



SECTION 1

Overview of the Community Involvement Plan

This Community Involvement Plan, or CIP, has been developed for the B & T Metals Superfund Site, located in Gering, Scotts Bluff County, Nebraska, where the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is conducting a Superfund time-critical removal action. EPA is conducting activities at the site, pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, or CERCLA, a federal law passed in 1980 and commonly called Superfund, and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, or NCP, revised in 1990.

Superfund is responsible for cleaning up some of the nation's most contaminated land and responding to environmental emergencies. To protect public health and the environment, the Superfund program focuses on ensuring that people can live and work in healthy, vibrant places. Removal actions are generally short-term actions to prevent, minimize or mitigate damage to human health and welfare or the environment. Removals can be triggered by fires, leaks, explosions, or other releases or threats of releases of hazardous substances. Removals may be conducted under emergency, time-critical, or non-time-critical situations if a release or threat of a release poses a threat to public health, welfare, or the environment.

Site Contacts:

<p>Pamela Houston Community Involvement Coordinator Phone: 913-551-7699 Toll-free: 1-800-223-0425 Email: houston.pamela@epa.gov Office of Public Affairs U.S. EPA Region 7 11201 Renner Boulevard Lenexa, KS 66219</p>	<p>Kirk Mammoliti On-Scene Coordinator Phone: 913-551-7902 Toll-free: 1-800-223-0425 Email: mammoliti.kirk@epa.gov Superfund & Emergency Management U.S. EPA Region 7 11201 Renner Boulevard Lenexa, KS 66219</p>
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This CIP is intended to:

- Encourage community interest and participation throughout EPA's involvement at the site.
- Initiate and support two-way communication between EPA and the community.
- Help ensure that community members understand the Superfund process and the opportunities it presents them to participate in the decision-making process regarding site cleanup.

SECTION 2

Site Background

Site Description

The B & T Metals Superfund Site is an approximately 1.63-acre commercial/industrial property at 1855 3rd Street in Gering, Scotts Bluff County, Nebraska. The site's land area consists of both privately owned property (1.15 acres) and encroachment onto the city of Gering's right-of-way (0.48 acre). The site is located a half-mile northeast of downtown Gering (T21N, R55W, Section 1). It is bounded to the north by residential properties; to the east by agricultural and commercial properties; to the south and west by a Union Pacific railroad corridor; and to the west by agricultural and residential properties. Coordinates for the approximate center of the site are latitude 41.827546N, longitude -103.649884W. (A site map is included as Appendix D.)

Site History and EPA Actions to Date

The site is a former scrap yard that operated for approximately 60 years until ceasing operation in 2015. For at least 28 years, site operations included automotive and locomotive battery recycling. The operators also accepted materials, including aluminum cans, white goods, copper wiring, and empty steel drums.



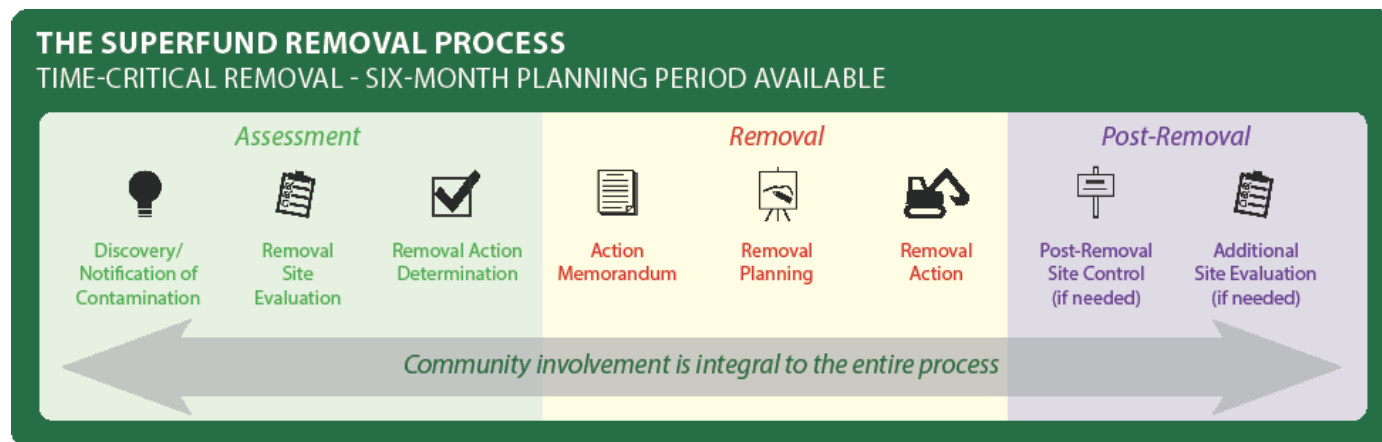
The city of Gering, as part of a local Brownfields coalition, initiated environmental site assessments, or ESAs, at the site beginning in May 2015. The initial Phase I ESA identified the site as B & T Metals. Three Phase II ESAs were conducted in 2016, 2017 and 2018 to address recognized environmental conditions identified at the site as a result of historical site activity. Site soils were evaluated (up to 4 feet below ground surface) for the presence of a variety of contaminants, including heavy metals. Soil sampling provided analytical data that shows site-wide lead contamination exists in surface soils across the site. Average surface soil concentrations of lead were found to range from 520 to 8,970 milligrams per kilograms, or mg/kg. For reference, EPA's removal management level for residential soil is 400 mg/kg.

On May 14, 2019, the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy, or NDEE, requested that EPA provide further evaluation. EPA conducted site reconnaissance and further assessment during the week of Nov. 4, 2019. During this assessment, EPA sampled residential properties adjacent to the B & T Metals Site to determine if site-related soil

contamination had migrated off-site. Analytical results for that sampling indicate that no contaminants have migrated off-site.

Site Contamination

The contaminant of concern at the site is lead, which is a toxic metal that is harmful if inhaled or swallowed. Children are more sensitive to lead than adults and can develop lifelong disabilities and behavior problems from lead exposure. Additional information about this contaminant of concern can be found at: <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts13.pdf>.



Photos taken of the B & T Metals Superfund Site.

SECTION 3**Community Involvement Plan Objectives**

EPA endeavors to keep community members informed and involved in the site cleanup process. To promote community involvement, EPA may utilize a variety of tools and techniques. The specific tools and techniques utilized will be based on the level of community interest, identified issues and concerns, and the complexity and duration of the site investigation and cleanup. A list of community involvement activities conducted by EPA may include:

- Providing timely, site-specific information to community members so they are able to participate in, or closely follow, site-related activities to the maximum extent they desire and the process allows.
- Providing a direct contact for community members by identifying a Superfund Project Manager who will share information about the site.
- Enhancing communications between EPA and local officials to help ensure those officials are informed of site-related activities, and that EPA benefits from the officials' insights regarding the community and its concerns, the site and its history, and local regulatory issues. (Appendix A contains a list of local, state and federal officials.)
- Enhancing communications between EPA and the media, as appropriate, to help ensure reporters are provided timely information about site-related activities and events and are aware of pertinent site-related topics.

EPA encourages those who want a greater level of participation to consider forming a Community Advisory Group and/or applying for Technical Assistance Plan funding. For additional details, community members are encouraged to view the Superfund Community Involvement Toolkit files online at: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/community-involvement-tools-and-resources>. You can also contact the Community Involvement Coordinator or On-Scene Coordinator for the site (listed on Page 1 of this CIP).

SECTION 4

Community Background

- Community Profile

Gering, Scotts Bluff County, Nebraska, Demographics

Per the U.S. Census American Fact Finder website:

http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml

Population: 8,500

Median Household Income: \$56,010

Median Age: 37.7

- Environmental Justice (EJ)

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.

EPA has this goal for all communities and persons across this nation. It will be achieved when everyone enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn and work.

EPA prepared an EJSCREEN for this site in January 2020. None of the indicators were above the level for which EPA would classify this site as having potential EJ concerns. EJSCREEN is a tool that can help identify areas that may warrant additional consideration, analysis or outreach. It does not provide a basis for decision-making, but it may help identify potential areas of EJ concern. Users should keep in mind that screening tools are subject to substantial uncertainty in their demographic and environmental data, particularly when looking at small geographic areas. (See Appendix C for EJSCREEN map.)

- Community Interests and Concerns

Community interviews have been conducted for this site. Community concerns were focused on human health and groundwater. The interviewees were satisfied with EPA actions at the site.

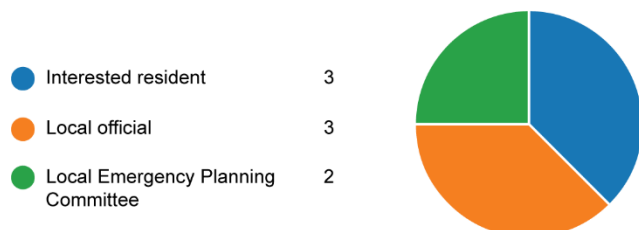
SECTION 5

Community Interest & Concerns

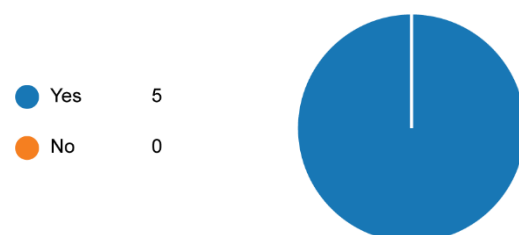
• Response to Community Concerns

On Jan. 27-28, 2020, EPA conducted interviews with local residents and helped determine areas of community concerns. Interviewees appeared to be satisfied with recent EPA actions at the site. The interview process also provided EPA an opportunity to update the community on activities at the site.

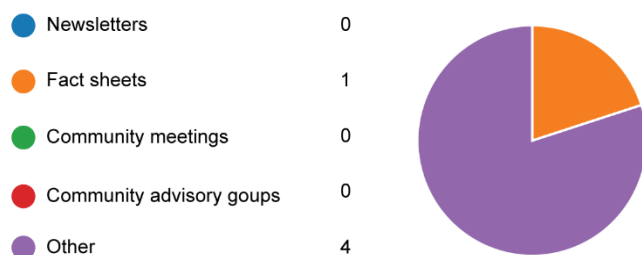
Do you think there may be opportunities for future reuse?



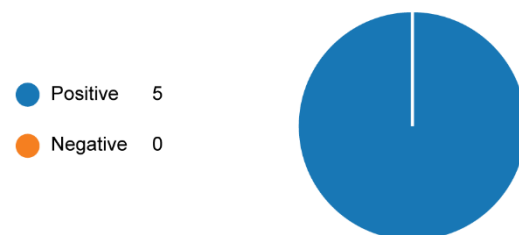
Do you think there may be opportunities for future reuse?



What is the best way to provide information to you?



What is your opinion of the government's commitment to cleaning up hazardous waste at the B&T Metals Superfund Site?



Interviewees explained that the site is important to them because they are interested in the redevelopment of the site. Those interviewed feel they have been adequately informed about the site and that the information they receive is clear and easy to understand. Community members who are interested in additional information regarding the Superfund Redevelopment Initiative for Region 7 may visit the following EPA webpages:

- Region 7 sites in reuse: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment-initiative/region-7-superfund-sites-reuse>
- Redevelopment case studies: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment-initiative/superfund-redevelopment-case-studies>
- Region 7 L.E.A.F.S. award information and winners: <https://www.epa.gov/superfund-redevelopment-initiative/epa-region-7-leading-environmentalism-and-forwarding>
- Region 7 Economic Profile: <https://semspub.epa.gov/work/HQ/100002012.pdf>

Appendix A
List of Contacts**A.1 Federal Elected Officials:**

http://elections.mytimetovote.com/elected_officials/nebraska.html

Sen. Deb Fischer
454 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-6551

Rep. Brad Ashford
107 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-4155

Sen. Ben Sasse
386A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-4224

Rep. Adrian Smith
320 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-6435

Rep. Jeff Fortenberry
1514 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-225-4806

A.2 State Elected Officials:

http://elections.mytimetovote.com/elected_officials/nebraska.html

Gov. Pete Ricketts
Office of the Governor
1425 H Street
Lincoln, NE 68508
Phone: 402-471-2244

A.3 City/Local Officials:

<https://www.gering.org/>

Mayor Tony Kaufman
1025 P Street
Gering, NE 69341
Phone: 308-632-4141

City Hall
1025 P Street
Gering, NE 69341
Phone: 308-436-5096

Appendix B**Information Repositories and Potential Meeting Location**

B.1 EPA has assessed the ability of the public to access site information through an internet-based repository and has determined that the local community has this ability. Site information, including the Administrative Record, is available online for anyone with an internet connection and also at the Gering Public Library via the internet. Please visit the following EPA websites: www.epa.gov/superfund/BandTMetals (online repository) and <https://response.epa.gov/btmetals>.

Gering Public Library (by internet connection)

1055 P St.

Gering, NE 69341

Phone: 308-436-7433

Hours: Mon-Thu: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday & Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday: closed

<https://www.gering.org/departments-services/gering-public-library>

Records Center

EPA Region 7

11201 Renner Boulevard

Lenexa, KS 66219

Phone: 1-800-223-0425

Hours: Mon-Fri: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Local Media Information:

Star Herald Newspaper

<https://www.starherald.com/>

1405 Broadway

Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Phone: 308-632-9000

Email: news@starherald.com

B.2 Potential Meeting Location

Gering Public Library (by internet connection)

1055 P St.

Gering, NE 69341

Phone: 308-436-7433

Hours: Mon-Thu: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

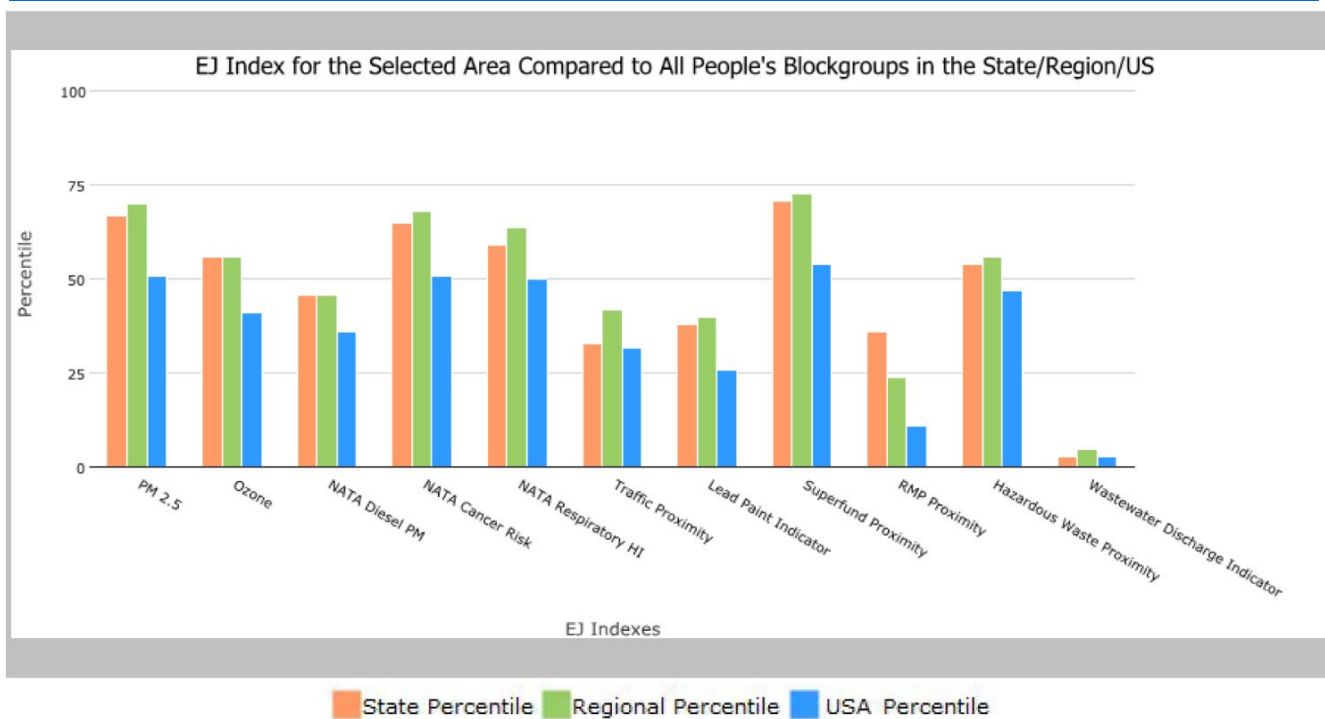
Friday & Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday: closed

Appendix C

EJSCREEN Report (Version 2019)

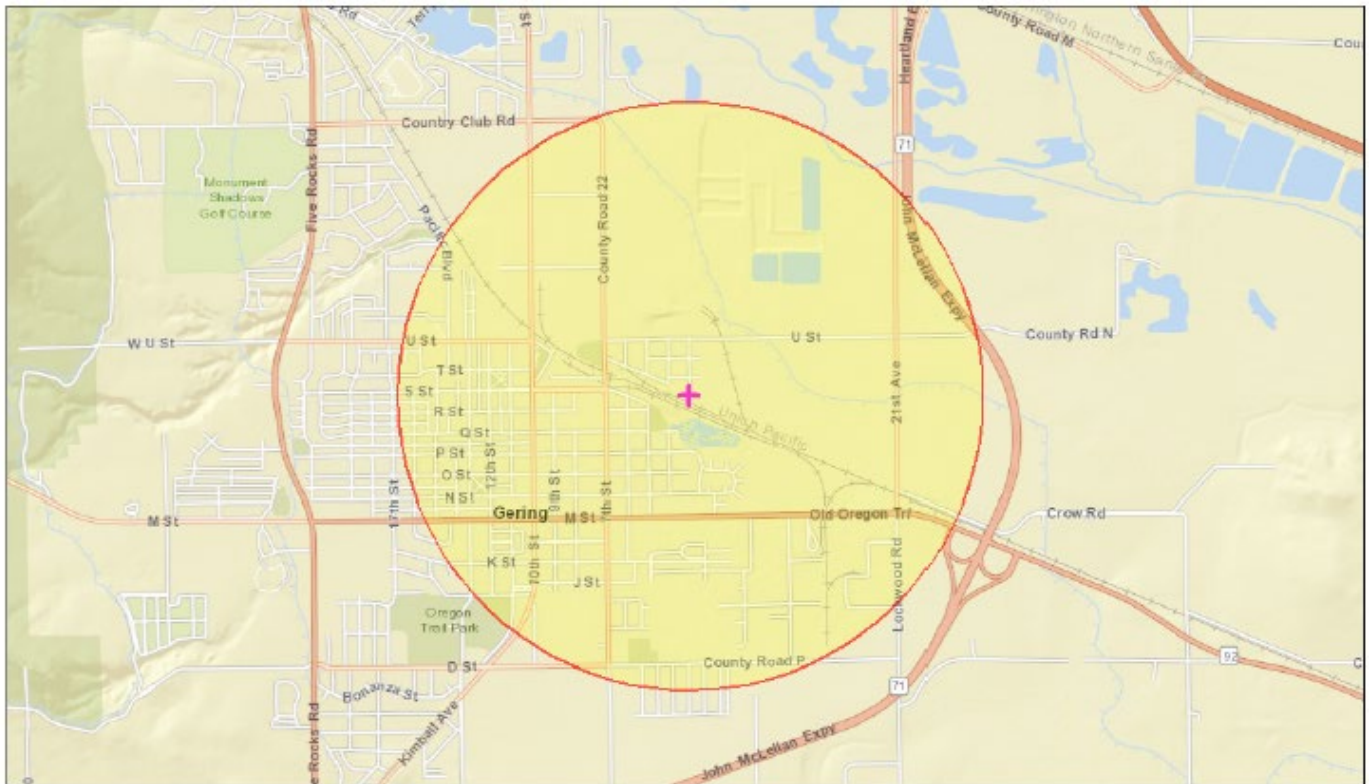
Selected Variables	State Percentile	EPA Region Percentile	USA Percentile
EJ Indexes			
EJ Index for PM2.5	61	65	48
EJ Index for Ozone	50	51	38
EJ Index for NATA* Diesel PM	46	47	38
EJ Index for NATA* Air Toxics Cancer Risk	59	64	48
EJ Index for NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	59	64	49
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity and Volume	45	43	36
EJ Index for Lead Paint Indicator	34	35	23
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	70	72	54
EJ Index for RMP Proximity	29	19	8
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	49	51	43
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge Indicator	36	34	22



This report shows the values for environmental and demographic indicators and EJSCREEN indexes. It shows environmental and demographic raw data (e.g., the estimated concentration of ozone in the air), and also shows what percentile each raw data value represents. These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state, EPA region, or nation. For example, if a given location is at the 95th percentile nationwide, this means that only 5% of the U.S. population has a higher block group value than the average person in the location being analyzed. The years for which the data are available, and the methods used, vary across these indicators. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports.

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October 30, 2019

 Buffer Area

+ Digitized Point

1:36,112

0 0.3 0.6 1.2 mi

0 0.5 1 2 km

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, Swisstopo, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, Esri (Taiwan), NGSC, (S) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Sites reporting to EPA

Superfund NPL

0

Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDF)

0

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EJSCREEN Report (Version 2019)

Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	EPA Region Avg.	%ile in EPA Region	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Environmental Indicators							
Particulate Matter (PM 2.5 in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	4.61	7.03	4	7.77	0	8.3	0
Ozone (ppb)	46.5	42.6	98	42.5	95	43	77
NATA* Diesel PM ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.293	0.336	42	0.367	<50th	0.479	<50th
NATA* Cancer Risk (lifetime risk per million)	16	22	8	27	<50th	32	<50th
NATA* Respiratory Hazard Index	0.21	0.3	12	0.36	<50th	0.44	<50th
Traffic Proximity and Volume (daily traffic count/distance to road)	110	360	44	330	47	750	36
Lead Paint Indicator (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.53	0.36	69	0.34	73	0.28	78
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.008	0.13	4	0.1	1	0.13	2
RMP Proximity (facility count/km distance)	1.7	1.5	67	0.94	82	0.74	87
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.16	0.67	35	0.8	38	4	28
Wastewater Discharge Indicator (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.00044	0.1	52	0.97	54	14	61
Demographic Indicators							
Demographic Index	23%	25%	60	26%	57	36%	38
Minority Population	22%	20%	69	19%	72	39%	41
Low Income Population	24%	30%	45	32%	40	33%	40
Linguistically Isolated Population	5%	3%	81	2%	87	4%	70
Population With Less Than High School Education	11%	9%	72	10%	67	13%	56
Population Under 5 years of age	6%	7%	40	6%	46	6%	49
Population over 64 years of age	19%	15%	73	15%	72	15%	75

* The National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) is EPA's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. EPA developed the NATA to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that NATA provides broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. More information on the NATA analysis can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/national-air-toxics-assessment>.

For additional information, visit: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice

EJSCREEN is a screening tool for pre-decisional use only. It can help identify areas that may warrant additional consideration, analysis, or outreach. It does not provide a basis for decision-making, but it may help identify potential areas of EJ concern. Users should keep in mind that screening tools are subject to substantial uncertainty in their demographic and environmental data, particularly when looking at small geographic areas. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports. This screening tool does not provide data on every environmental impact and demographic factor that may be relevant to a particular location. EJSCREEN outputs should be supplemented with additional information and local knowledge before taking any action to address potential EJ concerns.

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Appendix D Site Map

