



Region 7

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Fact Sheet

August 2003

EPA to Begin Construction on Remedial Action 10th Street Superfund Site, Columbus, Nebraska

UPDATE

The purpose of this fact sheet is to provide an update of the Environmental Protection Agency's actions at the 10th Street Superfund site in Columbus, Nebraska, and to announce a public availability session. Detailed specifications and drawings are being prepared, and construction is set to begin in late Summer, 2003. The contract for construction has been awarded to Arrowhead Contracting, Inc. EPA will hold a public availability session on August 27, 2003, at the City Council Chambers in order to give the community the opportunity to discuss the project and ask questions.

SELECTED REMEDY

In September 2001, EPA issued an Interim Action Record of Decision (ROD) to address ground water contamination. The remedy in the ROD included the following components:

- ☞ removal of contaminated ground water at municipal well W-1;
- ☞ interception of the plume using extraction wells located up from the City's southern municipal well field;
- ☞ treatment, as appropriate, of contaminated ground water removed from municipal well W-1 and the extraction wells;
- ☞ discharge of treated ground water to surface water via the City's storm sewer system or to the City's distribution system, or reuse through other options; and

- ☞ continued operation of the Air Sparging/Soil Vapor Extraction (AS/SVE) treatment system located at the One Hour Martinizing (OHM) source area.

EPA, the Nebraska Health & Human Services Systems (NHHSS), and the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) have evaluated the Preliminary Design, which included the proposed location and capacity of

PUBLIC AVAILABILITY SESSION

EPA will hold a public availability session to provide information and answer questions on the construction start at the 10th Street Site. The public availability session will be held:

**Wednesday, August 27, 2003
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
1369 25th Ave.
Columbus, Nebraska**

For more information please contact:

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the extraction wells and treatment system, and general description of each of the remedy components. Currently, EPA has installed one extraction well in the vicinity of 12th Street, north of the Union Pacific Railroad tracks and plans to install an additional extraction well in that area and one in the vicinity of 13th Street and 21st Avenue.

Ground water extracted from these wells will be treated by passing the water through an air stripper, which will be located adjacent to the City's existing water plant, in the vicinity of 11th Street and 28th Avenue. This treatment will remove volatile organic compounds from the ground water. Treated water will then be delivered to the City's water distribution system for use by the City or discharged to the storm sewer. The final design and construction will comply with state and federal water supply requirements.

THE CITY'S WATER IS SAFE

The City's water supply remains safe for public consumption. The recommended actions are necessary to ensure that the south well field can continue to be safely used by the citizens of Columbus, now and in the future. Overall, the City provides water that is safe and within the standards set by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Because of concerns related to contamination in the vicinity of the south well field, much of the City's water comes from the north well field.

EPA will deliver treated water to the City, with contamination related to the 10th Street site removed to levels below those established by the SDWA. EPA will work with the City and the NHHSS (state agency responsible for monitoring public water systems) to establish a program to monitor this water prior to providing it to the City. The City will continue to be responsible for assuring and reporting to the state that the water is safe for consumption.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

EPA is available to discuss and answer questions regarding the ongoing and planned response actions.

KEEPING THE PUBLIC INFORMED

It is EPA's commitment to keep the Columbus community informed about site activities throughout the cleanup process. Some of the communication tools used to convey information to the public include: fact sheets, newspaper ads, public meetings, and community visits. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact:

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