

remediation to be conducted under CERCLA.

Current Groundwater Conditions at the SIBW Deletion Area

There are three separate plumes of contaminated groundwater (eastern, central and western), resulting from former disposal practices at various SIBW subsites. The primary contaminants of concern in the groundwater are VOCs, primarily TCE and PCE. EPA characterized contamination in groundwater and issued a Record of Decision on September 30, 1998 for VOCs in groundwater at SIBW (Groundwater ROD). The remedies selected for the SIBW groundwater plumes are: monitored natural attenuation in the central and eastern plumes and extraction and treatment via air stripping in the western plume. The cleanup levels for the SIBW plumes are based on the federal Safe Drinking Water Act Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). The MCL for both TCE and PCE is 5 parts per billion (ppb).

The plume of groundwater with concentrations of TCE above 5 ppb in the vicinity of the SIBW Landfill Area is the eastern plume. This plume is located approximately 100 to 200 feet below ground surface (bgs) in a formation known as the Middle Alluvial Unit. The groundwater included in the SIBW Deletion Area is not part of the eastern plume and contains concentrations of TCE less than 5 ppb. Based on existing data, the groundwater in the middle alluvial unit with concentrations of TCE less than 5 ppb is represented as that portion of the groundwater underlying the SIBW Landfill Area that is not within the 5 ppb TCE contour line as depicted on Figure 2 (available for viewing in the Deletion Docket). Once the partial deletion is effective, the only area remaining on the NPL north of Rio Salado Parkway will be the extent of groundwater contamination in the middle alluvial unit above 5 ppb TCE. This area is shown on Figure 2 as the overlap of the southeast corner of the SIBW Landfill Area and the 5 ppb TCE contour. This overlap has been estimated to cover approximately 7.4 acres.

Additional data may be obtained prior to the final Notice of Deletion that would allow for refinement of the definition of extent of groundwater which is presently above 5 ppb TCE depicted on Figure 2 (available for viewing in the Deletion Docket). Such information would then be set out in the final Notice of Deletion.

Community Relations Activities

Community interest in this site has been relatively low. With the exception of persons wanting to purchase property in the area, very few calls are received from citizens interested in activities at SIBW. EPA issued a fact sheet in February 2002 which described the January 2002 Plug-in Determination for seven (7) SIBW Subsides including the Allstate Subsite. EPA has also conducted two formal public meetings. The first was on July 7, 1993 and was to present the proposed Soil Vapor Extraction Plug-in Remedy and the second was on September 24, 1997 to present the proposed groundwater remedy.

Current Status

The SIBW Landfill Area has been investigated and the plug-in analysis has been performed in accordance with the 1993 Soils ROD. As prescribed by the ROD, SVE remediation is not required and therefore, no further federal CERCLA action is necessary at the SIBW Landfill Area to protect human health and the environment with respect to VOCs in soils. However, any attempt to develop the SIBW Landfill Area should be coordinated with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), as well as other appropriate state and local agencies, to ensure that non-CERCLA environmental issues associated with these properties are fully investigated and addressed prior to development of the area. In accordance with 40 CFR 300.425(e)(1)(ii), EPA has determined that all appropriate Fund-financed response under CERCLA has been implemented in accordance with the 1993 Soils ROD, and no further response action by responsible parties is appropriate.

While EPA does not believe that any future response actions at the SIBW Deletion Area will be needed with respect to CERCLA, if future conditions warrant such action, the proposed deletion area of the SIBW Site remains eligible for future Fund-financed response actions. In order to be eligible for future Fund-financed response actions the deleted portion of the SIBW site would either have to be re-listed on the NPL or an imminent and substantial threat would have to be documented that would warrant a CERCLA removal action. Furthermore, this partial deletion does not alter the status of the groundwater operable unit or the remaining subsites of the SIBW Site which are not proposed for deletion and remain on the NPL.

In a letter dated July 2, 2002 the State of Arizona through its Department of Environmental Quality, has pledged its support for the partial deletion of this portion of the SIBW Site.

Dated: February 14, 2003.

Keith Takata,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region IX.

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FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

44 CFR Part 5

RIN 3067-AC75

Production or Disclosure of Information

AGENCY: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

ACTION: Withdrawal of notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: On August 28, 1998, FEMA published a proposed rule concerning the production or disclosure of information, (63 FR 45982). There have been numerous changes to FEMA's program for the production or disclosure of information since FEMA published this notice of proposed rulemaking. Therefore, FEMA is withdrawing its notice of proposed rulemaking for the production or disclosure of information.

DATES: February 28, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 28, 1998, FEMA published a Notice for proposed rulemaking for the production or disclosure of information, (63 FR 45982). There have been numerous changes to FEMA's program for the production or disclosure of information since FEMA published its August 28, 1998 Notice of proposed rulemaking. Therefore, FEMA is withdrawing its notice of proposed rulemaking for the production or disclosure of information.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. 552 as amended by sections 1801-1804 of the Omnibus Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986 which contains the Freedom of Information Reform Act of 1986 (Pub. L. 99-570); 5 U.S.C. 301 (Pub. L. 85-619); Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978; E.O. 12127; and E.O. 12148.