

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)

The ADEQ Mission and the Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Program Process



This is the Way



- Our history: Organized under the Arizona
 Department of Health Services ADHS until ADEQ
 became an established environmental regulatory
 agency under the Environmental Quality Act of
 1986.
- Our mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment in Arizona.
- Our vision: To become the No. 1 State
 Environmental Agency in the nation leading in environmental protection, technical and operation excellence, and radical simplicity for all.



What is WQARF?

- A state program
 established in 1986
 and revised in 1997
 patterned after the
 Federal Superfund
 program
- Established to safeguard public health, protect Arizona's unique environment and restore natural resources through investigation, management and remediation of soil and groundwater contaminated with hazardous substances.

The WQARF Program



Waste Programs
Division -Remedial
Projects Section

WQARF

Community Involvement: CI Team

- Primarily responsible for interactions with the public on behalf of the Agency
- Development and coordination of Community Advisory Boards
- Preparation of Community Involvement Plans and fact sheets
- Coordination of website updates with IT and site project manager
- Primary liaison between WQARF and Communications Team

Legal Support: LS Team

- Primarily handles legal issues associated with WQARF
- Site access
- Coordination with Attorney General's Office
- Potentially Responsible Party identification process
- Prospective Purchaser Agreements
- Cost Recovery

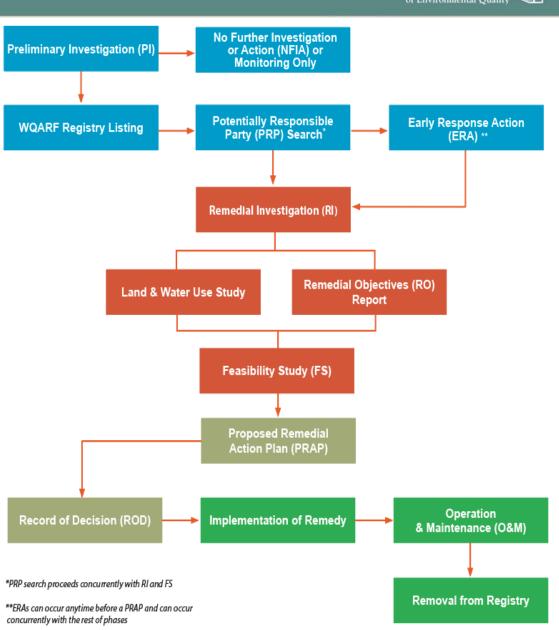
Project Management: PM Team

- Coordinates the entire WQARF process from PI through Delisting
- Much of the technical "heavy lifting" done through contractors on ASRAC List
- Responsible for Scope, Schedule and Budget

Phases of WQARF

ADEQ
Arizona Department
of Environmental Quality

- PI confirms release and determines if further investigation is necessary
- Registry Listing legally makes it a WQARF site
- RI –determines extent of release and evaluates public/environmental health risk
- FS provides options to best clean up the site
- PRAP proposes best cleanup option
- ROD announces final remedy for the site
- O&M –remedy is implemented and maintained until Site closure



Preliminary Investigation



- The WQARF process begins when ADEQ receives information about a release or potential release of a hazardous substance.
- This information may come from a citizen complaint, an investigation conducted by ADEQ or from an investigation conducted by an outside party.
- ADEQ assesses whether the information is credible, if another regulatory program has jurisdiction, if the site is already being cleaned up voluntarily, or if some additional information is needed.

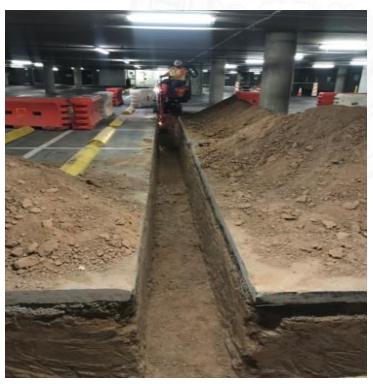


Early Response Action



If it is determined that there is a current risk to human health or the environment, then a remedial action may be taken prior to the selection of the final remedy.







Remedial Investigation (RI)



A more robust investigation that involves determining the nature and extent of contamination, a Land and Water Use Study, and development of Remedial Objectives (clean up goals)



Feasibility Study (FS)



An evaluation of remedial technologies and strategies is conducted to identify the most appropriate method to meet the Remedial Objectives





Proposed Remedial Action Plan



Based on the information gathered during the RI and FS, ADEQ selects and presents the proposed final remedy for public comment.











The official legal document that finalizes the proposed remedy. Once signed, implementation of the final remedy can begin.





Operation and Maintenance











Removal from WQARF Registry



After remediation of a Site has occurred, meaning all Remedial Objectives have been met, it can be removed from the WQARF Registry List!





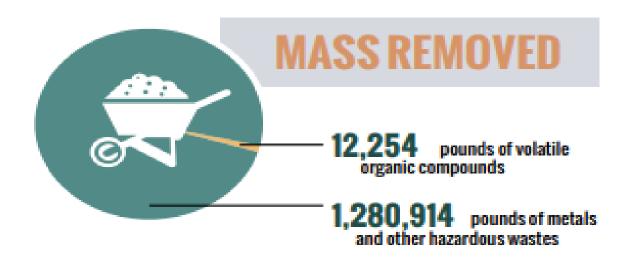


WQARF Program Annual Progress



FY21 MISSION OUTCOMES (OVERALL TOTALS)







Thank you!

