about the site through a public notice or display ad. These advertisements will appear primarily in the *Tooele Transcript* and the *Salt Lake Tribune*, though a situation could call for distributing flyers or advertising in local newsletters, bulletins, utility bills, Mayor's letters, or the like.

Pros: Potentially reaches a broad public audience

Cons: Can be expensive and usually provides only for a limited amount of information

Media
Press releases; feature stories; Op/Ed pieces; reporter roundtables; editorial board meetings; press conferences; television, radio, newspaper interviews, reporter updates

EPA commits to proactively keeping media representatives informed of site progress as a means of keeping the community-at-large informed of site progress.

Pros: Can be an opportunity to provide some detail and accurate information to a wide audience

Cons: Limited to newsworthy events and no control over what information provided will be presented or how

Community Meetings
Public meetings, workshops, open houses, expert panels, Q & A Sessions, neighborhood group meetings

EPA will hold public meetings at various milestones throughout the Superfund process at the site. These meetings are organized to convey site information by having presentations, discussions, and answer questions from the general public. Different types of meetings will also be utilized to best suit the need of the public.

Pros: Opportunity to reach a wide variety of individuals who may have not been attracted to another format.

Cons: Project may be too technical to capture interest of participants.

Community Interviews

EPA conducts one-on-one interviews with site stakeholders and interested community members in order to develop the community involvement plan. EPA must conduct these interviews each time the community involvement plan is updated, at least every three years, but may conduct these interviews more frequently as issues and actions at the site warrant.

Pros: Provides opportunity for in-depth information exchange in non-threatening format. Provides opportunity to obtain feedback from all stakeholders.

Cons: Scheduling multiple interviews can be time consuming.

Community Involvement Plan

This community involvement plan (CIP) is based largely on interviews with interested community members and other site stakeholders, to lay out the foundation of the planned community involvement approach at the site. The community involvement plan has been created as preliminary planning for remedial investigation field activities were being discussed between EPA, US Mag and UDEQ. This CIP will be updated every three years, or after the Remedial Investigations and Baseline Risk-Assessments are completed, after a Record of Decision is issued, or at other times throughout the Superfund process as needed.

Pros: The community involvement plan is an excellent planning document for EPA community involvement staff and site team.

Cons: The community involvement plan is not often very useful to the community for providing current site information.

Telephone Hotlines

EPA may utilize a telephone hotline during times when EPA anticipates a large volume of phone calls from the general public requesting more information, asking questions, or submitting comments. This would most likely occur during the proposed plan public comment period or in the event of a significant activity or cleanup decision that might affect many people.

Pros: Enables large numbers of people to get a hold of EPA during a time when EPA staff may be dealing with a large volume of requests.

Cons: Initially, one-way communication. Members of the general public may prefer an immediate, rather than delayed, response.

Surveys/Polls/Focus Groups

EPA community involvement staff does not generally foresee the need for surveys/polls, or focus groups for the US Magnesium site. However, the EPA risk assessment staff, as well as the ATSDR staff, currently believe it may be useful to employ these techniques to gain information for risk-scoping and health assessments that could more effectively guide the remedial investigation and risk-assessment activities.

Website

EPA has established a website dedicated to the US Magnesium Superfund Site and will keep it updated with the latest site and contact information. EPA is committed to providing information in a variety of formats on its website, utilizing not only text, but images and videos, whenever possible. The website address is: www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/ut/usmagnesium.

> **Pros:** Reaches a wide audience anywhere at any time. Can save printing and mailing costs.
>
> **Cons:** Target audience may not all have access to the Web. Large files and graphics may be unable to or take a long time to download.

New Technology
Facebook, Twitter, Other?

EPA will utilize various new technology techniques if issues surrounding the US Magnesium Superfund Site generate interest from a widespread, national audience, or if community members and interested stakeholders show an interest in receiving site information in this manner. From information gathered from the community so far, EPA does not at this time plan on utilizing these tools to disseminate and discuss site information. However, EPA will consider new technology tools in the future, as the need arises.

> **Pros:** Provides the opportunity to reach a wide audience. Can provide for feedback, a virtual two-way communication vehicle.
>
> **Cons:** Information cannot be tailored to specific audiences. Not all interested stakeholders and community members have access to or understanding of these technologies.

Information Repository

EPA will establish an information repository near the site that will be available to the public to view all EPA decision documents and the rationale behind those decisions, as well as any other pertinent information. The location of the repository will be determined based on community preference as expressed during the community interviews.

Pros: Information is easily accessible to local community

Cons: Often not well used by local communities, and it can be difficult for a community member to sort out the most relevant information from the whole and interpret it.

Public Comment Periods

The public comment period is the time during which EPA accepts comments from the public on proposed actions and decisions. Public comment periods enable the public to participate in the administrative decision making process. The comment periods will be announced in several ways including the use of public notices, in fact sheets, announcements at public meetings, and/or through the mail and email lists.

Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)

Grants of up to $50,000 are available to incorporated nonprofit organizations of community members affected by the site. TAGs can be used for hiring a technical advisor, attending approved training, and obtaining relevant supplies and equipment. A technical advisor is an independent expert who can explain technical information and help articulate the public's concerns to EPA.

Pros: The technical advisor can be very useful in interpreting information for group from an objective position.

Cons: Applying for and maintaining a TAG grant requires much time and administrative detail with minimal compensation to the community members involved.

Technical Assistance Services for Communities and other resources (TASC)

The Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC) is a resource that EPA provides to communities in order to provide assistance interpreting data, facilitating discussions, and other site-related activities. TASC differs from the TAG grants described above in that TASC assistance is provided on an issue-specific basis and requires less administrative work to secure and utilize.

Pros: Any interested individual or group can receive TASC resources for a specific need with minimal requirements.

Cons: TASC is not set up to provide long-term involvement in the Superfund Process, which usually takes years to complete.

Community Advisory Group (CAG)

A CAG is a committee, task force, or board comprised of stakeholders affected by the site that meets periodically to learn about EPA's cleanup progress, discuss their issues and concerns, and provide feedback to EPA officials.

Pros: Provides for detailed analyses for project issues. Participants gain understanding of other perspectives, leading toward compromise.

Cons: Time and labor intensive. Group may not reach consensus. General public may not be aligned with group's interests and positions.

The Superfund Process and Planned Community Involvement Activities

CERCLA, as implemented by the National Contingency Plan (NCP), requires specific community involvement activities must occur at certain points throughout the Superfund process. In CERCLA, Congress was clear about its intent for EPA to provide every opportunity for residents of affected communities to become active participants in the process and to have a say in the decisions that affect their community. The intent of the law stated in the NCP at 40 CFR 300.430(c)(2)(ii): is "(A) Ensure the public appropriate opportunities for involvement in a wide variety of site-related decisions, including site analysis and characterization, alternatives analysis, and selection of remedy; and (B) Determine, based on community interviews, appropriate activities to ensure such public involvement."

The graphic shown above is a simple description of the Superfund process that presents the significant milestones in the Superfund process. These milestones are the points along

the Superfund cleanup process when public input can often have the most impact on EPA decision-making.

Described below are the community involvement tools required by CERCLA and that EPA community involvement staff have identified as being the most appropriate for engaging stakeholders and the community. EPA community involvement staff recommend the following community involvement tools, pulled from the list of suitable tools available above, during each step of the Superfund Process. These recommendations are based on information gathered during the community interviews about the needs and preferences of the community.

Preliminary Assessment and Site Investigations (PA/SI)

The Preliminary Assessment involves gathering historical and other available information about site conditions to evaluate whether the site posed a threat to human health and the environment and/or whether further investigation is needed. The preliminary assessment also helps identify sites that may need immediate or short-term response actions. The site investigation tests air, water and soil at the site to determine what hazardous substances are present and whether they are being released to the environment and are a threat to human health. There are no required community involvement requirements at this initial stage of the process. EPA did not conduct community involvement activities at US Magnesium during the PA/SI.

National Priorities Listing (NPL) Process

Information about the site that is collected in the PA/SI phase helps EPA to evaluate the risks posed by the site using its Hazard Ranking System (HRS). Sites that score at or above an established level qualify for cleanup under CERCLA and are proposed for listing on the NPL. After the site is proposed to be included on the NPL, EPA holds a public comment period, considers all comments received, and then makes a final determination whether or not to include the site on the NPL.

Required Community Involvement activities:

On September 3, 2008, EPA announced in the Federal Register its proposal to add US Magnesium to the NPL and sought comments through a 60 day public comment period NCP 40 C.F.R 300.425(d)(5)(i). EPA extended the comment period by 20 days on the NPL proposal and announced the extension in the Federal Register. On November 2, 2009, EPA announced its decision to list US Magnesium on the NPL in the Federal Register.

Additional Community Involvement activities:

Community Meetings, individual: In August 2008, before EPA proposed US Magnesium to the NPL, EPA met with the state of Utah and a number of stakeholders to discuss the potential proposal. In January 2010, shortly after EPA announced its final decision to list US Magnesium on the NPL, EPA community involvement staff and remedial project manager met with interested stakeholders in a series of introductory meetings.

Advertisements, Public Notices: On September 3, 2008, EPA published a public notice in the *Salt Lake Tribune* announcing its proposal to list US Magnesium on the NPL. On Monday, October 27, 2008, EPA ran a public notice in the *Salt Lake Tribune* to announce it had extended the public comment period by 20 days. EPA issued a public notice announcing its final decision to add US Magnesium to the NPL in the *Salt Lake Tribune* on November 25, 2009 and in the *Toole Transcript* on November 26, 2009.

Media: Press Release: On November 2, 2009, EPA issued a press release announcing its decision to add US Magnesium to the NPL.

Email Notification and Mailing List Update: EPA emailed interested stakeholders identified during its outreach prior to the listing about the proposed listing and comment period, about the extension to the comment period, and emailed the final listing announcement directly to them.

Website: In September 2008, EPA created a website with information about US Magnesium, EPA's proposal to list the site on the NPL, and information about who to contact and how to submit comments on the proposal. EPA has continuously updated this website, particularly to announce the extension of the public comment period on the NPL proposal and the final decision to add US Magnesium to the NPL.

Remedial Investigation, Risk Assessment, and Feasibility Study

The RI/FS phase of the process determines the nature and extent of contamination at the site, tests whether certain technologies are capable of treating the contamination, and evaluates the cost and performance of technologies that could be used to clean up the site. The remedial investigation and the feasibility study are conducted somewhat concurrently. Data collected in the remedial investigation influence the development of remedial alternatives in the feasibility study. The primary objective of the feasibility study is to ensure that appropriate, potential remedial alternatives are developed and evaluated.

At US Magnesium, EPA anticipates that the RI/FS will be performed in multiple phases, which will be determined by EPA. A sampling and analysis plan will be developed for each phase. The Administrative Order on Consent lays out the basic anticipated

framework for carrying out the RI/FS for this project. Project phases outlined generally in the NCP and in the AOC include:

Phase-1: Scoping. The RI/FS process begins with scoping. The NCP indicates that during scoping, the following activities, among others, should be conducted during the initial RI/FS:

- ✓ Assemble and evaluate existing data on the site, including the results of any removal actions, remedial preliminary assessment and site inspections, and the NPL listing process.

- ✓ Develop a conceptual understanding of the site based on the evaluation of existing data.
  - *[EPA has reviewed prior investigational data and reports for the site. A series of Scoping Meetings have been held with US Magnesium and the company's retained consultant Environmental Resources Management (ERM) to discuss project objectives and draft initial data quality objectives for obtaining samples and analysis. This will enable identification of chemicals-of-potential-concern, and other receptor (human and ecological) information as the basis for screening-level risk assessment.]*

- ✓ Develop Sampling and Analysis Plan(s) (SAPs) that provide a process for obtaining data of sufficient quality and quantity to satisfy data needs. The overall goal of the Phase-1 scoping sampling and analysis plan is to initiate the data collection necessary to characterize the nature and extent of all site-related contaminants.

  All SAPs (including SAPs that may be developed by ERM for EPA's final review and approval) will be issued by EPA, and be in a format that includes (1) a quality assurance project plan which describes policy, organization and functional responsibilities, and (2) a field sampling plan describing the data quality objectives and measures necessary to obtain the type, number and location of samples, the analytical methods, and data validation requirements.

- ✓ Undertake data collection efforts or studies where this information will assist in scoping the RI/FS.
  - *[EPA, in consultation with UDEQ, ERM, and Federal Trustees, has determined that the RI will begin with an initial investigation focused to collect the needed number of samples from the various potentially-contaminated media and investigation areas. This investigation will identify with confidence the chemicals of potential concern for the potential receptor exposures. Risk assessment activities to be undertaken during Phase-1 of the RI will also include:*

- *collecting information about human activities at the site, including, but not limited to, areas of use, use patterns and exposure durations;*
- *collecting and mapping ecological habitat information;*
- *assessing new and existing information to better understand toxicity associated with HCB exposure;*
- *preparing a screening-level ecological risk assessment to evaluate potential impacts to birds and other wildlife; and,*
- *refining human-health toxicity exposure and risk assessment data gaps.*

✓ Identify the type, quality and quantity of the data that will be collected during the RI/FS to support decisions regarding remedial response activities.
[The NCP notes this 'general' requirement, which underpins all phases and aspects of remedial investigation and risk assessment activities.]

✓ Identify likely response scenarios, potentially applicable technologies and operable units that may address site problems.
[This work will commence in later Phase-2 and 3 after initial investigations provide an understanding of site contaminants, human- and ecological-receptors, and screening-level risk assessment.]

✓ Initiate the identification of potential federal and state Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs) and, as appropriate, other criteria, advisories, or guidance to be considered.

[EPA and UDEQ expect this activity to commence during later stages of the Phase-1 investigation in order to provide framework information for Phase-2 and 3 work.]

Phase-2 will first focus on completing additional remedial field investigations for the preparation of a Baseline Human-health and Ecological Risk Assessment. Phase-2 will also begin development of a feasibility study by screening preliminary remedial alternatives.

[While EPA will approve and issue all Final SAPs for each phase of RI/FS work, EPA has agreed that ERM will prepare (in consultation with, and under direction from, EPA) risk assessment reports that will establish the basis for identifying necessary risk-reduction and scoping of potential remedial cleanup.]

Phase -3 will focus on conducting treatability studies to evaluate in detail the identified and retained remedial alternatives.

Phase-4 will focus on developing a remedial investigation and final feasibility study report with a detailed analysis of feasible, potential remedial alternatives. This work will lead to EPA's determination (in consultation with UDEQ, and with public comment) of any needed remedial cleanup work issued in a Record of Decision (ROD).

Required Community Involvement activities to be conducted prior to commencement of field work for the RI (at US Magnesium this is mainly the Phase I scoping phase described above):

Community Interviews:

NCP 40 C.F.R 300.430(c)(2)(i) Over the course of several days in September and November 2011 and April 2012, EPA conducted interviews with local officials, public interest groups, and community members. These interviews sought to solicit their concerns, information needs and to learn how and when people would like to be involved in the Superfund Process. This process, along with information about the community detailed in the community profile section, as well as other meetings and media reports, serve as the basis for this CIP.

Community Involvement Plan (CIP):

NCP 40 C.F.R. 300.430(c)(2)(ii)(A-C) In September 2012, EPA issued a final CIP, specifying the community involvement activities that EPA expects to undertake during the remedial response.

Information Repository:

CERCLA 117(d); NCP 40 C.F.R 300.430(c)(2)(iii) EPA must establish at least one local information repository and inform citizens that it is available. EPA plans on establishing two information repositories. The first information repository will be located locally at the new Grantsville Public Library when it is completed. The second will be located in Salt Lake City at the Utah Department of Environmental Quality. Each information repository will contain a copy of items developed, received, published, or made available to the public, including information that describes the Technical Assistance Grant application process. Information will be provided electronically whenever possible, as both locations provide computers and printers to view and copy the information on the disks. EPA will provide information in hard copy by mail upon request. EPA must also inform interested citizens of the establishment of the information repository and will do so in a public notice in the *Tooele Transcript* and *Salt Lake Tribune*, as well as on the EPA website and in meetings with community members.

Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Notification:

NCP 40 C.F.R. 300.430(c)(2)(iv) EPA must inform the public of the availability of a TAG and include material that describes the TAG application process in the information repository. EPA has provided information about TAG grants to interested stakeholders during community interviews and placed this information on its website. EPA will

announce the availability of the TAG at formal and informal meetings as well as in the public notice announcing the information repository.

Below are the community involvement activities required by the NCP upon commencement of the field work for the remedial investigation (At US Magnesium this is mainly Phase II and all subsequent phases of the RI/FS):

Administrative Record:

CERCLA 113(k); NCP 40 C.F.R. 300.815 (a-c) EPA must establish an administrative record, make it available for public inspection, and publish a notice of its availability. The lead agency (EPA) must comply with the public participation procedures required in NCP 40 C.F.R. 300.430(f)(3) and shall document such compliance in the administrative record. The Administrative Record contains all information EPA considers in its decision-making process about the site.

Administrative Record Notification:

NCP 40 C.F.R 300.815(a) EPA must publish a notice of availability of the administrative record in a major local newspaper of general circulation. EPA will meet this requirement by including the announcement of the availability of the Administrative Record and TAG availability in the already –established information repositories in public notices in the *Salt Lake Tribune* and *Tooele Transcript*.

Additional Community Involvement Activities planned during all phases of the RI/FS Phase:

Mailing List

EPA will continue to update its mailing list throughout the RI/FS process in order to ensure that all community members and stakeholders who are interested in participating and receiving information about the site are included.

Email Updates

As nearly everyone whom EPA community involvement staff interviewed during community interviews indicated they would like to receive information and updates via email, EPA will send information and updates regularly via email when activities and events warrant.

Website

EPA will continue to update its website with the latest site information throughout the RI/FS process. EPA will include, to the extent possible, videos of important meetings or site information, pictures, documents, updates, and meeting announcements.

Fact Sheets

EPA will produce fact sheets when there are significant activities or findings to report and share. EPA will distribute the fact sheets via email to its mailing list of stakeholders and community members, on its website, at meetings, and sometimes as mailer inserts. EPA is

committed to presenting information in fact sheets that is easy-to-read and understand, avoiding jargon, and using plain language wherever possible.

Media, reporter updates other as needed

EPA plans on a pro-active approach to sharing information with reporters and media outlets in which we will promptly respond to all media inquiries received. EPA will update media via emails directly to reporters with typical site updates and findings and announcements. EPA will likely not be issuing press releases during the RI/FS phase of the Superfund process, as this is not a decision-making phase. EPA press releases typically announce major EPA decisions. EPA may host reporter roundtables or editorial board meetings should the RI/FS process at US Magnesium result in activities or findings that peak public interest.

Community Advisory Group meetings

Nearly every person whom EPA community involvement staff interviewed during the community involvement interviews expressed interest in participating in a Community Advisory Group. EPA plans on organizing the initial community advisory group shortly after the sampling and analysis plan is finalized during the scoping phase of the RI/FS. EPA will determine with the group in that initial meeting the preferred frequency of the meetings, based on the most current project work schedule. It is possible based on the disparate interests who have expressed willingness to participate in the CAG that the group may eventually include a number of subgroups focused on different aspects of the RI/FS. All Community Advisory Group meetings will be advertised via public notice in *Tooele Transcript*, on the EPA website and by email directly to individuals on the EPA mailing list.

Community Meetings, Open House:

EPA plans on hosting one open house in Tooele County shortly after the sampling and analysis plan (SAP) for the phase one scoping is finalized. EPA will invite the general public to find out more about the status of the US Magnesium Superfund Site and ask any questions they may have. EPA is hopeful that this will help identify interested community members who have not so far expressed interest in participating in the process. EPA community involvement staff would also like to find out, based on the response, whether there is need for such open houses on a regular basis. EPA staff and others will be available during the open house to gather information from the community about the site, hear any concerns, and answer any questions. The open house will be advertised in the *Tooele Transcript*, the *Salt Lake Tribune*, the EPA website, potentially in the Grantsville Mayor's letter, and via other newsletters and bulletins.

Community Meetings, individual:

EPA will meet with any local groups or individuals who request a meeting during the RI/FS process. Based on the community interviews and other information that EPA community involvement staff have gathered, participation in the community advisory group seems to be a sufficient forum for interested stakeholders and community members to participate during the RI/FS phase of the process. However, EPA staff will plan to meet individually with local groups and individuals as needed.

Proposed Plan

The results of the RI/FS and baseline human-health and ecological risk assessments lead to a FS, followed by a proposed plan. The proposed plan summarizes the cleanup alternatives presented in the FS and presents EPA and UDEQ's preferred alternative and supporting rationale under the NCP selection criteria.

Required Community Involvement Activities

Advertisement, Public Notice

SARA 117(a) and (d); NCP 40 CFR 300.430(f)(3)(i)(A) EPA must publish a notice of the availability for the RI/FS and proposed plan, including a brief analysis of the proposed plan, in a major local newspaper of general circulation. The notice also must announce a comment period.

Public Comment Period

SARA 117(a)(2); NCP 40 CFR 300.430(f)(3)(c) EPA must provide at least 30 days for the submission of written and oral comments on the proposed plan and supporting information located in the information repository, including the RI/FS. This comment period will be extended by a minimum of 30 additional days upon timely request.

Public Meeting and meeting transcript

SARA 113 and 117(a)(2); NCP 40 CFR 300.430(f)(3)(i)(D) and SARA 117(a)(2); NCP 40 CFR 300.430(f)(3)(i)(E) EPA must provide an opportunity for a public meeting regarding the proposed plan and supporting information to be held at or near the site during the comment period.

Additional Community Involvement Activities

Mailing List

EPA will continually update its mailing list throughout the Superfund process.

Email Notification

EPA will email directly all members on its mailing list with the announcement about and a copy of the proposed plan and any other pertinent information during this time.

Fact Sheets

The proposed plan is essentially a fact sheet that EPA will produce in an easy-to-read format using clear language and descriptions of technical information. Depending on its complexity, EPA may issue a summary fact sheet to accompany the proposed plan.

Public Notices, Display Ads, Flyers

EPA may issue public notices and display ads in the newspapers and send out flyers in local newsletters or use other means to advertise the proposed plan public comment period. This will depend on the content of the proposed plan and the interest shown in the site by the local community during the RI/FS process.

Media

EPA will issue a press release and news advisory at the beginning of the public comment period. A public notice and press release will be issued announcing the conclusion of the public comment period and EPA will respond promptly to all media inquiries.

Community Meetings – All Types

EPA will host and/or participate in any community meetings deemed necessary during the proposed plan public comment period.

Telephone Hotline

EPA may set up a telephone hotline if the volume of phone calls from the general public is expected to be significant during the public comment period.

Website

EPA will keep its website up-to-date with the latest information throughout the proposed plan process.

New Technology

EPA may find it useful and informative to provide links to other websites for project participants and interested stakeholders, such as Facebook, or utilize other new technology if national interest in the site were to develop during the public comment period or if there is an expressed demand from the community.

Community Advisory Group /TAG/TASC

EPA will continue to meet regularly with the CAG and any group holding the TAG throughout the public comment period. EPA will also continue to advertise resources available to community members during this time, such as the TASC contract.

Record of Decision

The Record of Decision (ROD) describes EPA's final decision on which cleanup alternatives will be used at the Superfund site. It contains information on site history, site description, site characteristics, community participation, enforcement activities, past and present activities, contaminated media, the contaminants present, description of the response actions to be taken, and any needed remedy selected for cleanup.

Required Community Involvement Activities

Advertisement: Public Notice
EPA must make the ROD available for public inspection and copying at or near the site prior to the commencement of any remedial action. Also, EPA must publish a notice of the ROD's availability in a major local newspaper of general circulation. The notice must state the basis and purpose of the selected action.

Additional Community Involvement Activities

Mailing List
EPA will continually update its mailing list throughout the Superfund process.

Email Notification
EPA will email directly all members on its mailing list with the announcement about the ROD and any other pertinent information during this time.

Fact Sheets
EPA will issue a fact sheet summarizing the Record of Decision.

Public Notices, Display Ads, Flyers
EPA may issue public notices and display ads in the newspapers and send out flyers in local newsletters or use other means to advertise the ROD. This will depend on the content of the ROD and the interest shown in the site by the local community during the RI/FS process.

Media
EPA will issue a press release to announce the ROD. EPA will respond promptly to all media inquiries during the comment period about the proposed plan.

Community Meetings – All Types
EPA will host and/or participate in any community meetings deemed necessary at the time of the ROD.

Website
EPA will update its website with details of the ROD.

New Technology
EPA will update a US Magnesium Facebook page or send out updates via other New Technology means if these have been set up and utilized and deemed useful in conveying site information by the site team.

Community Advisory Group /TAG/TASC
EPA will meet with the CAG and any group holding the TAG to discuss the Record of Decision.

EPA community involvement staff are required to update the CIP after the Record of Decision is final and before Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA). EPA will describe the community involvement activities, both required and elective, that it will carry out in these latter stages at the time of the CIP update.

Remedial Design/Remedial Action

This phase of the process includes preparing for and doing the bulk of the cleanup at the site. Typically, EPA will attempt to reach an Administrative Order on Consent for the work needed to carry out remedial design and 'cleanup action'. EPA approves the final design for the cleanup, and authorizes remedial action to proceed.

Construction Completion

This is the point in the process when any necessary physical construction needed for the cleanup has been completed.

Post Construction Completion

This phase of the cleanup ensures that Superfund cleanups provide for the long-term protection of human health and the environment. EPA's activities during this phase will include operating and maintaining long-term cleanup technologies in working order, regularly reviewing the site to be sure that the cleanup continues to be effective, and enforcing any necessary restrictions to minimize the potential for human exposure to contamination.

Deletion from the National Priorities List

When all site cleanup has been completed and all cleanup goals have been achieved, EPA will delete the site from the NPL.

Contacts

Department	Contact Name/Title	Mailing Address	Phone	Email
EPA	Ken Wangerud EPA Project Manager	1595 Wynkoop St. Denver, CO 80202	303-312-6703	wangerud.ken@epa.gov
EPA	Jennifer Chergo EPA Community Involvement Coordinator	1595 Wynkoop St. Denver, CO 80202	303-312-6601	chergo.jennifer@epa.gov
EPA	Chris Wardell EPA Community Involvement Coordinator	1595 Wynkoop St. Denver, CO 80202	303-312-6062	wardell.christopher@epa.gov
ATSDR	Chris Poulet	1595 Wynkoop St. Denver, CO 80202	303-312-7013	poulet.chris@epa.gov
UDEQ	Chad Gilgen UDEQ Project Manager	195 North 1950 West Salt Lake City, UT 84114	801-536-4237	cgilgen@utah.gov
UDEQ	Dave Allison UDEQ Community Involvement	195 North 1950 West Salt Lake City, UT 84114	801-536-4479	dallison@utah.gov
BLM	Kevin Oliver BLM West Desert District Manager	2370 South 2300 West Salt Lake City, UT 84119	801-977-4300	koliver@blm.gov
Mayor of Tooele	Pat Dunlavy	90 N. Main St. Tooele UT, 84704	435-843-2100	patrickd@tooelecity.org
Mayor of Grantsville	Brent Marshall	429 East Main St. Grantsville, UT 84029	435-884-3411	bmarshall@grantsvilleut.gov

Department	Contact Name/Title	Mailing Address	Phone	Email
Tooele County Commissioners	Colleen Johnson Chair J. Bruce Clegg Jerry Hurst	47 South Main St. Tooele, UT 84074	435-843-3150 435-843-3150 435-830-3354	cjohnson@co.tooele.ut.us jbruceclegg@co.tooele.ut.us jhurst@co.tooele.ut.us
Governor of Utah	Gary R. Herbert	PO Box 142220 Salt Lake City, UT 84114	801-538-1000	
Utah State Representative	Ronda Rudd Menlove District 1	5650 W. 16800 N. Garland, UT 84312	435-760-2618	menlove@le.utah.gov
Utah State Representative	Douglas Sagers District 21	243 Home Town Ct. Tooele, UT 84074	435-843-3754	dougsagers@le.utah.gov
Utah State Senator	Peter Knudson District 17	1209 Michelle Dr. Brigham City, UT 84302	435-723-6366	pknudson@utahsenate.org
U.S. Representative	Rob Bishop 1st Congressional District John Tanner, State Aid	324 25th St. Ogden, UT 84401	202-225-0453 801-625-0107	john.tanner@mail.house.gov
U.S. Senator	Orrin Hatch	125 South State St. Salt Lake City, UT 84138 104 Hart Office Building Washington, DC 20510	801-524-4380 202-224-5251	
U.S. Senator	Mike Lee	125 South State St. Salt Lake City, UT 84138 316 Hart Office Building Washington, DC 20510	801-524-5933 202-224-5444	

Department	Contact Name/Title	Mailing Address	Phone	Email
MEDIA				
KUTV CBS Channel 2		229 South Main St. Ste. 150 Salt Lake City, UT 84111	801-839-1234	www.kutv
KTVX ABC Channel 4		2175 West 1700 South Salt Lake City , UT 84101	801-975-4444	www.abc4.com
KSL-TV NBC Channel 5		P.O. Box 1160 5 Triad Center, 55 North 3rd West Salt Lake City, UT 84110-1160	801-KSL-5555	www.ksl.com
KSTU Fox Channel 13		5060 Amelia Earhart Dr. Salt Lake City, UT 84116	801-536-1313	www.fox13now.com
KCPW Radio 88.3 FM		210 East 400 South Ste. 7 Salt Lake City, UT 84111	801-359-5279	www.kcpw.org
KSL Radio 102.7 FM and 1160 AM		5 Triad Center, 55 North 3rd West Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1109	801-575-7601	www.ksl.com
KUER Radio 90.1 FM		Eccles Broadcast Center, 101 Wasatch Dr., #240, SLC, Utah 84122	801-581-6625	www.kuer.org

Locations of Information Repositories

EPA community involvement staff have determined, based on feedback during community interviews, that it would be most useful for interested stakeholders to have two information repositories, one accessible to the local-area community members and one accessible to interested individuals in the Salt Lake Valley area. Therefore, EPA will house an information repository, containing the entire Administrative Record for the US Magnesium site in the two following locations.

EPA will include other site related materials, such as fact sheets and announcements in the information repository in an attempt to provide the public up-to-date information about the US Magnesium Superfund Site. In the interest of conserving paper, printing, and mailing costs, as well as conserving physical space at the Grantsville Library and UDEQ, EPA is committed to provide all information to the repositories in electronic form, wherever possible. EPA will provide hard copies whenever necessary, or upon request.

New Grantsville Library: EPA plans on locating the US Magnesium site information repository locally at the new Grantsville Library when it is completed. Until that time, EPA will house the repository in the Grantsville City Hall office.

Grantsville City Hall
429 E. Main St.
Grantsville, Utah 84029
435-884-3411
Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Mon. – Fri.

Utah Department of Environmental Quality

Division of Environmental Response and Remediation
Records Center
195 North 1950 West, 1st Floor
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

A GRAMA request form must be completed before any files can be researched. Completed forms can be faxed to 801-359-8853 or brought in to the records center at the address above. Please call in advance to schedule an appointment to come in and review the records. You can do this by calling the GRAMA Coordinator at 801-536-4100.

Hours for viewing files: Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Hours for requesting files to be reviewed: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Any request submitted after 4:00 p.m. will be processed the following business day.

Community Interview Questions

1. What is your current knowledge of the US Magnesium Superfund Site?

2. What environmental concerns do you have regarding the site?

3. What health concerns do you have regarding the site?

4. What questions or concerns do you have regarding the remedial investigation and feasibility study and the sampling and investigations that will start soon?

5. What information would you like to receive from EPA about this site? How often would you like to receive information from us?

6. What is the best way to keep you informed about the site?

7. How do you currently receive information on this site?

8. How involved would you like to be regarding the cleanup developments at this site? Would you like to be part of a regularly meeting community advisory group?

9. What advice would you have to effectively involve and inform the surrounding communities in EPA activities at the site?

10. Who else should we talk to?

11. Is there anything else you would like to add?

Acronyms and Abbreviations

CERCLA	**Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act:** A federal statute passed in 1980 and modified in 1986, designed to investigate and to
NCP	**National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan:** The federal regulation that spells out activities and procedures required for a CERCLA program.
NPL	**National Priorities List:** EPA's prioritized list of the most serious uncontrolled or abandoned releases or threatened releases throughout the nation for possible long-term remedial evaluation and response. The list is based primarily on the score a site receives on the Hazard Ranking System (HRS).
CIP	**Community Involvement Plan:** A plan required by the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) at all National Priorities List (NPL) sites. The CIP is a guide to assist in the implementation of public involvement activities as well as a mechanism for informing the community about the restoration progress and responding to community concerns.
EPA	**United States Environmental Protection Agency**
UDEQ	**Utah Department of Environmental Quality**
ATSDR	**Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry**
F&WS	**United States Fish and Wildlife Service**
BLM	**United States Bureau of Land Management**
UDNR	**Utah Department of Natural Resources**
USGS	**United States Geological Survey**
NGOs	**Non – Governmental Organizations**
RPM	**Remedial Project Manager**
CIC	**Community Involvement Coordinator**
PAHs	**Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons**
PCBs	**Polychlorinated Biphenyls**

HCB	**Hexachlorobenzene**
PA/SI	**Preliminary Assessment/Site Investigation**
RI/FS	**Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study**
AOC/SOW	**Administrative Order on Consent**
SAP	**Sampling and Analysis Plan**

Outreach Materials to Date

Attached below are some of the outreach materials that EPA has created to date. The following examples include the public notices that ran in the local newspapers announcing the proposal to add US Magnesium to the NPL, the decision to extend the public comment period on that proposal, and the final decision to list US Magnesium on the NPL. Also attached below are the fact sheets that EPA created as informational handouts both before and after the proposed NPL listing.

EPA has also continually updated its website about US Magnesium: www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/ut/usmagnesium.

EPA has also provided information about Community Advisory Groups. Technical Assistance Grants and Technical Assistance Services for Communities to stakeholders during community interviews and on the EPA website:

www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tag/

www.epa.gov/superfund/community/tasc/

www.epa.gov/superfund/community/cag/

U.S. Magnesium Proposed for the National Priorities List

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8 SEPTEMBER 2008

Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), with support from the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ), is proposing to list the U.S. Magnesium site in Tooele County, Utah on the National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL is a list of sites across the nation that are contaminated with hazardous substances, commonly known as Superfund Sites. If EPA lists U.S. Magnesium on the NPL, it would make the cleanup of this site a high priority nationally and would enable EPA and UDEQ to use Superfund authorities to clean up the site.

Once the EPA proposal to list the U.S. Magnesium site on the National Priorities List appears in the Federal Register, there will be a 60-day public comment period. Please see the back of this fact sheet to find out how to submit comments.

Site Description and Background

The 4,525 acre U.S. Magnesium site is located in a lightly populated, industrial area, 40 miles west of Salt Lake City and 33 miles north of Grantsville. The current owners/operators are U.S. Magnesium, LLC and parent company Renco Group, Inc.

The site is adjacent to the Great Salt Lake, an area that has been designated as a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network and is being considered as a Wetland of International Importance. It is an ecosystem that attracts millions of birds per year and houses many unique plants and animals as well as certain species of federal and state concern.

The site has housed magnesium production since 1972. It uses brine from the Great Salt Lake as the raw material and produces a variety of wastes. There are areas of uncontrolled wastes on the property that investigations show are threatening the health of workers and the environment.

Site Risks

EPA and UDEQ have been concerned about releases from the site to the environment for more than 15 years. Risk assessments show significant environmental and human health risks.

Contaminants consist of metals, acidic wastewater, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), dioxins/furans, hexachlorobenzene (HCB), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and chlorine gas. These contaminants pose both cancerous and non-cancerous health risks to both humans and wildlife and have been released into the air, soil, surface water, and groundwater.

Birds have been regularly observed in contact with or near contaminated areas on the site. Observations indicate that many waterfowl die after coming into contact with the contamination. Bird egg studies have documented concentrations of PCB and HCB in all eggs at or near the site. Additionally, the lake level has risen and flooded the site, creating an open conduit for contaminants to travel into the Great Salt Lake.

Dioxin, PCBs and HCB are present at levels potentially posing both cancer and non-cancer risks, including diabetes and immune system problems, to workers at the site.

For more information, please contact:

Jennifer Chergo
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1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202
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1-800-227-8917, x3126601
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Chad Gilgen
Utah Department of Environmental Quality
168 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84116
(801) 536-4237
cgilgen@utah.gov

Or go to our Website at:
www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/ut/usmagnesium

To comment on the EPA proposal to add U.S. Magnesium to the National Priorities List, please submit your comments, identified by FDMS Docket # EPA-HQ-SFUND-2008-0584, by using one of the following methods:

1. **Online go to www.regulations.gov and follow the online instructions for submitting comments.**
2. **For written comments, please provide three copies plus the original to the following address:**

   Docket Coordinator, Headquarters
   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
   CERCLA Docket Office (Mail Code 5305T)
   1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
   Washington, D.C. 20460

   Email: superfund.docket@epa.gov
   Phone: 202-566-0276

Supporting documents for this proposed action are published in the Federal Register, or available at the following locations:

U.S. EPA	UDEQ
Superfund Records Center	Records Center
1595 Wynkoop Street	168 N. 1950 W.
Denver, CO 80202	Bldg. 2, 1st Fl.
1-800-227-8917	Box 144840
	Salt Lake City, UT
	(801) 536-4100

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY
U.S. Magnesium
PROPOSED for the
NATIONAL PRIORITY LIST

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces the proposal to list the U.S. Magnesium site in Tooele County, Utah on the National Priority List (NPL). The NPL is a list of sites across the nation that are contaminated with hazardous substances, commonly known as Superfund sites. ***The public can comment on the proposal during a 60-day comment period from September 3 to November 3, 2008.*** **Submit your comments using one of the following methods:**

Go to www.regulations.gov and follow the online instructions for submitting comments, or send written comments to the following address:

Docket Coordinator, Headquarters
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
CERCLA Docket Office (Mail Code – 5305T)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington D.C. 20460
Email address – superfund.docket@epa.gov
Phone number – 202-566-0276

The documents supporting the proposal to list the U.S. Magnesium, LLC facility are published in the Federal Register and may be found at the EPA Region 8 website: www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/ut/usmagnesium, or at the following locations:

U.S. EPA	Utah Department of
Superfund Records Center	Environmental Quality
1595 Wynkoop Street	168 North 1950 West
Denver, CO 80202-1129	Salt Lake City, UT 84114

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Gwen Christiansen, EPA NPL Coordinator, 1 (800) 227-8917, x3126463, or Jennifer Chergo, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, 1 (800) 227-8917, x3126601

PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY
U.S. Magnesium
PROPOSED for the
NATIONAL PRIORITY LIST

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is extending the public comment period for the proposal to list the U.S. Magnesium site in Tooele County, Utah on the National Priority List (NPL). The NPL is a list of sites across the nation that are contaminated with hazardous substances, commonly known as Superfund sites. ***The public can comment on the proposal through November 24, 2008.*** **Please submit your comments using one of the following methods:**

Go to www.regulations.gov and follow the online instructions for submitting comments using FDMS Docket # EPA-HQ-SFUND-2008-0584, or send written comments to the following address:

Docket Coordinator, Headquarters
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
CERCLA Docket Office (Mail Code – 5305T)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington D.C. 20460
Phone number – 202-566-0276

Or using email address:

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U.S. EPA	UDEQ Records Center
Superfund Records Center	168 North 1950 West
1595 Wynkoop Street	Bldg. #2, First Fl.,Box 14484
Denver, CO 80202-1129	Salt Lake City, UT 84114
(303) 312-6473	(801) 536-4100

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Gwen Christiansen, EPA NPL Coordinator, 1 (800) 227-8917, x3126463, or Jennifer Chergo, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, 1 (800) 227-8917, x3126601

EPA adds U.S. Magnesium to the National Priorities List

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has added U.S. Magnesium in Tooele County, Utah, on the National Priority List (NPL). The NPL is a list of sites across the nation, known as Superfund sites, contaminated with hazardous substances. The NPL listing allows U.S. Magnesium to be eligible for extensive, long-term cleanup and guarantees the public opportunity to participate in cleanup decisions. For more information, please contact Jennifer Chergo, EPA Office of Public Affairs and Community Involvement, 303-312-6601 or 800-227-8917 (toll-free), chergo.jennifer@epa.gov. You can also visit the EPA Region 8 website: www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/ut/usmagnesium, or visit one of the following locations:

U.S. EPA
Superfund Records Center
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
303-312-6473

Utah Department of Environmental Quality
Records Center
168 North 1950 West
Bldg. #2, First Floor, Box 14484
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
801-536-4100

U.S. Magnesium Superfund Site

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8 JANUARY 2010

Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), with support from the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ), has listed the U.S. Magnesium site in Tooele County, Utah on the National Priorities List (NPL). The NPL is a list of sites across the nation that are contaminated with hazardous substances, commonly known as Superfund Sites. This allows EPA to make the cleanup of this site a high priority nationally and enables EPA and UDEQ to use Superfund authorities to clean up the site.

Site Description and Background

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The site is adjacent to the Great Salt Lake, an area that has been designated as a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network and is being considered as a Wetland of International Importance. It is an ecosystem that attracts mil lions of birds per year and houses many unique plants and animals as well as certain species of federal and state concern.

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Birds have been regularly observed in contact with or near contaminated areas on the site. Observations indicate that waterfowl die after coming into contact with the contamination. Bird egg studies have documented concentrations of PCB and HCB in eggs at or near the site. Additionally, the lake level has risen and flooded the site, creating an open conduit for contaminants to travel into the Great Salt Lake.

Dioxin, PCBs and HCB are present at levels potentially posing both cancer and non-cancer risks, including diabetes and immune system problems, to workers at the site.

For more information, please contact:

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dallison@utah.gov

Chad Gilgen
Utah Department of Environmental Quality
168 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84116
(801) 536-4237
cgilgen@utah.gov

Or go to our Website at:
www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/ut/usmagnesium