

DOCUMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATOR DETERMINATION  
Interim Final 2/5/99  
RCRA Corrective Action  
Environmental Indicator (EI) RCRIS code (CA725)  
Current Human Exposures Under Control

Facility Name: **LTV Aliquippa (Formerly: Bet Tech Intl Blacks Run, LTV Steel)**  
Facility Address: 3468 Brodhead Rd  
Monoca, PA 15061  
Facility EPA ID #: PAD000805028

1. Has all available relevant/significant information on known and reasonably suspected releases to soil, groundwater, surface water/sediments, and air, subject to RCRA Corrective Action (e.g., from Solid Waste Management Units (SWMU), Regulated Units (RU), and Areas of Concern (AOC)), been **considered** in this EI determination?

- If yes - check here and continue with #2 below.
- If no - re-evaluate existing data, or
- If data are not available, skip to #6 and enter "IN" (more information needed) status code.

**BACKGROUND** – The facility consists of a closed RCRA Hazardous Waste Landfill, designated the Secure Landfill, and a slag landfill, designated the Residual Waste Area.

- The Secure Landfill was closed with a RCRA cap and post-closure care under a PADEP Consent Order and post-closure plan.
- The slag in the Residual Waste Area is being mined and monitored under a PA Mining Permit.

Both landfill areas are monitored for potential releases to the groundwater and surface water.

**Definition of Environmental Indicators (for the RCRA Corrective Action)**

Environmental Indicators (EI) are measures being used by the RCRA Corrective Action program to go beyond programmatic activity measures (e.g., reports received and approved, etc.) to track changes in the quality of the environment. The two EI developed to-date indicate the quality of the environment in relation to current human exposures to contamination and the migration of contaminated groundwater. An EI for non-human (ecological) receptors is intended to be developed in the future.

**Definition of "Current Human Exposures Under Control" EI**

A positive "Current Human Exposures Under Control" EI determination ("YE" status code) indicates that there are no "unacceptable" human exposures to "contamination" (i.e., contaminants in concentrations in excess of appropriate risk-based levels) that can be reasonably expected under current land- and groundwater-use conditions (for all "contamination" subject to RCRA corrective action at or from the identified facility (i.e., site-wide)).

**Relationship of EI to Final Remedies**

While Final remedies remain the long-term objective of the RCRA Corrective Action program the EI are near-term objectives which are currently being used as Program measures for the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, GPRA). The "Current Human Exposures Under Control" EI are for reasonably expected human exposures under current land- and groundwater-use conditions ONLY, and do not consider potential future land- or groundwater-use conditions or ecological receptors. The RCRA Corrective Action program's overall mission to protect human health and the environment requires that Final remedies address these issues (i.e., potential future human exposure scenarios, future land and groundwater uses, and ecological receptors).

**Duration / Applicability of EI Determinations**

EI Determinations status codes should remain in RCRIS national database ONLY as long as they remain true (i.e., RCRIS status codes must be changed when the regulatory authorities become aware of contrary information).

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2. Are groundwater, soil, surface water, sediments, or air **media** known or reasonably suspected to be “contaminated”<sup>1</sup> above appropriately protective risk-based “levels” (applicable promulgated standards, as well as other appropriate standards, guidelines, guidance, or criteria) from releases subject to RCRA Corrective Action (from SWMUs, RUs or AOCs)?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>Rationale / Key Contaminants</u>
				See rational / references - below
Groundwater		X		
Air (indoors) <sup>2</sup>		X		
Surface Soil (e.g., <2 ft)	X			Waste in landfills – metals
Surface Water		X		
Sediment		X		
Subsurf. Soil (e.g., >2 ft)	X			Waste in landfills – metals
Air (outdoors)		X		

- If no (for all media) - skip to #6, and enter “YE,” status code after providing or citing appropriate “levels,” and referencing sufficient supporting documentation demonstrating that these “levels” are not exceeded.
- If yes (for any media) - continue after identifying key contaminants in each “contaminated” medium, citing appropriate “levels” (or provide an explanation for the determination that the medium could pose an unacceptable risk), and referencing supporting documentation.
- If unknown (for any media) - skip to #6 and enter “IN” status code.

**Rationale:**

Groundwater (8 wells) and surface water (4 locations) are monitored on a quarterly basis under the Pa Mining Permit (**Residual Waste Area**) and Consent Order (**Secure Landfill**).

Samples are analyzed for metals, facility specific VOCs, and indicator parameters.

- Groundwater data show no releases above drinking water screening standards, with the exception of slightly elevated lead concentrations.

- Lead concentrations averaged over the year are below the MCL (15 ppb) at each and every well.

- Lead concentrations averaged over all wells are below the MCL (15 ppb) for each and every quarter.

- These sporadic elevated levels at the perimeter of the landfill do not qualify as “contamination.”

- Surface water data show no releases.

Surface and subsurface soil: waste remains in place in both landfill areas.

Air: No volatile contaminants have been detected in the monitoring samples.

**Reference:**

- Bet-Tech International 2014 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report  
Blacks Run Secure Landfill, Trant Corp., 1/08/15
- Bet-Tech International Hazardous Waste Monitoring Report, 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2015, 4/29/2015
- Bet-Tech International Hazardous Waste Monitoring Report, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015, 7/29/2015
- Beaver Valley Slag, - SMP 04000301, Blacks Run Mine 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2015 – Baseline Groundwater Analysis, 4/29/2015
- Beaver Valley Slag, - SMP 04000301, Blacks Run Mine 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2015 – Baseline Groundwater Analysis, 7/29/2015
- Data evaluation memo, LTV/Bet-Tech, 2014 and 2015 (1<sup>st</sup>Q and 2<sup>nd</sup>Q), Maureen Essenthier, EPA RCRA Project Manager, September 25, 2015

Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup> “Contamination” and “contaminated” describes media containing contaminants (in any form, NAPL and/or dissolved, vapors, or solids, that are subject to RCRA) in concentrations in excess of appropriately protective risk-based “levels” (for the media, that identify risks within the acceptable risk range).

<sup>2</sup> Recent evidence (from the Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment, and others) suggest that unacceptable indoor air concentrations are more common in structures above groundwater with volatile contaminants than previously believed. This is a rapidly developing field and reviewers are encouraged to look to the latest guidance for the appropriate methods and scale of demonstration necessary to be reasonably certain that indoor air (in structures located above (and adjacent to) groundwater with volatile contaminants) does not present unacceptable risks.

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3. Are there **complete pathways** between “contamination” and human receptors such that exposures can be reasonably expected under the current (land- and groundwater-use) conditions?

**Summary Exposure Pathway Evaluation Table**

Potential **Human Receptors** (Under Current Conditions)

<b>“Contaminated” Media</b>	Residents	Workers	Day-Care	Construction	Trespassers	Recreation	Food <sup>3</sup>
Groundwater	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Air (indoors)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Soil (surface, e.g., <2 ft)	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Surface Water	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Sediment	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Soil (subsurface e.g., >2 ft)	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
Air (outdoors)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Instructions for Summary Exposure Pathway Evaluation Table:

- Strike-out specific Media including Human Receptors’ spaces for Media which are not “contaminated” as identified in #2 above.
- enter “yes” or “no” for potential “completeness” under each “Contaminated” Media -- Human Receptor combination (Pathway).

Note: In order to focus the evaluation to the most probable combinations some potential “Contaminated” Media - Human Receptor combinations (Pathways) do not have check spaces (“\_\_\_\_\_”). While these combinations may not be probable in most situations they may be possible in some settings and should be added as necessary.

- If no (pathways are not complete for any contaminated media-receptor combination) - skip to #6, and enter “YE” status code, after explaining and/or referencing condition(s) in-place, whether natural or man-made, preventing a complete exposure pathway from each contaminated medium (e.g., use optional Pathway Evaluation Work Sheet to analyze major pathways).
- If yes (pathways are complete for any “Contaminated” Media - Human Receptor combination) - continue after providing supporting explanation.
- If unknown (for any “Contaminated” Media - Human Receptor combination) - skip to #6 and enter “IN” status code.

**Rationale:**

**Surface Soil - Secure Landfill** – RCRA cap over waste; therefore, no exposure.

- **Residual Waste Area** – possible exposure during “mining” (excavation of slag).

**Subsurface Soil** – Subsurface contamination (waste material) is not accessible.

**Reference:**

- PA Consent Order and Agreement, Bet-Tech International, Inc, Blacks Run Hazardous Waste Landfill, I.D. N. PAD 000 805 058, 12/15/2004
- Beaver Valley Slag Non-Coal Surface Mining Permit No. 04000301

<sup>3</sup> Indirect Pathway/Receptor (e.g., vegetables, fruits, crops, meat and dairy products, fish, shellfish, etc.)

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4. Can the **exposures** from any of the complete pathways identified in #3 be reasonably expected to be **“significant”**<sup>4</sup> (i.e., potentially “unacceptable” because exposures can be reasonably expected to be: 1) greater in magnitude (intensity, frequency and/or duration) than assumed in the derivation of the acceptable “levels” (used to identify the “contamination”); or 2) the combination of exposure magnitude (perhaps even though low) and contaminant concentrations (which may be substantially above the acceptable “levels”) could result in greater than acceptable risks)?
- If no (exposures can not be reasonably expected to be significant (i.e., potentially “unacceptable”) for any complete exposure pathway) - skip to #6 and enter “YE” status code after explaining and/or referencing documentation justifying why the exposures (from each of the complete pathways) to “contamination” (identified in #3) are not expected to be “significant.”
  - If yes (exposures could be reasonably expected to be “significant” (i.e., potentially “unacceptable”) for any complete exposure pathway) - continue after providing a description (of each potentially “unacceptable” exposure pathway) and explaining and/or referencing documentation justifying why the exposures (from each of the remaining complete pathways) to “contamination” (identified in #3) are not expected to be “significant.”
  - If unknown (for any complete pathway) - skip to #6 and enter “IN” status code

**Rationale:** Excavation under mining permit places controls on activities to prevent unacceptable exposure


**Reference:** Beaver Valley Slag Non-Coal Surface Mining Permit No. 04000301


<sup>4</sup> If there is any question on whether the identified exposures are “significant” (i.e., potentially “unacceptable”) consult a human health Risk Assessment specialist with appropriate education, training and experience.

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6. Check the appropriate RCRIS status codes for the Current Human Exposures Under Control EI (event code CA725), and obtain Supervisor (or appropriate Manager) signature and date on the EI determination below (attach appropriate supporting documentation as well as a map of the facility).

- YE - Yes, "Current Human Exposures Under Control" has been verified. Based on a review of the information contained in this EI Determination, "Current Human Exposures" are expected to be "Under Control" at the (insert facility and EPA ID #), located at (insert address) under current and reasonably expected conditions. This determination will be re-evaluated when the Agency/State becomes aware of significant changes at the facility.
- NO - "Current Human Exposures" are NOT "Under Control."
- IN - More information is needed to make a determination.

Completed by (signature)  Date: 9/28/2015  
(print) Maureen Essenthier  
(title) RCRA Project Manager

Supervisor (signature)  Date 9-29-15  
(print) Paul Gotthold  
(title) Assoc Director, LCD  
(EPA Region or State) EPA Region 3

Locations where References may be found:

US EPA Region III  
Land and Chemicals Division  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality  
Office of Remediation Programs  
629 East Main Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

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