Montana Pole & Treating Plant





Site Update

March 2021



FINAL EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES

The final Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) has been released and proposes changes to the original cleanup plan to make the south-side of the site more protective of human health and the environment. The pentachlorophenol (PCP) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) both achieved the cleanup levels established in the original record of decision, while the dioxins did not achieve the established cleanup levels. The changes to the ESD include making the PCP cleanup levels more protective of groundwater than what was in the original 1993 Record of Decision and also calls for a new, more protective, dioxin cleanup level that will allow the site to be redeveloped for industrial or commercial use. All the contaminants are the result of the wood treating process that occurred onsite and are located in the soils.

The groundwater treatment plant continues to treat groundwater and is working as intended. Predesign investigations for cleanup of the north side of the site, including contamination under the interstate, will begin next year.

CONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN THIS SUMMER

Construction for final remediation cleanup will include placing the treated soils in a 9-acre, onsite designated engineered repository area called a Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU) that will remain in the state's control. The remaining 27 acres can be redeveloped after completion of cleanup.

Construction will begin this summer and will include best management practices to control dust and odor. Regular air monitoring will occur as part of the cleanup. DEQ will carefully manage the site during construction.

DEQ PUBLIC MEETINGS

Learn about the final Explanation of Significant Differences and the upcoming construction at online public meetings. The meetings can be accessed via computer or a telephone (landline or cell phone). The neighborhood meeting also offers an in person option.

Neighborhood Meeting April 20,

Time: 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The neighborhood is also hosting a viewing of the meeting at the Fire Training Center (350 Josette Ave) for those who need to attend in person.

EPA Community Public Meeting April 26, Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Register at: DEQ.mt.gov/Public/PublicMeetings or call 406-461-2503

Read the Final ESD and Learn More at: https://deq.mt.gov/Land/fedsuperfund/mtpole

INFORMATION

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