



EPA SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT ON CLEANUP WORK AT 19TH AVENUE LANDFILL SUPERFUND SITE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) started the fifth Five-Year Review (FYR) of the cleanup plans (or "remedies") at the Nineteenth Avenue Landfill Superfund site. The purpose of this FYR is to evaluate whether the cleanups plans are working as they were designed and that they still protect human health and the environment. According to the Superfund law, EPA is required to review a site remedy every five years if a cleanup takes more than five years to complete or if hazardous waste remains on-site. In the case of 19th Avenue, waste remains on-site as part of the remedy.

Background

The 213-acre site is in an industrial area of Phoenix, Arizona, at the southeast corner of 19th Avenue and Lower Buckeye Road. Site contamination came from former sand and gravel mining and later landfill operations for municipal refuse and various solid and liquid industrial wastes. The landfill operated until it was closed in 1979. The site was listed on the EPA National Priorities List (NPL), or "Superfund list," in 1983 and was deleted from the NPL in 2006 when cleanup goals had been met. The NPL is a list of the most hazardous toxic waste sites in the country. The last FYR was completed in 2015 and the next one will be conducted 2025. ADEQ is the lead agency overseeing the long-term operation and maintenance of the Superfund remedies being conducted by the City of Phoenix (the city.)

Cleanup Remedies in Place

The city constructed the remedy in 1996. The remedy includes safely containing contaminated materials and soils within the boundaries of the closed Nineteenth Avenue Landfill. It also includes putting a cap over the landfill wastes to limit water from entering the site. Finally, the remedy collected, flared and monitored methane gas from the landfill so the gas wouldn't move off-site. In addition, the city continues to monitor groundwater underlying the site.

What Is Included in a Five-Year Review?

The last Five-Year Review, done in 2015, found the cleanup remedies were working as intended and were protective of human health and the environment. The 2020 Five-Year Review will include the following:

- an inspection of the site and cleanup technologies;
- a review of data and maintenance records; and
- a review to see if any new laws or requirements have been put in place since the last Five-Year Review.

EPA and ADEQ Would Like to Hear from You!

We invite the community to learn more about the site and welcome your input about how you think the site remedies are working. If you would like to discuss the site or need more information, please contact either of the site project managers below before February 28, 2020:

- Lisa Kowalczyk, ADEQ, 602-771-3976, kowalczyk.lisa@azdeq.gov
- Nadia Hollan Burke, EPA, 415-972-3187 or toll free 800-231-3075, burke.nadiahollan@epa.gov

Site Information Repository

Visit ADEQ's web page at <https://azdeq.gov/superfund/19th-avenue-landfill> or EPA's web page at www.epa.gov/superfund/nineteenthave for more site information. An information repository that contains the site's Administrative Record (*i.e.*, a required set of key site-related documents and reports) is located at:

ADEQ Records Management Center
1110 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007
602-771-4380
Record Viewing: Tuesday-Thursday from 8:30am to 4:00pm

The Five-Year Review report will be completed no later than September 30, 2020. EPA will post a copy of the report on the site webpages and send a copy to the site information repository listed above.