



Region 7

Iowa  
Kansas  
Missouri  
Nebraska

# Fact Sheet

December 2004

## Proposed Cleanup Plan Out for Public Comment Former Sheller-Globe Facility, Keokuk, Iowa

### INTRODUCTION

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 invites the public to comment on the proposed cleanup plan for the former Sheller-Globe Facility in Keokuk, Iowa. The public comment period will start on Fri., December 17, 2004 and end on Tues., January 18, 2005.

In addition, EPA will hold a public meeting so community members can learn about the proposed cleanup plan. EPA representatives will be available to answer any questions about the proposal. Meeting details are located in the box to the right. The meeting is open to the public.

### PROPOSED CLEANUP PLAN

#### ***Excavate and Dispose Soil***

The proposal includes removal of contaminated soils. After removal, the soil will be disposed in an off-site landfill.

#### ***Monitored Natural Attenuation***

Monitored natural attenuation will be used to address groundwater contamination. Monitored natural attenuation uses natural processes to reduce contaminant concentrations over time. These processes include:

- Adsorption (when contaminants stick permanently to soil particles)
- Biological degradation (use of

### How to Submit Your Comments

Please submit your written comments on the proposed cleanup plan to:

**Shane Reed**  
**EPA Region 7 ARTD/RCAP**  
**901 N. 5th Street**  
**Kansas City, Kansas 66101**  
**Phone: (913) 551-7988 or**  
**Toll free: (800)223-0425**

Written comments will be accepted from December 17, 2004 to January 18, 2005.

### How to Learn More

Please attend the public meeting to learn more about the proposed cleanup plan:

**For Whom:** Keokuk community and any other interested person

**When:** January 10, 2005  
6:30pm to 8pm

**Where:** Keokuk Public Library  
210 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street

**Who:** EPA will be available to answer any questions about the proposal.

contaminants as a food source by microbes)

The groundwater will be monitored until it meets federal drinking water standards.

## **BACKGROUND**

In 1914, the facility began making rubber and foam rubber products for the automotive industry. The company reorganized and produced rubber gloves, hoses, gas masks and sponge rubber parts. In 1957, the facility began producing urethane foam for the furniture and automobile industries.

## **THE CONTAMINATION**

Investigations detected the presence of contaminants in soil and groundwater near the Chemical Mixing Building. Five underground solvent product tanks, located near the east side of the building, were the main source of soil and groundwater contamination. The tanks included:

- Methylene Chloride
- Trichloroethene (TCE)
- 1,1,1-trichloroethane (TCA)
- Butanol
- Ethanol
- Toluene

In addition to the underground tanks, other areas of contamination were identified:

- An underground pipeline that connected the former solvent product tanks to the facility;
- A former underground gasoline tank located northeast of the Chemical Mixing Building;
- A former hazardous waste drum storage area (the Old Hazardous Waste Storage Area) located east

and south of the Chemical Mixing Building; and

- A former Chemical Mixing Building located in the area between monitoring wells MW-12 and MW-20.

The five tanks were removed in October 1989.

The facility, working under an agreement with EPA, determined the nature and extent of contamination. This work is addressed under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

EPA encourages the community to review the Administrative Record and comment on the proposed cleanup plan and other evaluated alternatives. Comments or requests should be submitted by January 18, 2005.

Guidelines for Commenting:

- Explain your views and tell us why you feel that way.
- Tell us if you support or disagree with the recommendation. Please be specific.
- Can you provide alternatives?

The administrative record is available at the following locations:

Keokuk Public Library  
210 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Keokuk, Iowa 52632  
(319) 524-1483

Hours of Operation:  
Mon.-Thurs. 9:30am-8pm  
Fri. 9:30am-5pm  
Sat. 9:30am-1pm

EPA Region 7  
Information Resource Center  
901 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101  
913-551-7241

Hours of Operation:  
Mon.- Fri. 9 am-3:30pm

A more formal public hearing has not been scheduled for this action but will be held if there is sufficient public interest.

Requests for a public hearing must be made in writing to the EPA contact at the address listed on page one and must state the nature of issues to be raised at the hearing. EPA will evaluate any request and hold a formal hearing, if it finds that a hearing will contribute to the decision-making process by clarifying significant issues affecting the cleanup remedy.

EPA will make a final cleanup decision only after the public comment period ends and all comments are reviewed. EPA may modify the proposed remedy or choose another one, based on any new information and comments from the public.

If you have questions about this fact sheet or need additional information, please contact:

**Shawntell Martin**  
Office of External Programs  
U.S. EPA Region 7  
901 N. 5th Street  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Phone: 913-551-7003 or 1-800-223-0425