

# United Verde

## Soil Program

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PO Box 730  
Clarkdale, AZ 86324

Telephone: 928-649-3614 or 520-240-1608  
E-mail: [UVSP@ghd.com](mailto:UVSP@ghd.com)

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### **Questions & Answers about the United Verde Soil Program and My Property**

#### **Why is Freeport Minerals Corporation (FMC) conducting the United Verde Soil Program (UVSP)?**

A copper smelter, located northwest of Clarkdale, was operated by the United Verde Copper Company (United Verde) from 1915 to 1932 and by Phelps Dodge Corporation from 1935 to 1953. As the successor to Phelps Dodge Corporation, FMC has elected to enter into the ADEQ Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP) to investigate potential impacts to soil from historical smelter operations. This environmental program is called the United Verde Soil Program (UVSP).

#### **What properties are eligible to participate in the UVSP?**

Residential, commercial and public properties (e.g., schools and parks) located in the current Study Area are eligible to participate in the program. The current Study Area was selected based on proximity to the former smelter location, development history and prevailing wind direction.

#### **How long will soil sampling efforts continue in the Study Area?**

FMC began soil sampling efforts in the spring of 2016 and will continue until all property sampling requests have been fulfilled. It should be noted that all UVSP activities, including soil sampling and, if necessary, soil cleanup will be performed by FMC at no cost to the property owner.

#### **How can I request soil sampling for my property?**

You have received a letter inviting you to participate in the UVSP, which indicates that our records show you are the owner of a property located within the current Study Area that is eligible for the UVSP. Accordingly, we request that you complete, sign, and return the enclosed property access agreement, which will allow our representatives to access your property to conduct soil sampling activities. You also may request an access agreement by contacting a UVSP representative at 928-649-3614 or 520-240-1608. If you are not the owner of a property within the Study Area, please contact us so we can update our records and contact the correct owner.

#### **If I request soil sampling at my property, what can I expect to happen next?**

Once we receive a signed property access agreement to perform soil sampling from the property owner, our soil sample teams will begin scheduling property visits. Property owners will be contacted to coordinate the timing of soil sample collection activities. Prior to sampling, underground utility locating teams will be dispatched to mark gas, water, sewer, telephone, and other service lines to the residence, office or other structures on the property in advance of the soil sampling visit.

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### **Will I need to be present during the soil sampling activities?**

A member of our soil sampling staff will notify you by phone when sampling activities are scheduled for your property. It is not necessary for you to be present during the soil sampling activities; however, if you wish to be present, the visit can be scheduled to ensure that you are present during sampling activities. Please remember to unlock gates and secure pets prior to the arrival of our sampling teams. If you have concerns regarding underground or overhead utilities on your property, or special landscaping circumstances our staff need to be aware of, please discuss these concerns with a member of our sampling staff prior to sample collection.

### **How will soil samples from my property be collected?**

A hand-held soil coring device will be used to dig small holes in several areas of the property. Soil samples will be collected from the ground surface to a depth of 12 to 24 inches below ground surface. After samples are collected, the core holes will be filled with material from the holes and/or material similar to that already present in the yard. Any disturbed vegetation will also be replaced. Collected soil samples will be sent to an Arizona-certified independent laboratory for metals analysis.

### **Will Freeport notify me of the soil testing results from my property?**

Yes. FMC will provide the results of the soil sampling analyses from your property to you in the form of a letter sent to the mailing address you provided on your access agreement. This letter likely will arrive within 8 to 12 weeks from the date that samples were collected.

### **What if the soil testing results for my property exceed ADEQ Soil Cleanup Levels?**

If the results from soil testing on your property indicate that one or more of the sampled yard areas have concentrations of metals that exceed ADEQ cleanup levels, FMC will provide you with the opportunity to participate in the soil cleanup phase of the program. This phase includes the removal of soil impacted above ADEQ cleanup levels, and its replacement with clean soil. It also includes landscape restoration. All of these activities will be performed at no cost to the property owner. If ADEQ soil cleanup levels are exceeded at one or more areas on your property, additional details of the cleanup phase of the program will be included in the soil sampling results letter that you will receive.

If you have additional questions or concerns about the soil sampling program, please visit our outreach office located at 200 N. Broadway in Clarkdale or call the UVSP office at 928-649-3614 or 520-240-1608 to speak with a program representative.