



Five Points PCE Plume FACT SHEET



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8

Davis County Utah

February 2007

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ) are providing this fact sheet to inform you about the potential placement of the Five Points PCE Plume (Five Points) on the National Priorities List (NPL). The listing will enable the EPA and UDEQ to find all Potentially Responsible Parties (PRP) for the contamination and to facilitate cleanup.

BACKGROUND

The Five Points PCE Plume is an area of groundwater contamination below the ground's surface. The plume is located approximately at the intersection of 1500 South and state highway 106, extending to the west-northwest. The contaminant of concern is tetrachloroethylene (PCE), sometimes called perchloroethylene (PERC). PCE is a solvent used for dry cleaning and metal degreasing.

Woods Cross City has four municipal water wells to provide drinking water to the community of 7400 people. Two of these wells are contaminated with PCE. One of the wells consistently shows levels above the safe drinking water standard for PCE.

This well provides over 33% of the city's water supply. Periodic sampling has shown that overtime the level of contamination increases. This well is offline at this time and has not been used for the past five years. The other affected well contains PCE levels under the safe drinking water standards. The safe drinking water standard for PCE is 5 parts per billion (ppb).

WHAT ARE THE CONCERNS?

Two of the four wells Woods Cross City uses to supply drinking water to its citizens are contaminated with PCE. One of these wells is no longer pumping water, but will be needed in the next few years to help meet the increased demand for water. It is possible that concentrations of PCE will increase over time if the groundwater contamination is not addressed. The proposed listing is to address this complex problem before it gets worse.

IS THE WATER IN WOODS CROSS SAFE TO DRINK?

Yes, the water supplied by the city is safe to drink. The water is routinely monitored to ensure drinking water standards established by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) are met.

WHO WILL PAY FOR THE CLEANUP?

If the plume is listed on the NPL, those determined to be responsible for the contamination will pay for the cleanup. If the Responsible Parties are unable to pay, Federal Superfund dollars will be used to fund the cleanup. The city and homeowners in the area are not considered Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) for the Five Points Plume and therefore do not have any financial responsibility.

The EPA and UDEQ have the authority under the Superfund law to make the decision on how to address the plume.

The Superfund law also requires that the stakeholders and the community be given every opportunity to have meaningful input on how the plume is addressed. Both EPA and UDEQ hope that local government as well as any interested citizens or groups will become our partners in deciding how to address the Five Points Plume.

HOW WILL THE COMMUNITY PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED NPL LISTING?

Before proposing the Five Points Plume to the NPL, EPA and UDEQ staff have spoken extensively with local officials and other stakeholders to understand their concerns. EPA and UDEQ have obtained the necessary letter of concurrence from the Governor of Utah supporting the proposal.

When the plume is formally proposed to the NPL, the public has an opportunity to comment

on the proposal during a 60-day public comment period. After all comments have been addressed, the final decision will be made on whether or not to list the Five Points Plume.

WILL YOU PLACE MY HOME/LAND/PROPERTY ON THE NPL?

No, we will list the plume itself. The plume consists of groundwater contamination, not the land above it. Your property will not be listed. More details are available in the EPA groundwater policy

WHEN WILL THE FIVE POINTS PCE PLUME BE PROPOSED FOR THE NPL?

If there are no unexpected delays, EPA and UDEQ plan to propose the Five Points Plume for listing on the NPL in late March 2007. The final listing would occur in the Fall of 2007.

If you are interested in an informational meeting or being added to our email or mailing list, please send an email with your name and address to:

linn.peggy@epa.gov or send a note to the address listed below.

Also visit our Web Site:

<http://www.epa.gov/region8/supfund/ut/fivepoints>

Contact Information:

Gwen Christiansen, NPL Coordinator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
303-312-6463
1-800-227-8917 x6463
christiansen.gwen@epa.gov

Craig Barnitz, Project Manager

Utah Department of Environmental Quality
168 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4801
801-536-0071
cbarnitz@utah.gov

Peggy Linn, Community Involvement Coor.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
303-312-6622
1-800-227-8917 x6622
linn.peggy@epa.gov

Dave Allison, Community Involvement Coor.

Utah Department of Environmental Quality
168 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4801
801-536-4479
dallison@utah.gov