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## SECTION 1

### Overview of the Community Involvement Plan

This *Community Involvement Plan (CIP)* identifies issues of concern and interest to the community potentially affected by the UGI Columbia Gas Plant Superfund Site (the Site, or UGI Site) located in Columbia Borough, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. (Terms that are in ***bold and italic*** text are defined in the Glossary in Appendix C of this CIP.) This CIP contains information from the files of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 3 office, as well as information gathered by EPA during community interviews and conversations with other interested parties and regulatory authorities.

The EPA will use the information in this CIP to help identify and address current matters of concern and to review past community involvement efforts as the cleanup project progresses. The CIP will also provide guidance to EPA staff and help to ensure that community needs are addressed throughout the *cleanup* process.

The 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 offers them to participate in the decision-making process regarding the Site cleanup.

This CIP was developed for the UGI Columbia Superfund Site under Contract Number EP-S3-04-01 with EPA Region 3. EPA Region 3 is conducting activities at the Site under the guidelines of the *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)*, a federal law passed in 1980 and commonly known as "Superfund;" the *Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA)*, enacted in 1986; and the *National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)*, revised in 1990.

Cleanup Responsibility: Federal and state regulatory authorities each have a role to play in cleaning up hazardous waste sites. When EPA has the primary responsibility for Superfund activities at a site, the state provides technical and regulatory guidance and support to EPA, as needed. In some cases, the state takes the lead while EPA provides regulatory and technical support. States are responsible for 10% of the cost of cleanup and they are expected to assume responsibility for any required *Operation and Maintenance (O&M)* of cleanup technologies at the end of the first year after cleanup construction is completed. For this site, EPA has the lead authority for the cleanup, working with support from state agencies and the *Potentially Responsible Parties (PRP)*.

## SECTION 2

### Community Involvement Plan Objectives

Throughout the investigation and cleanup of the Site, EPA will endeavor to keep community members informed of and involved in the cleanup process. To do this, EPA may employ a variety of tools and techniques, some of which are described in the next section. The specific communication effort will be based on the level of community interest, identified community issues and concerns, and the complexity and duration of the Site investigation and cleanup. The level of participation sought by some communities or individual community members varies. EPA encourages those who want a greater level of participation to consider forming a Community Awareness Group (CAG) and/or applying for a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG). For additional details on the TAG and CAG programs, see Appendices D and E or contact the ***Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC)*** listed in Appendix A.

The Community Involvement Plan (CIP) for this Site is intended to provide general Superfund program information to interested community members, as well as help them identify the many participation opportunities and options available to them throughout the cleanup. The CIP is also intended to be an information resource for EPA staff members assigned to the Site team. The following community involvement objectives help to ensure that avenues of communication between the EPA and the community are established and maintained. Objectives include:

- Provide timely, site-specific information to community members so that they are able to participate in, or closely follow, Site-related activities to the maximum extent they desire and the process allows.
- Provide a direct contact for community members by assigning a CIC for this site. The CIC will act as a liaison between the community and the EPA.
- Provide opportunities for community input that are tailored to the needs and concerns of the community.
- Help ensure community members are well informed so that they are knowledgeable about Site activities and the Superfund process.
- Enhance communications between EPA and local officials to help ensure that 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.
- Enhance communications between EPA and the media to help ensure reporters are provided timely information about Site-related activities and events and are aware of Site-related pertinent topics.

## SECTION 3

### Community Involvement Activities

By performing the following activities, EPA can help ensure that community members know about the Superfund process and the actions taking place at the Site and that they are aware of the opportunities for the community to participate in Site-related decisions. By providing accurate information about the Site investigation and cleanup, EPA will enable interested parties to make recommendations regarding the Site that are appropriate for their community.

- **Assign an EPA Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC)**

A site-assigned CIC provides community members a direct link to EPA Region 3 and acts as a liaison between EPA and the community. As a member of EPA's Site Team, the CIC can often respond to inquiries as they are received. Should an inquiry require specific information that the CIC does not have, the CIC can obtain the information or refer the inquiry to an appropriate specialist, such as the *Remedial Project Manager (RPM)* or toxicologist assigned to the Site. Interested parties may contact the CIC at any time, whenever questions or concerns arise, and the CIC will make every effort to respond promptly and accurately to all inquiries. William Hudson is the CIC for this site. He can be reached at (215) 814-5532 or 1-800-553-2509. (See Appendix A for all related EPA contact information, including the RPM.)

- **Establish a toll-free hotline number for the public**

EPA maintains a hotline for Superfund inquiries. The hotline can be used to reach EPA or the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) employees located in the EPA Region 3 office. During working hours, the Community Involvement staff may answer the hotline. When calls are answered by an answering machine, callers should state which site they are calling about in addition to leaving their names, phone numbers and the reasons for their calls. Every effort will be made to return calls promptly. The toll-free number is 1-800-553-2509.

- **Prepare and distribute fact sheets to residents and interested parties**

Fact sheets (also referred to as community updates or newsletters) are useful when communicating with large groups of people about topics of common interest. For example, fact sheets are helpful for explaining specific events and issues, discussing and dispelling rumors, explaining relevant scientific or technological data, or informing interested parties about progress or problems related to the Site or the schedule of work.

Fact sheets should be provided on an as-needed or annual basis. An annual fact sheet should be considered when site activities are "invisible" to the community for long periods of time, as is the case when laboratory analyses

are being completed, data is being verified, reports are being written, or access and other legal agreements are being negotiated.

- **Develop a mailing (and contact) list**

Mailing (and contact) lists are developed and maintained to facilitate distribution of materials, such as fact sheets and meeting notices to interested and potentially-affected community members. The lists also provide EPA a quick reference to key community members, such as local officials and community group leaders, in the event EPA wants to provide a timely notice about unanticipated events, such as sudden media interest in site activities.

Local residents, local businesses, elected officials, and the media are routinely included on mailing and contact lists. Community surveys and local tax maps form the basis of most mailing lists, but the lists are revised to include those who request to be added (or deleted) and those who provide their names and addresses on meeting and event sign-in sheets or correspondence. EPA makes every effort to protect the privacy of community residents, which includes denying requests to share personal information, such as names, addresses and individual residential sampling results, with non-government persons. The mailing list will be periodically updated and revised throughout the course of the cleanup. E-mail lists as well as U.S. Postal Service lists may be maintained.

- **Make site-related information, including data and documents, available to community members locally**

Information is always available to community members at EPA Region 3 in Philadelphia. However, EPA must also make it available to local residents at easily accessible locations, such as a local library or municipal building. The available information may be in any one of several forms, including paper copies, online (via the Internet), or CD-ROM, depending on the capabilities and preferences of the local host facility. The information made available will include documents comprising the *Administrative Record File (AR)*, as well as this CIP and other site-related documents. The Administrative Record File is also posted on [www.epa.gov/arweb](http://www.epa.gov/arweb).

The Columbia Public Library, located in Columbia, PA., has been established as the local *information repository* host, and will maintain a site file for public review. Some of the site file information is also posted on the EPA website at: <http://epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/PAD980539126/index.htm>. (See Appendix B for location and contact information for the EPA Region 3 Office and the local repository, as well as how to access files from EPA's Administrative Record website.)

- **Keep local officials well informed about Site activities and developments**  
By keeping local officials abreast of the work schedule and Site-related developments, EPA can promote a collaborative relationship to help ensure that officials are able to respond knowledgeably to citizens' inquiries. When local officials are well-informed, they can enhance the flow of accurate information between EPA and concerned community members. (See Appendix A for contact information for local officials.)
- **Keep local media well informed about Site activities**  
By distributing timely and accurate information to the local media, EPA can minimize misinformation and speculation about Site-related risks and cleanup activities. News releases, written materials, and direct phone calls are all appropriate ways to provide information to media representatives. The media should always be notified of public meetings and similar events and may be offered opportunities to participate in news briefings or conduct interviews with EPA officials. Upon request or when circumstances warrant, special information sessions or news conferences can be useful to ensure that complex situations are understood and can, thus, be accurately conveyed to the public. Every effort will be made to address media inquiries quickly. (See Appendix A for media contacts.)
- **Conduct public meetings and/or public availability sessions**  
Public meetings are required when EPA is approaching a formal decision, and they are recommended whenever project milestones are reached, such as the start or finish of a remedial investigation. When conducted, public meetings will be held at a convenient location during evening hours so that most interested parties will be able to attend. Public availability sessions are less structured than meetings. Generally, there are no formal presentations. Instead, community members are invited to come at their convenience within the set time frames and talk one-on-one with EPA and other experts associated with the Site cleanup activities. Availability sessions may include afternoon and evening hours so that interested parties can attend at their convenience.
- **Place public notices in local publications**  
Public notices regarding required and elective activities will be placed in the *Lancaster Intelligencer*. (See Appendix A for a list of all local media.) To ensure the widest possible exposure, public notices about Superfund activities are often run as retail display ads, rather than placed in the classified or legal-notice sections. Public notices announce important Site-related developments, public meetings and availability sessions, the release of Site-related documents, or any other information of importance to the community at large.
- **Hold public comment periods**  
Superfund law requires EPA to advertise and conduct *public comment periods* at key points in the cleanup process, such as prior to making official

cleanup decisions or significant changes to previously announced cleanup decisions. Although there is no requirement that EPA conduct public meetings during comment periods unless a request is received, EPA Region 3's policy is to do so. Meetings held during comment periods allow community members to discuss EPA's rationale for proposed actions with EPA and other regulatory authorities. At public meetings held within public comment period time frames, community members may express their opinions and concerns for inclusion in the official record without having to provide a written statement to EPA. A stenographer transcribes all meetings held during official comment periods and prepares an official transcript of the proceedings for EPA's records. Those who do not attend the official meetings may still submit their comments via regular mail or e-mail within the announced public comment period time frames.

- **Prepare Responsiveness Summaries**

A *responsiveness summary* (RS) is a required part of the official cleanup decision document, known as the *Record of Decision* (ROD). The RS summarizes all substantive comments submitted to EPA during the comment period and provides EPA's responses to them. EPA prepares the RS after the public comment period closes.

- **Promote information sources available through EPA**

EPA provides various sources of information to assist community members in understanding the Superfund process and Site-related activities. EPA representatives may be contacted directly by phone, mail, or e-mail. Information may also be accessed through the EPA websites at: [www.epa.gov/arweb](http://www.epa.gov/arweb) and <http://epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/PAD980539126/index.htm>. A toll-free hotline (1-800-553-2509) is available to call in questions or concerns. Additionally, EPA has established a local repository to store Site-related information and documents for public viewing. Contact information and additional information resources will be included in all materials that are distributed to community members. (See Appendices A and B for additional information.)

- **Provide Technical Assistance Grants (TAG)**

EPA offers grants of up to \$50,000 to communities affected by Superfund sites. TAGs are made available to allow community groups to obtain independent technical expertise to review EPA's documents and data on behalf of the group and the community and to help them evaluate the work that EPA has done. (See Appendix E for more information on the TAG.)

- **Provide support for Community Advisory Groups (CAGs)**

CAGs are community-lead groups that are intended to represent and include all interested members of the community, including representatives of the



Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs). By meeting regularly to discuss the cleanup and the community's issues and concerns, CAGs often help to keep the community informed and involved in the cleanup process. CAGs can also provide valuable information to EPA and to local governments concerning the future use of Superfund properties and the communities' collective long-term goals. Although these groups are not funded by EPA, EPA can assist interested community members to form CAGs and can also provide support services to the groups, such as assistance with production and mailing of newsletters they develop. (See Appendix F for more information.)

- **Provide information about the Superfund Job Training Initiative (SuperJTI)**

The SuperJTI program is designed to provide job training for residents living near Superfund sites, particularly residents in disadvantaged communities. EPA has partnered with the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to support pre-employment training and classroom instruction. SuperJTI is a valuable program that can enhance community involvement and benefit the local economy. SuperJTI can help residents gain career job skills and may provide an employment base for Superfund site cleanup contractors. (See Appendix G for more information on this program.)

- **Revise Community Involvement Plan as needed**

Superfund projects can take several years to complete. It is important that the CIP is periodically updated to reflect changing concerns of the community as the Site cleanup progresses. The CIP contact list should be revised whenever elections result in a change in elected officials or when personnel changes affect non-elected official contacts. This is the first CIP for this site.

**TABLE 1**  
**Summary of Community Involvement Activities**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Summary</u>
Designate a Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) to handle site inquiries.	William Hudson has been named the CIC for this site.
Prepare and distribute fact sheets to residents and interested parties.	EPA has begun and will continue to prepare fact sheets as new information arises and to announce Site-related events.
Maintain information repositories in the local area.	EPA has established a local repository (Columbia Public Library) and will continue to update the Site file as new information becomes available.
Keep local officials of Columbia Borough and Lancaster County well informed about Site activities.	EPA will communicate with officials to discuss significant events at the Site or changes in the cleanup schedule.
Keep local media well informed about Site activities.	EPA will notify media of Site-related events and meetings.
Conduct public meetings and public availability sessions.	EPA will hold meetings and/or public availability sessions at various stages of the Superfund process and as requested by community members.
Place public notices in local publications.	Notices will be placed in the <i>Lancaster Intelligencer</i> to announce public meetings and the release of Site-related documents.
Hold public meeting and public comment period regarding the <b><i>Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP)</i></b> .	EPA will hold a meeting and a comment period following the release of the PRAP.
Prepare a Responsiveness Summary (RS).	EPA will prepare a RS following the comment period.
Promote information sources available through EPA.	EPA will promote the information repository, Internet resources, and any public meetings throughout the Superfund process.
Revise Community Involvement Plan.	EPA will revise the CIP at various phases of the Superfund process as needed.

## SECTION 4

### EPA Background

#### 4.1 Superfund Programs

Superfund cleanups are very complex and require the efforts of many experts from numerous disciplines. Experts in various sciences, engineering, construction, public health, management, law, community and media relations, and numerous other fields will be called upon to participate. The Superfund program is managed by the EPA in cooperation with individual states and tribal governments. Superfund locates, investigates, and cleans up hazardous waste sites and responds to hazardous materials emergencies and the threat of hazardous materials releases. (See Attachment A for a flowchart that depicts the Superfund process.) An example of a threat of release is an abandoned or poorly maintained facility where hazardous substances are stored in deteriorating or inappropriate containers and are unprotected from vandalism, and/or the facility is without emergency response capabilities, such as alarms or fire suppression systems.

Superfund is a federal program. It was created in 1980 under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), which was amended in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). Superfund is guided by the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). The NCP outlines the procedures that EPA must follow when investigating or addressing a release of hazardous materials into the environment. Under CERCLA, EPA has the authority to:

- Prevent, control, or address actual or possible releases of hazardous substances.
- Require parties responsible for environmental **contamination** to conduct or pay for cleanup.
- Provide funding for cleanup activities when money is not available from responsible parties.

Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) currently fund about 70% of all Superfund cleanups nationwide and frequently conduct cleanup activities under EPA supervision. Funding for the remaining site cleanups has, historically, come from a Trust Fund (a.k.a. the Superfund) established by Congress with revenue from a tax levied on the chemical and petroleum industries. However, EPA's authority to collect the tax expired in 1995 and fund monies are being depleted. Since the tax expired in 1995, Congress has not reauthorized it. EPA does not have the authority to reinstate this tax.

EPA currently funds cleanup actions with what monies remain in the Trust Fund, as well as with monies from other sources, such as general revenue funds and funds which become available when other funded projects are delayed, discontinued, or completed under budget. Careful prioritization of cleanup projects ensures that all sites that pose a significant risk to human health

or the environment will continue to be funded for the foreseeable future. As always, EPA will continue to seek reimbursement of cleanup costs from polluters whenever possible.

### Identifying Sites for Cleanup

EPA investigates hazardous waste sites throughout the U.S. and U.S. Territories. A **Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI)** is performed at each site to determine whether hazardous contaminants pose a significant risk to human health or the environment, such that additional investigation or cleanup is needed.

Each site is evaluated using the **Hazard Ranking System (HRS)**. The HRS is a measurement tool that calculates a site-specific score based on the potential for a hazardous substance to reach a receptor. It is a numerically-based screening system that uses information from the PA/SI to assess the relative potential of a site to pose a threat to human health or the environment. Part of the HRS calculation considers **exposure pathways**. EPA places sites with an HRS score of 28.50 or higher on the **National Priorities List (NPL)**. HRS scores do not determine the priority in funding EPA remedial activities nor the ranking place of a site on the NPL.

### Selecting and Implementing a Cleanup Plan

After a site is placed on the NPL, EPA performs a **Remedial Investigation (RI)** and a **Feasibility Study (FS)**. The RI identifies the types, concentrations, and extent of contamination and defines subsurface conditions at the site. A risk assessment is then performed to determine the threat these findings pose to human health and the environment. The risk assessment is incorporated into the RI report. The FS considers the physical characteristics of the site and evaluates possible cleanup technologies that could be used to control, remove, or reduce the contamination identified by the RI. Information from these studies is used to develop several possible cleanup alternatives that could be used at the site.

After comparing the alternatives, EPA will recommend the cleanup method believed to be the best for the site in a Proposed Remedial Action Plan (Proposed Plan or PRAP). A 30-day public comment period begins when the PRAP is released to the public. The community is asked to review the plan and offer comments on EPA's proposed actions. All pertinent comments received during the comment period must be considered by EPA before a final decision is made. After reviewing the community's comments, EPA will prepare a Responsiveness Summary (RS) to summarize the comments received, as well as EPA's responses. The summary is attached to the document that records the cleanup alternative selected by EPA for the site. This document is called a Record of Decision (ROD).

### Implementing EPA's Cleanup Decision

When a ROD is signed, EPA must decide whether to conduct the next steps itself or to seek cooperation from PRPs. If financially-viable PRPs are available, EPA may negotiate their participation in the **Remedial Design** and **Remedial Action**. Remedial Design refers to the period when a work plan is written, and drawings and specifications are developed for the cleanup alternative selected by the ROD. This period can take several months depending on the

complexity of the design and other factors, such as the need to conduct pilot studies, obtain permits, or conclude legal negotiations. When the Remedial Design is completed and approved, the Remedial Action may begin. Remedial Action refers to the actual work that will turn the cleanup design into a reality. Some typical activities that are conducted during remedial actions include fence and field office installation, vegetation clearing, well drilling and installation, general construction, and earth-moving activities. EPA may seek reimbursement from the PRPs for the cost of any work performed by EPA at any time during the cleanup process.

When the Remedial Action is completed, Operation and Maintenance (O&M) will begin, unless all contaminants have been removed from the site. In addition to site-specific O&M and routine monitoring, sites are thoroughly reviewed by EPA every five years, to ensure the remedy is operating as planned, that it remains protective of human health and the environment, and that it is in compliance with any *Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs)*.

Once a site is listed on the NPL, it will remain a Superfund site even after the cleanup is completed, until the site is formally deleted from the list. A site can be removed from the NPL only after the cleanup goals established for it have been reached and confirmed and EPA certifies that the cleanup is complete. When this point is reached, EPA must publish a Notice of Intention to Delete (NOID) a site in the Federal Register. The notice will also be published in one or more local newspapers, announcing the NOID and the public comment period regarding the NOID.

## **4.2 Site-Related EPA Groups**

EPA has ten regional offices across the nation and a headquarters located in Washington, D.C. Each regional office has both community involvement and technical staff involved in Superfund site cleanups. EPA Region 3 is comprised of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia and Washington D.C. The EPA Region 3 office is located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It houses several different offices and branches that work on a number of hazardous waste sites. Descriptions of EPA offices involved in the Site follow.

### Hazardous Site Cleanup Division (HSCD)

HSCD oversees the Superfund program. HSCD focuses on emergency response, risk determination and stabilization, and long-term cleanup of hazardous materials that pose a threat to human health and the environment. These threats frequently result from abandonment of facilities or materials; improper operating procedures or disposal practices; or accidents that occur while handling, transporting, or storing hazardous materials. The HSCD is comprised of six offices: Office of Superfund Site Remediation; Office of Preparedness and Response; Office of Brownfields and Outreach; Office of Enforcement; Office of Federal Facility Remediation and Site Assessment; and Office of Technical and Administrative Support.

Within the HSCD, the two main personnel assigned to a site are the On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) and the Remedial Project Manager (RPM). The OSC handles the emergency response actions at a site, while the RPM handles the activities related to the long-term cleanup. The RPM is located within the Office of Superfund Site Remediation and the OSC is located within

the Office of Preparedness and Response. The RPM and the OSC draw on the other branches in the organization to accomplish the goals of the Superfund program.

#### Office of Superfund Site Remediation (Region 3)

This office oversees long-term investigations and cleanup work at Superfund sites and also maintains cooperative relationships with state agencies. Office staff includes RPMs. RPMs are responsible for overseeing the cleanup process at individually assigned Superfund sites. Each RPM is responsible for coordinating the work of internal and external site team members and overseeing the work of EPA and PRP consultants and contractors. RPMs also develop PRAPs, RODs, and RSs, as well as other documents, as needed. (See Appendix A of this CIP for the contact information for the assigned RPM.)

#### Office of Preparedness and Response (Region 3)

EPA's Office of Preparedness and Response includes OSCs, Site Assessment Managers (SAMs), and Contracting and Field Administrative Specialists. This office responds to emergencies involving hazardous materials and biologicals. Some typical emergencies include: transportation accidents, pipeline breaks, fires, and explosions involving hazardous compounds. This office is responsible for operating and maintaining the Regional Response Center, providing a 24-hour emergency spill notification network to facilitate regional response activities relating to reported oil and hazardous material spills, incidents and/or accidents. The office performs time-critical removal actions when circumstances require immediate action to protect public health or the environment from releases of hazardous materials that have already occurred or may occur at any time. One example of a time-critical situation is routine water sampling that reveals high levels of contamination that pose unacceptable risks from short-term exposures. Another example is a facility inspection that reveals a facility that either contains hazardous materials and is in danger of physical collapse or employs such negligent materials handling and storage practices that a hazardous release is very likely to happen. OSCs conduct removal actions and oversee stabilization efforts at sites on the NPL until an interim or long-term cleanup method can be implemented. SAMs conduct preliminary site assessments, develop HRS scores, and recommend sites for the NPL. Contracting and Field Administrative Specialists manage site-related expenditures and contracts.

#### Office of Brownfields and Outreach (Region 3)

Under this office, the Community Involvement and Outreach Branch manages communication activities and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests regarding Superfund sites. This branch helps gauge the interests and concerns of each community near a site on an individual basis. Based upon the community's input, EPA develops a Community Involvement Plan (CIP) to enhance communication between community members and EPA and to facilitate community involvement throughout the cleanup process. EPA works to inform and involve residents, public officials, media representatives, local businesses, PRPs, community groups, and stakeholders in the Superfund cleanup process. To facilitate this process, EPA assigns a Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) for each site. (See Appendix A for the contact information of

the CIC for this site.) The Brownfields and Land Revitalization Branch awards and manages grants to selected Brownfields pilot sites and manages the region's land revitalization program.

#### Office of Enforcement (Region 3)

This office oversees all of the enforcement programs for the Superfund, Oil and Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know programs in the region and consists of two branches. The Cost Recovery Branch's main responsibility is to recuperate Superfund money spent on sites by managing the cost recovery program and by providing enforcement and administrative support to the other program offices by conducting PRP searches, preparing administrative enforcement actions, and providing support to EPA's Office of Regional Counsel for litigation. The second branch of this office is the Oil and Prevention Branch, which is responsible for regulatory enforcement authorities as well as ensuring that the notification and reporting requirements for storage and/or releases of hazardous substances by facilities are done in accordance with the law.

#### Office of Federal Facility Remediation and Site Assessment (Region 3)

Similar to the Office of Superfund Site Remediation, this office performs oversight of site investigations and cleanups at federal facilities and/or previously owned federal facilities in the Region under the Superfund program. That includes NPL and non-NPL sites. An example of a federal facility is a former military base or other government-owned property. The office is also responsible for federal facility hazardous waste site assessments, investigations of potential federal facility Superfund sites, and hazard ranking of federal facility sites for the NPL.

#### Office of Technical and Administrative Support (Region 3)

This office provides a wide range of information management services as well as scientific and technical support to the Superfund program. The office is comprised of technical staff, including database experts, toxicologists, hydrologists, geologists, and other scientists, having both broad and specialized expertise in the environmental sciences. It also includes specialists in contracts management, involving state and interagency agreements; and budget oversight, including managing the Superfund intramural and extramural budgets.

### **4.3 The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry**

ATSDR is an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It was created in 1980 under CERCLA to prevent adverse human health effects and diminished quality of life associated with environmental pollution. ATSDR is not a regulatory agency like EPA. It is a public health agency that advises EPA on the health effects associated with exposure to hazardous materials. ATSDR is required, under Superfund law, to become involved with all sites proposed to the NPL. Specifically, ATSDR conducts public health assessments of and/or health consultations with NPL site (or proposed NPL site) communities.

#### **4.4 State Role**

Superfund cleanups require EPA and states to work together. In most cases, EPA is the lead regulatory agency conducting cleanups, but states may choose to take the lead. Typically, however, states provide support to EPA by bringing their technical expertise and resources to bear and providing regulatory guidance. In addition, states are responsible for 10% of the cost of the cleanup, and for O&M of cleanup technologies in place after the cleanup construction is completed. The state agency cooperating in the cleanup of this Site is the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). (See Appendix A for contact information for the state representative for this site.)

Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) is the state health agency associated with this Site. EPA and ATSDR consult with state health authorities on Site-related health matters, as needed, to keep each entity informed of issues that may be of concern to local residents. (See Appendix A for contact information.)

#### **4.5 Local Role**

##### Columbia Borough and Lancaster County

EPA has been and will continue to consult with Columbia Borough and Lancaster County officials during the cleanup process to ensure that cleanup activities are conducted in accordance with local ordinances. The borough and county officials can provide EPA with information concerning the operating history of sites and regulatory issues, as well as community concerns and demographics. They also may act as a conduit of information to concerned community members who may contact them for site-related news and updates. (See Appendix A for contact information for local officials.)



## SECTION 5

### Site Background

#### 5.1 Site Description

The UGI Columbia Gas Plant Site is located on the corner of Front and Mill Streets in Columbia Borough, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The 1.5-acre property is about 400 feet northeast of the Susquehanna River. Approximately 90 people living 15-miles downstream of the Site use the Susquehanna River as a source of drinking water. Approximately 1,000 people use *groundwater* wells located within four miles of the Site for drinking water.

#### 5.2 Site History

From 1851 to 1949, Columbia Gas used the Site for manufacturing gas. In 1932, ownership of the property was transferred to Pennsylvania Power and Light (PP&L). The property was transferred again in 1949 to Lancaster County Gas Company. Lancaster County Gas Company merged with UGI Corporation (UGI), and UGI owned the Site until 1979. Between 1979 and 1994, the property was used as a boat dealership. PP&L repurchased the land in 1994.

During the years of active gas manufacturing operations at the Site, overflows from an on-site tar separator were directed to an open ditch that led to the Susquehanna River. Records show that local fisherman complained to the gas plant that their boats were being covered with tar. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) conducted preliminary investigations at the Site in August 1984. In 1985, PP&L and UGI conducted further investigations to determine the nature and extent of contamination. It was determined that approximately 800 cubic yards of sediment in the Susquehanna River were contaminated with tar from the Site.

#### 5.3 Site Contamination

The main waste streams generated during the historic production of gas from coal at the Site consist of coal tar and spent gas purifying materials. The primary sources of contamination at the Site are coal tar and sludge in the gas holder and the relief holder, coal tar-contaminated sediments in the Susquehanna River, and coal tar in the sub-surface soil and bedrock. Groundwater flowing through the contaminated subsurface soil and bedrock has become contaminated with *Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)*. Hazardous substances associated with the coal tar and purifier wastes include VOCs, *Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)*, heavy metals, and *cyanide*. Dermal contact or ingestions of contaminated materials may pose a risk to humans and animals.

## **5.4 EPA Actions to Date**

EPA began investigations at the Site in 1991. EPA collected groundwater, soil and surface water samples from the Susquehanna River and confirmed the reported contamination of VOCs, PAHs and cyanide. PADEP signed a consent order and agreement with PP&L on April 4, 1994. Under this agreement, PP&L has conducted interim remedial actions on the former gas holder and the sediment in the Susquehanna River. PP&L performed the Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study (FS), and EPA approved the reports in 1998. An amended FS, prepared in 2002, stated that groundwater remediation could not be performed, and PP&L submitted a technical impracticability (TI) waiver to EPA. In July 2003 at the request of EPA, PP&L performed another study of river sediments and groundwater discharge near the Site. The results from this sampling round have been incorporated into the TI waiver and pending cleanup plan for the Site. In February 2005, PP&L performed a final sediment sampling round on Shawnee Creek, a tributary to the river. The results show that contamination in the Creek is not Site-related. EPA issued a notice to PP&L in May 2006 requiring them to perform a Focused Feasibility Study (FFS) for groundwater remedial alternatives at the Site.

This section of the Community Involvement Plan (CIP) is the most dynamic. The cleanup actions noted here are current at the time of publication. As work on-site progresses, updates will be posted online at: <http://epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/sites/PAD980539126/index.htm>.

## SECTION 6

### Community Background

#### 6.1 Community Profile

The Site is located in Columbia Borough, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Columbia Borough has an estimated population of 10,311. According to the 2000 U.S. Census, the approximate racial breakdowns are:

91.3%	White
4.4%	Black
.4%	Asian
.2%	American Indian/Alaskan Native
1.7%	Some Other Race
4.5%	Hispanic (of any race)

The approximate age breakdown is as follows:

Under 5 years	6.6%
Ages 5-19	20.1%
20-24	6.4%
25-44	29.2%
45-64	20.5%
65-84	14.7%
85 and over	2.5%

There are 4,287 households in Columbia Borough with approximately 2.35 persons per household. The median value of owner-occupied housing units is \$73,700. The median household income is \$32,385. About 70% of the population over 25 years of age have graduated from high school and about 8% hold a bachelor's or higher degree.

Nearly 64% of people over the age of 16 living in Columbia Borough are employed. Almost 34% of the employed residents have occupations in production, transportation, and material moving occupations, about 23% are employed in sales and office occupations, and about 18% are in service occupations. The largest industry in the area is manufacturing.

Community Interviews were conducted with community members on October 26, 2005 and October 26, 2006. EPA spoke with fourteen residents and four local officials. The questions and responses are presented below in Table 2. Sometimes, a participant provided more than one answer to a question. Other times, he or she did not provide an answer to a question. Because of this, the numbers in the "Frequency of Response" column may not always equal 18. A more detailed discussion of the interviews follows in Section 6.2.

**TABLE 2**  
**Community Interview Responses**

Question	Response	Frequency of Response
1. How long have you lived in the community?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 5 years</li> <li>• 6 – 15 years</li> <li>• 16 – 25 years</li> <li>• 26 – 35 years</li> <li>• 36 – 45 years</li> <li>• 46 – 55 years</li> <li>• 56 years or more</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 4</li> <li>• 0</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 6</li> </ul>
2. In general, what local issues receive the most attention?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roads</li> <li>• Water Quality</li> <li>• Drugs</li> <li>• Taxes</li> <li>• Smell from sewer plant</li> <li>• Truck traffic in area</li> <li>• Historic preservation</li> <li>• Economic revitalization</li> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Crime</li> <li>• Sewage problems</li> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Politics</li> <li>• No Emergency Room</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>
3. Who do you consider to be the leaders in the community?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No one</li> <li>• Mayor</li> <li>• Borough Council</li> <li>• Business Owners</li> <li>• Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>• Downtown Historic group</li> <li>• Park Rangers</li> <li>• River Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7</li> <li>• 6</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>

4. How sensitive is the community to environmental issues on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being extremely sensitive?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 4</li> <li>• 5</li> <li>• 6</li> <li>• 7</li> <li>• 8</li> <li>• 9</li> <li>• 10</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 0</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 0</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 0</li> <li>• 0</li> </ul>
5. What is the most important environmental issue facing this community?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• River quality</li> <li>• Drinking water quality</li> <li>• Air quality</li> <li>• Drainage/stormwater issues</li> <li>• Infrastructure</li> <li>• Sewage Plant</li> <li>• Developing the riverfront</li> <li>• Recycling</li> <li>• Landscape Issues</li> <li>• Oil and gas shortages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4</li> <li>• 4</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>
6. What organizations or individuals do you consider to be most credible or trustworthy when it comes to environmental information?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PADEP</li> <li>• EPA</li> <li>• No one</li> <li>• Not sure</li> <li>• County Conservation District</li> <li>• Mayor and other local officials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 2</li> </ul>
7. Do you think there is environmental interest and concern about the Site?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Not sure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10</li> <li>• 6</li> <li>• 2</li> </ul>
8. Do you know of any local environmental or community groups that may be interested in the Site?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Yes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14</li> <li>• 2</li> </ul>
9. Do you and/or your family members participate in any outdoor or recreational activities in or around the Site?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Cabin by river</li> <li>• Fishing</li> <li>• Boating</li> <li>• Swimming</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>
10. Have you or someone you know had any problems you think might be attributable to the Site?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Cancer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>

11. From what sources have you received information about the Site?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have not received information</li> <li>• PP&amp;L</li> <li>• Newspaper</li> <li>• Contractors on-site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>
12. Do you feel that EPA has provided you with enough information?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have not received information from EPA directly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18</li> </ul>
13. What would be the best way to keep the community informed about the Site?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct Mail/newsletters</li> <li>• Newspaper</li> <li>• Council meetings</li> <li>• Flyers</li> <li>• Posting information in certain locations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9</li> <li>• 6</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>
14. What newspapers do you read for local news?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Lancaster Intelligencer</i></li> <li>• <i>Columbia Ledger</i></li> <li>• <i>Merchandiser</i></li> <li>• <i>Lancaster New Era</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7</li> <li>• 6</li> <li>• 5</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>
15. What television stations do you watch for local news?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WGAL Channel 8</li> <li>• Fox 43</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16</li> <li>• 2</li> </ul>
16. What radio stations do you listen to for local news?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> <li>• WLAN 96.9 FM</li> <li>• WSBA 910 AM</li> <li>• WITF 89.5 FM</li> <li>• WHP 580 AM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6</li> <li>• 4</li> <li>• 4</li> <li>• 1</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>
17. Do you use the Internet as an information source?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Yes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10</li> <li>• 7</li> </ul>
18. An information repository has been set up at Columbia Public Library. Do you think this is the best and most convenient location to store information?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>
19. What do you think the best place to hold a public meeting would be?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borough Hall</li> <li>• Fire Hall</li> <li>• Local school</li> <li>• Local church</li> <li>• Location within walking distance of the neighborhood closest to Site</li> <li>• Community Center</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8</li> <li>• 6</li> <li>• 5</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 2</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>

20. Do you know of any residents living near the Site who have special needs (i.e., homebound, deaf, blind, speaks a language other than English)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Some Spanish-speaking residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14</li> <li>• 3</li> </ul>
21. Do you know of anyone else we should contact to be a part of this survey?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> <li>• Residents nearest Site</li> <li>• Department of Community and Economic Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13</li> <li>• 3</li> <li>• 1</li> </ul>
22. Do you have anything else you would like to add that you think EPA should know about the Site?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18</li> </ul>

## 6.2 Community Interests and Concerns

EPA contacted officials from the borough and county via telephone to request that they participate in the interviews. EPA went door-to-door in the neighborhood immediately adjacent to the Site to request that residents participate in the interviews. Of the 18 people who participated, the interviews were conducted either at the interviewees' homes or places of work.

During the community interview process, EPA had the opportunity to discuss the Site, its current environmental status and any interests and/or concerns that residents and officials may have. All of the residents living near the Site that were interviewed expressed that they knew little to nothing about the Site. Most of them referred to it as the "old boat supply place." Many felt that the sewage treatment plant that is located close to the Site was a big concern, due to odors that were emitted and lingered in the neighborhood. When we explained the sewage treatment plant was not part of the Site, they said they did not have any concerns about the Site. Although they stated that they had not received information in the past, none seemed too concerned about receiving information in the future. However, they did say that mailings or flyers would be a good way to get information to them. They also indicated a preference for the Borough Hall or a Fire Hall in their neighborhood to be used as a public meeting location.

The local officials that were interviewed were more aware of the Site, but indicated they had not received information from EPA directly. The officials from the Borough of Columbia stated that they had been in close contact with PP&L, one of the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) at the Site assisting with cleanup. They stressed that the lack of information from EPA was not a problem, due to the fact that there has not been much activity at the Site, and they are kept informed by PP&L. The Borough also brought up a strong desire to re-use the 1.5-acre Site for storage of salt and other equipment for clearing snow from the roads. The county officials were also interested in making sure that the Site would be reused by the community. Both the borough and county officials felt the best way to keep the community informed involved keeping the borough up-to-date and utilizing the borough council meetings to disseminate information. The borough officials also offered the use of the meeting hall for any public meetings that may be held in the future.

Overall, there seemed to be a lack of interest and/or concern from the residents, which could be in part based on the fact that they have not received any information about the Site. The officials were interested mainly for the purposes of re-use. The community largely depends on news from the Lancaster Newspaper Company, which publishes the *Lancaster Intelligencer* and WGAL Channel 8. The residents also noted that because the *Merchandise* is a free newspaper, information included in it may reach more residents. EPA should use these newspapers to announce site-related developments, in addition to sending out newsletters to local officials and the residents living nearest the Site.



## APPENDIX A

### List of Contacts

#### A.1 Federal Elected Officials

**Arlen Specter**

U.S. Senator

711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
(202) 224-4254  
(202) 228-1229 fax

600 Arch Street, #9400  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
(215) 597-7200  
(215) 597-0406 fax

**Rick Santorum**

U.S. Senator

511 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-3804  
(202) 224-6324  
(202) 228-0604 fax

Landmarks Building  
100 W. Station Square Drive, Suite 250  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
(412) 562-0533  
(412) 562-4313 fax

**Joseph Pitts**

U.S. Representative

221 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-2411  
(202) 225-2013 fax

Lancaster County Courthouse  
50 N. Duke Street  
Lancaster, PA 17602  
(717) 393-0667  
(717) 393-0924 fax

#### A.2 State Elected Officials

**Edward Rendell**

Governor of Pennsylvania

225 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
(717) 787-2500  
(717) 772-8284 fax

1001 G Street, NW, Suite 400 E  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
(202) 638-3730  
(202) 638-3516 fax

**Noah Wenger**

State Senator

281 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
(717) 787-4420  
(717) 783-3156 fax

1248 W. Main Street  
Ephrata, PA 17522  
(717) 738-1600  
(717) 299-7401 fax

**David Hickernell**

State Representative  
143 B East Wing  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020  
(717) 783-2076  
(717) 705-1946 fax

222 S. Market Street  
Elizabethtown, PA 17022  
(717) 367-5525  
(717) 367-6425 fax

**A.3 Local Officials****Columbia Borough**

308 Locust Street  
Columbia, PA 17512  
(717) 684-2654  
(717) 684-7764 fax

Leo Lutz, Mayor  
Norman Meiskey, III, Borough Manager

**Borough Council**

Robert Buzzendore, Jr.  
Sandra Duncan  
Mike Buery  
Mary Wickenheiser  
Scott Ryno  
Vernon Detz  
Dr. Stephen Perry

**Lancaster County**

50 N. Duke Street  
Lancaster, PA 17608  
(717) 299-8300  
(717) 293-7208 fax  
Contact: Mike Sculley, Community Planner

**Lancaster County Commissioners**

Dick Shellenberger  
Molly Henderson  
Howard "Pete" Shaub

**A.4 U.S. EPA Region 3 Officials**

**Superfund Hotline:** 1-800-553-2509

**William Hudson**

Community Involvement Coordinator  
U.S. EPA Region 3  
1650 Arch Street – 3HS52  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 814-5532  
[hudsonw.william@epa.gov](mailto:hudsonw.william@epa.gov)

**David Turner**

Remedial Project Manager  
U.S. EPA Region 3  
1650 Arch Street – 3HS22  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 814-3216  
[turner.david@epa.gov](mailto:turner.david@epa.gov)

**Amelia Libertz**

TAG/CAG Coordinator  
U.S. EPA Region 3  
1650 Arch Street – 3HS52  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 814-5522  
[libertz.amelia@epa.gov](mailto:libertz.amelia@epa.gov)

**Megan Dougherty**

Governmental Affairs  
U.S. EPA Region 3  
1650 Arch Street – 3HS52  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 814-5534  
[dougherty.megan@epa.gov](mailto:dougherty.megan@epa.gov)

**A.5 Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)****Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)**

Charles (Bucky) Walters, Senior Regional Representative  
1650 Arch Street – 3HS00  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 814-3139  
[walters.bucky@epa.gov](mailto:walters.bucky@epa.gov)  
[www.atsdr.cdc.gov](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov)

**A.6 Pennsylvania Departments of Environmental Protection and Health****Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection**

Southcentral Regional Office  
909 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200  
(717) 705-4700  
[www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us)

**Pennsylvania Department of Health**

PO Box 90  
Health and Welfare Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17108  
1-877-PA-HEALTH  
[www.health.state.pa.us](http://www.health.state.pa.us)

## **A.7 Media**

### **Newspapers**

*Lancaster Newspapers (Intelligencer Journal)*

PO Box 1328

Lancaster PA 17608

(717) 291-8811

*Columbia Ledger*

243 Locust Street

Columbia, PA 17512-1110

(717) 684-0687

*The Merchandiser*

1425 W. Main Street

Mount Joy, PA 17552-9589

(717) 653-1833

### **Radio Stations**

#### **WLAN 96.9 FM**

252 North Queen Street

Lancaster, PA 17603

(717) 295-9700

(717) 295-7329 fax

#### **WSBA 910 AM**

5989 Susquehanna Plaza Drive

York, PA 17406

(717) 764-1155

(717) 252-4708 fax

#### **WITF**

1982 Locust Lane

PO Box 2954

Harrisburg, PA 17105-2954

(717) 236-6000

#### **WHP 580 AM**

600 Corporate Circle

Harrisburg, PA 17110

717-540-9312

717-671-9973 fax

### **Television Stations**

#### **WGAL Channel 8**

1300 Columbia Avenue  
Lancaster, PA 17603-4765  
(717) 394-5451

#### **WPMT Fox 43**

313 W. Liberty Street  
Lancaster, PA 17603-2798  
(717) 290-7425

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Information Repositories and Potential Meeting Location**

#### **B.1 Information Repositories**

Columbia Public Library  
24 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
Columbia, PA 17512  
(717) 684-2255

Hours: Monday through Thursday – 8:30 a.m. to noon and 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Friday – 8:30 a.m. to noon and 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

U.S. EPA Region 3  
Administrative Records Room  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
(215) 814-3157 by appointment

You can also access the Administrative Record file online at [www.epa.gov/arweb](http://www.epa.gov/arweb). Follow these steps to access the UGI Site information. From this website, select 'PA' under the state pull-down list. From there, select 'UGI Columbia' under the site pull-down list. Leave the AR Type blank, and then click on 'Search.' On the next page, click on 'Search Results' to see the complete list of documents. The list should be in chronological order, starting with the oldest and ending with the most recent document.

#### **B.2 Potential Meeting Location**

Columbia Borough Hall  
Council Meeting Chambers  
308 Locust Street  
Columbia, PA 17512  
(717) 684-2654

Columbia Fire Department  
137 S. Front Street  
P.O. Box 57  
Columbia, PA 17512  
(717) 684-5100

Holy Trinity Church  
409 Cherry Street  
Columbia, PA 17512  
(717) 684-2711

## APPENDIX C

### Glossary of Technical Terms

**Administrative Record File (AR):** The official file containing the Remedial Investigation (RI) report, Risk Assessment, Feasibility Study (FS), and all other documents that provide the basis for EPA's selection of a remedial cleanup alternative at a Superfund site.

**Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs):** Any state or federal statute that pertains to protection of human life and the environment in addressing specific conditions or use of a particular cleanup technology at a Superfund site.

**Cleanup:** An action taken to deal with a release or threatened release of hazardous substances that could adversely affect public health and/or the environment. The word cleanup is used to refer to both short-term removal response actions and long-term remedial actions at Superfund sites.

**Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC):** An individual EPA assigns to work closely with technical staff to keep the local community informed about and involved in a site cleanup.

**Community Involvement Plan (CIP):** A document that assesses a community's concerns about a site, recommends activities that EPA may conduct to address these concerns, and suggests means to foster communication between EPA and the community.

**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA):** A federal law (commonly known as "Superfund") passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). The law gives EPA the authority to investigate sites where there is a suspected threat to public health or the environment caused by the release or potential release of hazardous substances. The law also created a special tax on the chemical and petroleum industries. Money was collected under the tax until 1995 and deposited into a trust fund to be used to clean up abandoned or uncontrolled waste sites. Under the law, EPA can pay for the site cleanup when the parties responsible for contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to perform the cleanup. EPA can also take legal action to require parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or pay back the federal government for the cost of the cleanup.

**Contamination:** An adverse effect on air, water, or soil caused by any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter.

**Cyanide:** A chemical that is usually found joined with other chemicals to form compounds such as hydrogen cyanide, sodium cyanide and potassium cyanide. Cyanide and hydrogen cyanide are used in electroplating, metallurgy, organic chemicals production, photographic developing, manufacture of plastics, fumigation of ships, and some mining processes.

**Exposure Pathways:** Route or way in which humans or the environment may come into contact with contaminants.

**Feasibility Study (FS):** A study that examines information provided by the remedial investigation activities and evaluates possible cleanup methods that can be used to remove or reduce contamination at a site.

**Groundwater:** The supply of fresh water found beneath the earth's surface in empty areas between rocks and soil particles. Groundwater is a major source of drinking water.

**Hazard Ranking System (HRS):** A measurement tool used to evaluate the risks to public health and the environment posed by a hazardous waste site. The HRS calculates a score based on the potential of a hazardous substance moving from the site through the air, water or soil. EPA places sites with a HRS score of 28.50 or higher on the National Priorities List (NPL).

**Information Repository:** A collection of documents about a specific Superfund site and the general Superfund process. EPA usually places the information repository in a public building that is conveniently located.

**National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (National Contingency Plan):** The federal regulation that guides the determination of the sites to be corrected under Superfund, and the program to prevent or control spills.

**National Priorities List (NPL):** EPA's list of the nation's most serious hazardous waste sites identified for long-term cleanup under Superfund.

**Operation and Maintenance (O&M):** (1) Activities conducted after a Superfund site action is completed to ensure that the action is effective. (2) Actions taken after construction to ensure the constructed facility is properly operated and maintained to achieve expected effectiveness and efficiency levels.

**Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs):** A group of over 100 different chemicals that are formed during the incomplete burning of coal, oil and gas, garbage, or other organic substances.

**Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs):** The companies or people responsible for the contamination at a site. Whenever possible, through administrative and legal actions, EPA requires these parties to clean up hazardous waste sites they have contaminated.

**Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI):** The preliminary assessment is the initial process of collecting and reviewing available information about a known or suspected waste site or release. The assessment is followed by the more extensive site inspection. The purpose is to gather information necessary to score the site, using the Hazard Ranking System, and to determine if it presents an immediate threat requiring prompt removal.



**Proposed Remedial Action Plan (Proposed Plan or PRAP):** A plan that discusses the Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study (FS) and proposes various cleanup methods for a site. EPA highlights its preferred cleanup method in this plan.

**Public Comment Periods:** Designated periods of time during which EPA requests the public to review and comment on specific documents and/or EPA actions. For example, EPA holds a minimum 30-day public comment period to allow community members to review and comment on a Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP).

**Record of Decision (ROD):** A formal document that discusses in detail the cleanup plan EPA has decided to implement at a site.

**Remedial Action:** The actual construction or implementation phase that follows the Remedial Design of the selected cleanup plan for a Superfund site.

**Remedial Design:** The engineering phase that follows the Record of Decision (ROD). During this phase, technical drawings and specifications are developed for the Remedial Action at a site. It is similar to a blueprint or work plan.

**Remedial Investigation (RI):** A study in which EPA identifies the types and amounts of site contamination and determines the threat this contamination poses to human health and the environment.

**Remedial Project Manager (RPM):** The EPA or state official responsible for overseeing on-site remedial action.

**Responsiveness Summary (RS):** A summary of oral and written comments that EPA receives during a public comment period and EPA's responses to those comments. The RS is part of the Record of Decision (ROD).

**Superfund:** A fund that can be used to finance cleanup actions at hazardous waste sites. The fund was established under the legislative authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) with monies received largely from a tax levied on the chemical and petroleum industries. Fund monies can be used by EPA to respond directly to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances that may endanger public health, welfare, or the environment. The term "Superfund" also refers to the EPA programs which conduct cleanups using these fund monies.

**Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA):** Modifications to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) enacted on October 17, 1986.

**Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs):** Carbon based chemicals commonly used as industrial solvents, degreasers, and fumigants.

## Appendix D

### List of Acronyms

AR	Administrative Record
ARARs	Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CAG	Community Advisory Group
CIC	Community Involvement Coordinator
CIP	Community Involvement Plan
EPA	(U.S.) Environmental Protection Agency
FS	Feasibility Study
HRS	Hazard Ranking System
HSCD	Hazardous Site Cleanup Division
JTI	(Superfund) Job Training Initiative
NCP	National Contingency Plan (shortened from National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan)
NIEHS	National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
NOID	Notice of Intent to Delete
NPL	National Priorities List
O&M	Operations & Maintenance
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator
PADEP	Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
PADOH	Pennsylvania Department of Health
PA/SI	Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection
PRAP	Proposed Remedial Action Plan
PRP	Potentially Responsible Party
RI	Remedial Investigation
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
ROD	Record of Decision
RPM	Remedial Project Manager
RS	Responsiveness Summary
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
TAG	Technical Assistance Grant
WWW	World Wide Web

## **APPENDIX E**

### **Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)**

EPA provides Technical Assistance Grants (TAGs) of up to \$50,000 as part of its Superfund Community Involvement program. The TAG program enables citizens in a site area to hire a technical expert to review and interpret site reports generated by EPA or other parties. A TAG has not been awarded at this site.

For more details, visit the TAG website: [www.epa.gov/superfund/tools/tag](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/tools/tag), or contact:

**Amelia Libertz (3HS52)**  
**TAG Coordinator**  
**U.S. EPA – Region 3**  
**1650 Arch Street**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19103**  
**1-800-553-2509**  
**[libertz.amelia@epa.gov](mailto:libertz.amelia@epa.gov)**

EPA accepts applications for TAGs as mandated by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). Only one group per site can receive a TAG, so EPA urges local groups to join together to apply. The following are federal publications on the TAG program, which can be obtained by calling EPA's publications number: 1-800-490-9198.

- Superfund Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Brochure  
Order No. EPA540K93002
- Superfund Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Handbook: Applying For Your Grant  
Order No. EPA540K93003
- Superfund Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Handbook: Application Forms With Instructions  
Order No. EPA540K93004

## **APPENDIX F**

### **Community Advisory Group (CAG)**

CAGs are community-lead groups that are intended to represent and include all interested members of the community, including representatives of the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs). Although EPA does not fund these groups, EPA can assist interested community members to form CAGs and can also provide support services to the groups. A CAG has not been formed at this site.

For more details, visit the CAG website at: [www.epa.gov/superfund/tools/cag/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/tools/cag/index.htm), or contact:

**Amelia Libertz (3HS52)**  
**CAG Coordinator**  
**U.S. EPA – Region 3**  
**1650 Arch Street**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19103**  
**1-800-553-2509**  
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## **APPENDIX G**

### **Superfund Jobs Training Initiative (SuperJTI)**

The SuperJTI is a program designed to provide job training for residents living near Superfund sites, particularly residents in disadvantaged communities. The SuperJTI program can help residents who could benefit from learning career job skills and may provide an employment base for Superfund site cleanup contractors. Residents who take part in SuperJTI can gain career skills and could potentially participate in the environmental remediation activities in the neighborhood.

For more details, please visit <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/tools/sfjti/index.htm> or contact:

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# MAP 1 Site Location

