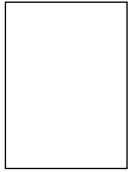


Montana Department of Environmental Quality

1225 Cedar Street
P.O. Box 200901
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Attention: David Bowers



Explanation of Significant Differences - Summary Montana Pole and Treating Plant Butte, Montana



February 2020

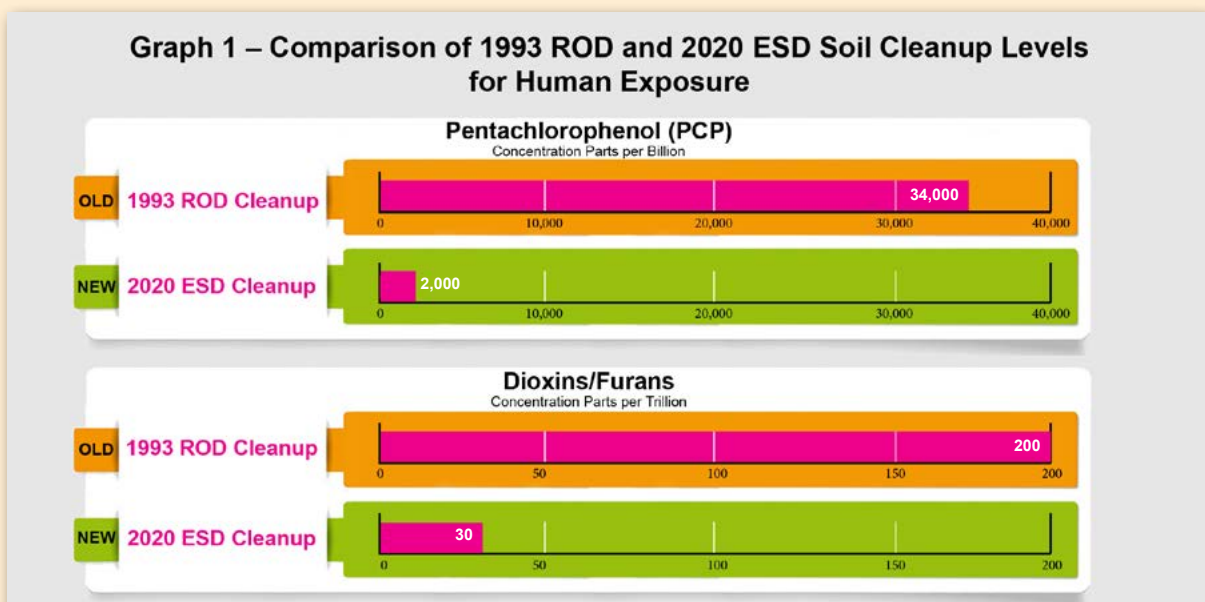
What is the Montana Pole “Explanation of Significant Differences” Document?

DEQ, working with EPA, prepared the Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) report that proposes changes to the original Montana Pole cleanup selected in the 1993 Record of Decision (ROD). The ESD proposes to change parts of the original ROD cleanup that were identified as needing improvement or changes based on current conditions. The evaluation, which identifies the needed improvements or changes, is found in the 2017 Montana Pole Fourth Five-Year Review (an evaluation of the ROD cleanup is required every five years).

What Will the Significant Changes Mean for the Montana Pole Cleanup?

- The proposed new cleanup levels will be lower and more protective than the existing cleanup levels (see Graph 1).
- All soils that do not meet the new cleanup levels for pentachlorophenol (PCP) and dioxins will be located on the Montana Pole property in a landfill called a CAMU (Correction Action Management Unit).
- The Montana Pole property south of the Interstate is approximately 36 acres.
- The CAMU will be approximately 9 acres of the south side’s 36 acres (see Map 1 and Cross-Section 1).
- The cleanup will allow the remaining 27 acres to be safely used for either commercial/industrial or recreational use.
- The CAMU will be inspected and maintained on a regular basis.

Graph 1 – Comparison of 1993 ROD and 2020 ESD Soil Cleanup Levels for Human Exposure



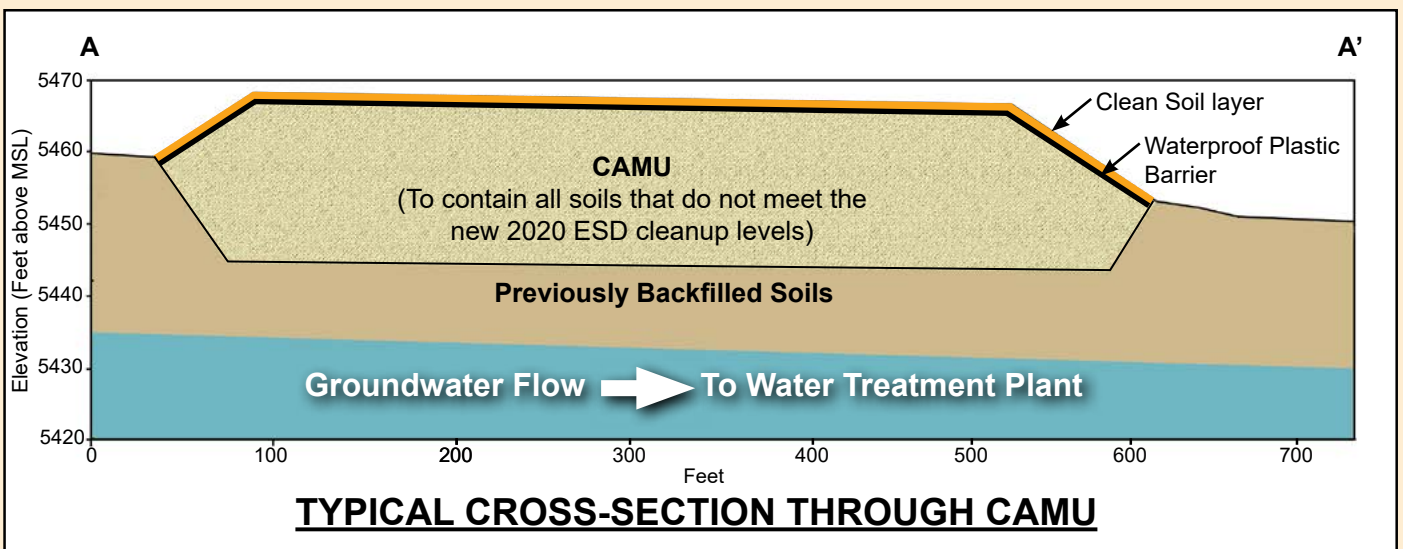
Things to Know...

- The ESD is being released in draft form for final public comment. The public is encouraged to provide input on the significant changes during this 30-day formal comment period (February 10 to March 10, 2020).
- A public meeting will be held on February 18, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. at the Butte Brewing Company, 465 E. Galena Street, Butte.
- The significant changes will be implemented after careful consideration of public comment and final approval by EPA and DEQ.
- Residential land use will not be allowed.



What is the Montana Pole Corrective Action Management Unit?

The Montana Pole CAMU is a landfill where the contaminated soil will be placed. By law, the CAMU must be located on Montana Pole property. The Montana Pole CAMU will be capped to prevent human exposure to contaminated soil. The CAMU cover will also prevent rainwater from soaking through to the soil under the cover and carrying PCP downward to the groundwater. The cover design will include a layer of clean soil protecting a heavy-duty, waterproof plastic barrier.



PROJECT CONTACTS

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