

EPA Advancing Clean Up at 15 Hazardous Waste Sites, Proposing 11 Sites for Action

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EPA

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is adding 15 hazardous waste sites that pose risks to people's health and the environment to the National Priorities List (NPL) of Superfund sites. EPA is also proposing 11 sites to be added to the list. Superfund is the federal program that investigates and cleans up the most complex, uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites in the country with the goal of protecting people's health and the environment through long-term and short-term cleanup activities.

To date, 1,652 sites have been listed on the NPL. Of these sites, 350 sites have been cleaned up, resulting in 1,302 sites currently on the NPL (including the 15 sites added today). There are 62 proposed sites (including the 11 announced today) awaiting final agency action.

With all NPL sites, EPA works to identify companies or people responsible for the contamination at a site, and require them to conduct or pay for the cleanup. For the newly listed sites without viable potentially responsible parties, EPA will investigate the full extent of the contamination before starting significant cleanup at the site. Therefore, it may be several years before significant EPA clean up funding is required for these sites.

The following 15 sites have been added to the National Priorities List:

- Blue Ledge Mine (abandoned mine) in Rogue River – Siskiyou National Forest, Calif.;
- New Idria Mercury Mine (abandoned mercury mine) in Idria, Calif.;
- Armstrong World Industries (ceiling tile manufacturer) in Macon, Ga.;
- Sandoval Zinc Company (former zinc smelter) in Sandoval, Ill.;
- Gary Development Landfill (former landfill) in Gary, Ind.;
- Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp – Columbus (former pressure –treated railroad products manufacturer) in Columbus, Miss.;
- Red Panther Chemical Company (former pesticides formulation plant) in Clarksdale, Miss.;
- Horton Iron and Metal (former fertilizer manufacturer and metal salvage) in Wilmington, N.C.;
- Garfield Ground Water Contamination (contaminated ground water plume) in Garfield, N.J.;
- Chevron Questa Mine (molybdenum mine) in Questa, N.M.;
- New Cassel/Hicksville Ground Water Contamination (contaminated ground water plume) in Hicksville, Hempstead, and North Hempstead, N.Y.;

- North Ridge Estates (former WWII medical facility) in Klamath Falls, Ore.;
- US Finishing/Cone Mills (former textile operation) in Greenville, S.C.;
- Alamo Contaminated Ground Water (contaminated ground water plume) in Alamo, Tenn.; and
- Falcon Refinery (inactive refinery) in Ingleside, Texas.

The following 11 sites have been proposed to the National Priorities List:

- Jervis B. Webb Co. (former manufacturer) in South Gate, Calif.;
- Seam Master Industries (adhesive manufacturer) in South Gate, Calif.;
- Continental Cleaners (former dry cleaners) in Miami, Fla.;
- Leeds Metal (former scrap metal facility) in Leeds, Maine;
- Compass Plaza Well TCE (contaminated ground water plume) in Rogersville, Mo.;
- Eighteenmile Creek (contaminated creek) in Niagra County, N.Y.;
- Southeastern Wood Preserving (former wood treating operation) in Canton, Miss.;
- Metro Container Corporation (former drum recycler) in Trainer, Pa.;
- Corozal Well (contaminated ground water plume) in Corozal, Puerto Rico;
- US Oil Recovery (used oil recovery facility) in Pasadena, Texas; and
- Bremerton Gasworks (former gasworks facility) in Bremerton, Wash.

Federal Register notices and supporting documents for the final and proposed sites: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl/current.htm>

Information about how a site is listed on the NPL: http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl/npl_hrs.htm

Superfund sites in local communities: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/index.htm>

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