In May 2016, Huttig Building Products (Huttig) and its contractor, Terracon, Inc., began excavation of ash with cadmium concentrations above site-specific cleanup levels on the western portion of the Missoula White Pine Sash (MWPS) facility. Excavation of the ash was finished in early July and 3,051 tons of ash and impacted soil and debris were removed. The area was backfilled and reseeded.

At the same time as the ash excavation, Huttig collected dioxin samples from surface soils on the northern portion of the facility, as well as in a single residential yard. This was done to refine volume estimates and guide design of the upcoming excavation activities. Huttig also dug test pits in the methane generating wood waste areas to refine volume estimates and conducted sampling to determine whether the wood waste could be composted or required disposal offsite. Huttig also conducted groundwater monitoring in February and June.

**Additional work planned for 2017**

In mid-December, Huttig began investigating the former treatment area to refine volume estimates for use in designing the land treatment unit that will be used to treat the contaminated soils once excavated. Huttig will continue this investigation work in January 2017. DEQ anticipates additional work this winter will include:

- Collection of soil samples from 24 locations in the former treatment area;
- Removal of dioxin impacted soils from one residential yard;
- Removal of methane-generating soils in two areas on the northern portion of the facility;
- Removal of dioxin impacted soils that exceed cleanup levels from the northern portion of the facility.

After collection of the data from the former wood treatment area this winter, Huttig will begin work on the design of the land treatment unit, the soil excavation plan, and the chemical oxidation portion of the remedy. Land treatment uses soil microbes and sunlight to break down contamination in soil within a lined treatment cell. In addition, an oxidizing compound will be applied that causes a chemical reaction that breaks down contamination in deep soils and groundwater beneath the facility. DEQ will review the design report and provide comments and modifications to the document to ensure that it is consistent with regulatory requirements and the Record of Decision.

Design-related work is expected to extend into early summer 2017, with implementation to follow DEQ-approval of the design document.

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**Excavation of ash and impacted soils from the western portion of the facility.**
More Information

Additional information about the MWPS Facility can be found online at DEQ’s website at

http://deq.mt.gov/Land/statesuperfund/missoulawhitepinesash

Information can also be found at DEQ’s Waste Management and Remediation Division Helena Office at 1225 Cedar St. in Helena, Montana. Some of the documents are also available for review at the Mansfield Library at the University of Montana in Missoula.

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