

Purpose

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Superfund Community Involvement Program advocates for and strengthens meaningful and ongoing community participation in environmental clean-ups. Because active community involvement is crucial to project success, EPA is committed to promoting communication and collaboration among community members and other agencies involved in site cleanup and reuse. Likewise, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) strives to provide opportunities for public participation, education and outreach when implementing Superfund projects in Montana.

For the Clark Fork River Operable Unit (CFROU) of the Milltown Reservoir/Clark Fork River Superfund Site (the site), the MDEQ is the lead agency and has responsible for site management and community relations activities. Community involvement activities are intended to:

- Inform the public of the nature of environmental issues associated with the site;
- Involve the public in clean-up decisions that will affect them;
- Involve the public in program responses under consideration; and,
- Inform the public of progress being made to implement cleanup remedies.

MDEQ has developed this Superfund Community Involvement Plan (CIP) to summarize public concerns about the site and to describe how people can engage throughout the Superfund process. The CIP is intended to serve as a basis for addressing community concerns.

MDEQ interviewed a range of private citizens, local government officials, and representatives from businesses and community organizations in Granite, Deer Lodge, Missoula, and Powell counties. This CIP synthesizes and presents information from those interviews, as well as information gathered from public meetings held to date.

As the lead agency, MDEQ is responsible for implementing the community involvement program outlined in this CIP. As site activities progress, the plan will be adapted, as necessary, to meet changing needs. To provide feedback or recommendations about this plan, please contact:

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