

Notice of Shipment

The EPA site team will be shipping the solidified TENORM contaminated solids beginning 6/23/2026 through 6/25/2026. Trucks carrying this waste will be following an approved trucking route, and will be properly placarded and labeled. Community members may noticed increased truck traffic, with a yellow class 7 radioactive materials placard during this time. The site team takes great care to ensure that these loads are handled properly and safely.

Site Update: Week of 7/6/26

EPA and its contractors are continuing cleanup work at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent work includes:

- Shipping dried sludges from the frac tanks and concrete basin off-site for disposal. In total 101 9.5 cubic yard bags weighing a total of 611 tons were shipped offsite for disposal.
- Shipping dried sludges from the tank involved in the May 2023 fire, in total 3 bags weighing 15 tons of this material was shipped off-site for disposal.
- Shipping 7.5 tons of TENORM contaminated debris with a concentration of over 50 pCi/g
- Cutting frac tanks on-site into shippable sizes. Frac tank pieces will be screened for radiation, decontaminated, and shipped off site. Frac tank pieces that cannot be decontaminated will be shipped off-site as radiologically contaminated debris.
- Perimeter and work zone air monitoring for dust and radiation is on-going during site operations.
- No exceedances have been observed to date.

Total waste handled under the current Action Memorandum can be found in the table below:

Waste Stream	Waste Quantity Shipped	Estimated Waste Remaining On-Site
TENORM Solids	974 tons	0 tons
RCRA + TENORM Liquids	46,200 gallons	0 gallons
TENORM Liquids	72,179 gallons	0 gallons
Drum Waste (DOT/RCRA Corrosive & Non-Corrosive Materials)	2,000 lbs	0 lbs
Decontamination Water (Generated through on-site operations)	16,500 gallons	NA
TENORM Contaminated Debris over 50 pCi/g	40.9 tons	0 tons
TENORM Contaminated Debris under 50 pCi/g	0 tons	185 tons

Waste stream descriptions:

- TENORM Solids – material such as contaminated soil, filter cake, and dried sludges
- RCRA + TENORM liquids – liquids that exhibited RCRA hazardous waste characteristics and had elevated levels of TENORM. (Liquids within the frac tanks)
- TENORM liquids – Liquids that did not exhibit RCRA characteristics but contained elevated TENORM.
- Drum wastes – drums of chemicals left onsite from prior operations

- Decontamination water – water generated and collected from decontamination operations
- TENORM contaminated debris over 50 pCi/g – site debris (trash, piping, wood, plastic sheeting etc) that was contaminated and had a concentration of TENORM over 50 pCi/g.

Site Update: Week of 6/8/26

EPA and its contractors are continuing cleanup work at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent work includes:

- Drying sludges that were partially amended with a drying agent in Fall of 2025 and staged on-site in 9.5 cubic yard bags. Sludges were amended with a milled perlite product for additional drying prior to re-packaging for disposal
- All dried materials are placed in a 9.5 cubic yard bag and staged on-site for disposal. Materials are staged in a labeled radioactive materials area.
- To date, 101 bags of material have been packaged totaling approximately 639 tons.
- All sludge material from the frac tanks, concrete basin, and the fire damaged tank have now been dried and packaged for disposal.
- Disposal of staged material is scheduled to occur between June and July 2026.
- Frac tanks are being cut on-site into shippable sizes.
- Frac tank pieces will be screened for radiation and free released if able to do so. Frac tank pieces that cannot be decontaminated will be shipped off-site as radiologically contaminated debris.

Perimeter and work zone air monitoring for dust and radiation is on-going during site operations. No exceedances have been observed to date. Total waste handled under the current Action Memorandum can be found in the table below:

Waste Stream	Waste Quantity Shipped	Estimated Waste Remaining On-Site
TENORM Solids	331 tons	500 tons
RCRA + TENORM Liquids	46,200 gallons	0 gallons
TENORM Liquids	72,179 gallons	0 gallons
Drum Waste (DOT/RCRA Corrosive & Non-Corrosive Materials)	2,000 lbs	0 lbs
Decontamination Water (Generated through on-site operations)	16,500 gallons	NA
TENORM Contaminated Debris over 50 pCi/g	33.39 tons	>10 tons

Waste stream descriptions:

- TENORM Solids – material such as contaminated soil, filter cake, and dried sludges
- RCRA + TENORM liquids – liquids that exhibited RCRA hazardous waste characteristics and had elevated levels of TENORM. (Liquids within the frac tanks)
- TENORM liquids – Liquids that did not exhibit RCRA characteristics but contained elevated TENORM.

- Drum wastes – drums of chemicals left onsite from prior operations
- Decontamination water – water generated and collected from decontamination operations
- TENORM contaminated debris over 50 pCi/g – site debris (trash, piping, wood, plastic sheeting etc) that was contaminated and had a concentration of TENORM over 50 pCi/g.

Site Update: Week of 5/18/26

EPA and its contractors are continuing cleanup work at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent work includes:

- Drying sludges that were staged in the concrete basin and frac tanks over the winter. Sludges were dried by mixing a milled perlite product into the matrix. These materials originated from within the concrete basin and frac tanks.
- Drying sludges from within the tank involved in the May 2023 explosion and fire. These materials were handled using the same process as the frac tank and basin sludges.
- All dried materials are placed in a 9.5 cubic yard bag and staged on-site for disposal. Materials are staged in a labeled radioactive materials area.
- To date, 51 bags of material have been packaged totaling approximately 312.5 tons.

Perimeter and work zone air monitoring for dust and radiation is on-going during site operations. No exceedances have been observed to date. Total waste handled under the current Action Memorandum can be found in the table below:

Waste Stream	Waste Quantity Shipped	Estimated Waste Remaining On-Site
TENORM Solids	331 tons	500 tons
RCRA + TENORM Liquids	46,200 gallons	0 gallons
TENORM Liquids	72,179 gallons	0 gallons
Drum Waste (DOT/RCRA Corrosive & Non-Corrosive Materials)	2,000 lbs	0 lbs
Decontamination Water (Generated through on-site operations)	16,500 gallons	NA
TENORM Contaminated Debris over 50 pCi/g	33.39 tons	>10 tons

Waste stream descriptions:

- TENORM Solids – material such as contaminated soil, filter cake, and dried sludges
- RCRA + TENORM liquids – liquids that exhibited RCRA hazardous waste characteristics and had elevated levels of TENORM. (Liquids within the frac tanks)
- TENORM liquids – Liquids that did not exhibit RCRA characteristics but contained elevated TENORM.
- Drum wastes – drums of chemicals left onsite from prior operations
- Decontamination water – water generated and collected from decontamination operations
- TENORM contaminated debris over 50 pCi/g – site debris (trash, piping, wood, plastic sheeting etc) that was contaminated and had a concentration of TENORM over 50 pCi/g.

Site Update: Week of 4/30/26

EPA and its contractors are continuing cleanup work at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent work includes:

- Packing and shipping six large containers of contaminated debris from the on-site roll-off container and the upper complex building. In total, 33.39 tons were sent to a licensed facility that handles radioactive materials.
- Decontaminating the on-site debris roll-off container.
- Treating and packaging sludge contaminated with TENORM (a type of naturally occurring radioactive material that can become more concentrated during industrial work). The sludge is mixed with a Perlite product to solidify it before packaging. Approximately 118 tons have been treated and repackaged. All packaged material is stored in the on-site staging area.
- Continuing air monitoring for dust and radiation in the work areas and around the site. To date, there have been no readings above safety limits.

Total waste handled under the current Action Memorandum can be found in the table below:

Waste Stream	Waste Quantity Shipped	Estimated Waste Remaining On-Site
TENORM Solids	331 tons	500 tons
RCRA + TENORM Liquids	46,200 gallons	0 gallons
TENORM Liquids	72,179 gallons	0 gallons
Drum Waste (DOT/RCRA Corrosive & Non-Corrosive Materials)	2,000 lbs	0 lbs
Decontamination Water (Generated through on-site operations)	16,500 gallons	NA
TENORM Contaminated Debris over 50 pCi/g	33.39 tons	>10 tons

Site Updates: April 13, 2026

Onsite activity at the Fairmont Brine site resumed the week of April 7. EPA and the project team remobilized to continue the removal and offsite disposal of contaminated materials. Team members were required to complete radiation safety training before resuming fieldwork.

Beginning the week of April 13, the team will resume packaging contaminated materials and preparing them for offsite disposal. This will include managing two separate waste streams made up of contaminated debris.

As part of the preparation for shipment, the team had been working to identify the best way to solidify the waste so it can be safely transported. Both onsite and laboratory testing were performed to evaluate different solidification agents. EPA selected a perlite product to use for solidification. The product consistently performed the best in onsite and laboratory evaluations.

EPA has uploaded additional documents to the [Fairmont Brine site website](#), including the Action Memorandum Amendment and analytical sampling results for metals. The project team will continue to provide updates as fieldwork progresses and as shipments begin moving offsite.

Previous site updates have been archived and made publicly available under the “Documents” tab. The most recent document can be found here:

Site Update: Week of 2/19/25

EPA and it's contractors were on-site the week of 2/16/2026 to conduct limited site activities. Activities included the following.

- Shipping approximately three tanker trucks totaling ~16,500 gallons of decontamination water off-site for disposal.
- Conducting bench scale testing of solidification alternatives, and shipping samples of sludges to an off-site laboratory for additional solidification testing.
- Inspecting all containments / covers of staged material, all containments / covers are in-tact.
- Inspecting impoundments for overflow / breach risks. Currently both impoundments have 4-6" of freeboard

EPA has secured additional funding for the Fairmont Brine Removal action via an action Memorandum Amendment that was signed on 2.17.2026.

Total waste handled under the current Action Memorandum can be found in the table below:

Waste Stream	Waste Quantity Shipped	Estimated waste remaining on-site
TENORM Solids	331 tons	500 tons
RCRA + TENORM Liquids	46,200 gallons	0 gallons
TENORM Liquids	72,179 gallons	0 gallons
Drum Waste (DOT/RCRA Corrosive & Non-Corrosive Materials)	2,000 lbs	0 lbs
Decontamination water (Generated through on-site operations)	16,500 gallons	NA

Biweekly Update: 10/31/25

EPA will pause onsite removal work at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent onsite activities include:

- Excavated soils, as well as amended material from tanks, were shipped off-site for disposal on October 15th. Materials were shipped to a licensed disposal facility in Texas.
- The concrete basin was backfilled with stone.
- Remaining bags onsite were either emptied into frac tanks for staging, or are staged, in a secured portion of the site.
- Decontaminated equipment has been demobilized from the site. All equipment was screened for radiation prior to departure.
- Crews temporarily demobilized from the site. Remobilization will occur for additional sludge solidification and packaging at a later date.

Ongoing and upcoming activities include:

- EPA is arranging for the disposal of any remaining waste.
- Security cameras have been installed at the site, providing 24/7 video surveillance. The site will be regularly monitored by EPA and our state and local partners.
- When onsite, EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Road with radiation monitoring equipment.

Total waste shipped off-site can be found in the table below:

Waste Stream	Waste Quantity
TENORM Solids	331 tons
RCRA mixed Liquids	46,200 gallons
TENORM Liquids	72,179 gallons
Drum Waste	2,000 lbs

Biweekly Update: 10/9/25

Removal work continues at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent activities include:

- The concrete basin was dewatered using a sludge box
- Sludge from the concrete basin was amended with a drying agent and an amendment for heavy metals
- Amended basin sludges were placed into 9 and 6 cubic yard bags and staged on-site for disposal. A total of 55 bags have been removed from the concrete basin thus far.
- Drum waste left over from former site operations were shipped offsite. A total of 6 drums were shipped.
- The concrete basin was scraped clean using dry decontamination procedures. The decontaminated portions of the basin have begun to be backfilled with crush and run gravel.

Total waste shipped off-site can be found in the table below

Waste Stream	Waste Quantity
TENORM Solids	189 tons
RCRA Mixed Liquids	46,200 gallons
TENORM Liquids	72,179 gallons
Drum Waste	2,000lbs

Other Updates include:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Road with radiation monitoring equipment.
- EPA is arranging for disposal of remaining waste.

Biweekly Update: 9/26/25

Removal work continues at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent activities include:

- Sludges in the concrete basin have been amended with a treatment for heavy metals and a solidification agent.
- Additional drying agent was delivered to the site and will be added to the concrete basin in the coming days/weeks.
- Material from 2 consolidated frack tanks was packaged for disposal and staged on-site for future disposal.
- 3 frack tanks of consolidated and amended material remain on-site.
- Remaining soil around the burned tank was excavated and placed in 9 cubic yard soft sided woven bags. Contaminated soil is staged on-site awaiting future disposal.
- Soil excavated from AFR road was placed in bags and staged on-site awaiting future disposal.

Total waste shipped off-site can be found in the table below :

Waste Stream	Waste Quantity
Solids	189 tons
RCRA mixed Liquids	46,200 gallons
TENORM Liquids	72,179 gallons

Other updates include:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Road with radiation monitoring equipment.
- EPA is arranging for disposal of remaining waste.

Biweekly Update: 9/12/25

Removal work continues at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent activities include:

- Two truckloads of TENORM contaminated liquids were removed from the concrete basin and shipped offsite to an EPA approved facility in Ohio for disposal.
- Approximately 6 cubic yards of soil were removed from the drainage path along AFR Road. This soil has been staged on site for packaging and disposal.
- 9 frac tanks have been cut and disassembled for disposal.
- The remaining frac tank is being used to store decontamination water and will not be disposed until later in the project.
- Waste material from inside 9 frac tanks has been amended and mixed with necessary treatments for disposal.
- Began treatment of basin sludge for disposal. A sludge box has been brought onsite to drain water from the sludge.
- Conducted air monitoring for radiation and particulates throughout the duration of site activities.
- To date, no air exceedances have been observed indicating that no airborne contamination is leaving the site.
- Screened all personnel, tools, equipment, and vehicles prior to exiting the hot zone to ensure contamination does not exit the zone.

Total waste shipped off-site can be found below:

Waste Stream	Quantity
Solids	189 tons
RCRA mixed Liquids	46,200 gallons
TENORM Liquids	72,179 gallons

Other updates include:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Road with radiation monitoring equipment.
- EPA is arranging for disposal of remaining wastes.

Biweekly Update: 8/29/25

Removal work continues at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent activities include:

- A total of 62,747 gallons of TENORM contaminated liquids were removed from the concrete basin and shipped offsite to an EPA approved facility in Ohio for disposal.
- Cutting and disassembly of frac tanks continues to prepare frac tank solids for disposal. Eight of the frac tanks have been cut and disassembled for disposal.
- Metal from the tanks is sorted and screened for radiation on-site.
- Waste material inside 8 of the 10 frac tanks has been amended and mixed with necessary treatments for disposal.
- Conducted air monitoring for radiation and particulates throughout the duration of site activities.
- To date no air exceedances have been observed indicating that no airborne contamination is leaving the site.
- Screened all personnel, tools, equipment, and vehicles prior to exiting the hot zone to ensure contamination does not exit the zone.

Total waste shipped off-site can be found below:

Waste Stream	Quantity
Solids	189 tons
RCRA mixed Liquids	46,200 gallons
TENORM Liquids	62,747 gallons

Other updates include:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Road with radiation monitoring equipment.
- EPA is arranging for disposal of remaining wastes.

Biweekly Update 8/14/25

Removal work continues at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent activities include:

- 189 tons of bagged solid radiological waste were transported to a railyard from the site. The waste is being shipped by rail to an EPA approved disposal facility in Texas.
- An additional 12,900 gallons of mixed liquid waste from frac tanks were shipped to an EPA approved disposal facility in Michigan. This completes disposal of frac tank liquids with the exception of the decon water which will be handled at the end of the project.
- Cutting and disassembly of frac tanks continues to prepare frac tank solids for disposal.
- Metal from the tanks is being sorted and screened for radiation on-site.
- Waste material inside 4 of the 10 frac tanks has been amended and mixed with necessary treatments for disposal.
- Conducted air monitoring for radiation and particulates throughout the duration of site activities.
To date no air exceedances have been observed indicating that no airborne contamination is leaving the site.
- Screened all personnel, tools, equipment, and vehicles prior to exiting the hot zone to ensure contamination does not exit the zone.

Total waste shipped off-site can be found in the table below:

Waste Stream	Waste Quantity
Solids	189 tons
RCRA mixed Liquids	46,200 gallons

Other Updates Include:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Road with radiation monitoring equipment.
- EPA is arranging for disposal of remaining wastes.

Biweekly update 7/31/25

Removal work continues at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent activities include:

- Eight trucks totaling 33,300 gallons of liquid waste from frac tanks were transported to an EPA-approved disposal facility in Michigan.
- Cutting and disassembly of frac tanks began to prepare frac tank solids for disposal. Solids in one frac tank were mixed with an amendment. A second tank was cut and prepared for treatment.
- Metal from the tanks is being sorted and screened on site.
- Conducted air monitoring for radiation and particulates throughout the duration of site activities. To date no air exceedances have been observed indicating that no airborne contamination is leaving the site.
- Screened all personnel, tools, equipment, and vehicles prior to exiting the hot zone to ensure contamination does not exit the zone.
- Other Updates include:
 - Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
 - The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Road with radiation monitoring equipment.
 - EPA is arranging for disposal of remaining wastes.

Biweekly Update 7/18/25

Removal work continues at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent activities include:

- Treating the remaining waste in the oil tank with an amendment to bind heavy metals and a solidification agent. A post-mix sample was sent for laboratory analysis.
- Decontaminating one roll-off box.
- Removing debris from around frac tank area.
- Preparing two frac tanks for the disposal of contained liquids. The liquids will be removed by vacuum truck. This work is expected to begin on 7/23/25.
- Conducting air monitoring for radiation and particulates throughout the duration of site activities. To date, no air exceedances have been observed, indicating that no airborne contamination is leaving the site.
- Screened all personnel, tools, equipment, and vehicles prior to exiting the hot zone to ensure contamination does not exit the zone.

Other Updates include:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site, allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Drive with radiation monitoring equipment.
- EPA is arranging for disposal of remaining wastes.

Biweekly Update 7/11/25

Removal work is underway at the Fairmont Brine site. Activities included:

- Excavated contaminated soil / debris from around the oil tank area. Contaminated material was screened for radiation and is staged on-site for future disposal.
- To date, 37 bags of filter cake material, and contaminated soil have been staged on-site.
- Amended liquids in the concrete basin to prepare for disposal.
- Removed contamination from site debris and staged debris on-site.
- Conducted air monitoring for radiation and particulates throughout the duration of site activities.
- To date, no air exceedances have been observed indicating that no airborne contamination is leaving the site.
- Screened all personnel, tools, equipment, and vehicles prior to exiting the hot zone to ensure contamination does not exit the zone.
- Waste characterization results from concrete basin, frac tanks, roll-offs, and soil have been posted in the documents section.

Additional updates:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Drive with radiation monitoring equipment.
- EPA is coordinating the disposal of the repackaged materials.

Biweekly Update 6/27/25

Removal work is underway at the Fairmont Brine site. Activities include:

- Completed decontaminating 94 filter press plates which contained filter cake. Filter cake was captured into a box for disposal.
- Dismantled the upper twenty feet of the oil tank involved in the 2023 fire. The base of the tank remains in the hot zone for treatment and disposal of the sludge bottoms.
- Contaminated facility equipment debris around the tank area was moved to the debris staging area.
- EPA contractors removed debris, including tree roots and soil, resulting from a mudslide onto AFR Road following the June 15, 2025, flash flooding event. All debris and material were screened for radiation before, during, and after the cleanup work. No exceedances of radiation were observed along AFR Road. The road was also completely scanned for radiation prior to re-opening AFR Road.
- Sampled runoff area from hillside and sent for metals analysis on June 17th. This area was previously sampled for radiation during an initial EPA assessment. Sampling results indicated that heavy metals such as lead, barium and selenium are not migrating off the site.
- Conducted a dye test study to determine the possible source of the water discharge onto AFR Road downgradient from the lower impoundment. No dye has been observed in any of the hillside seeps along AFR road since conducting the study.
- Conducted air monitoring for radiation and particulates throughout the duration of site activities. To date no air exceedances have been observed indicating that no airborne contamination is leaving the site.
- Fortified containment on the upper and lower impoundments.
- Screened all personnel, tools, equipment, and vehicles prior to exiting the hot zone to ensure contamination does not exit the zone.

Additional Updates:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- EPA, and contractor personnel, regularly screen AFR Road with radiation monitoring equipment. • EPA is coordinating the disposal of the repackaged materials.

Biweekly update 6/13/25

Removal work is underway at the Fairmont Brine site. Recent activities include:

- Decontaminating filter press plates by removing filter cake residue.
- Preparation for removal and decontamination of the tank damaged in the 2023 fire.
- Conducting air monitoring for radiation and particulates throughout the duration of site activities.
- To date no air exceedances have been observed which indicates no airborne contamination is leaving the site.
- Fortifying the containment on the upper and lower impoundments.
- Screening all personnel, tools, equipment, and vehicles prior to exiting the hot zone to ensure contamination does not exit the zone.

Additional updates:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Drive with radiation monitoring equipment.
- EPA is coordinating the disposal of the repackaged materials.

Biweekly update 5/30/25

Removal work is underway at the Fairmont Brine site. Activities have included:

- Disassembling of the filter press in the upper complex building and packaging materials from inside the press for disposal.
- Removal of contaminated filter cake material from all 6 roll-off containers on the site and repackaging the material into shippable containers secured on-site.
- Empty roll-off containers were secured and staged onsite for future disposal
- Conducting air monitoring for radiation and particulates throughout the duration of site activities. To date no air exceedances have been observed indicating that no airborne contamination is leaving the site.
- Excavating contaminated material near the burned tank in the upper complex. Excavated material was placed in shippable containers and is secured on-site.
- Screening all personnel, tools, equipment, and vehicles prior to exiting the hot zone to ensure contamination does not exit the zone.

Additional updates:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Drive with radiation monitoring equipment.
- EPA is coordinating the disposal of the repackaged materials.

Biweekly update 5/08/25

Removal work is underway at the Fairmont Brine site. Activities include:

- Removed contaminated material from inside the upper complex building, and packaged material for offsite disposal.
- Conducted bench scale tests for on-site waste solidification
- Removed contaminated filter cake material from 5 of the 6 roll-off containers on the site. The material was repackaged into shippable containers and secured on-site.
- Empty roll-off containers were secured and staged onsite for future disposal
- Conducted air monitoring for radiation and particulates throughout the duration of site activities.
- No air exceedances have been observed indicating that no airborne contamination is leaving the site.
- All personnel, tools, and vehicles were screened prior to exiting the hot zone to ensure contamination does not exit the zone.

Additional updates:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Drive with radiation monitoring equipment.
- EPA will begin packaging TENORM contaminated materials for disposal in the near future pending waste characterization results.

Biweekly update 4/18/25

EPA and its contractors continue to perform Site preparations and removal work at the Fairmont Brine Site. Site activities have included the following tasks:

- Conducted waste characterization sampling of the six roll-offs containing filter cake material on the site
- Sampled the liquids and solid material in the ten frac tanks, and sampled solids and liquids from the concrete basin. Waste characterization results will determine disposal facility eligibility
- Assessed and characterizing on-site debris
- Cleared access areas into the upper complex building to allow for removal of filter cake material from the floor and process areas of the upper complex building.
- Constructed a staging area for debris screening.
- Began segregating material from inside the upper complex building for offsite disposal.

Additional updates:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Drive with radiation monitoring equipment.
- EPA will begin packaging TENORM contaminated materials for disposal in the near future pending waste characterization results.

Previous site updates have been archived and made publicly available under the “Documents” tab. The most recent document can be found here: [Archived Site Updates 3.14.25](#)

Biweekly update March 14, 2025

The EPA and its contractors continue preparation and stabilization activities at the site. Site activities include the following:

- Installation of office trailers and power sources for the trailers.
- Grading near the upper impoundment to reduce the likelihood of runoff and erosion occurring.
- Installation of a ramp onto the concrete loading pad for ease of equipment and personnel access.
- Installation of silt fencing along AFR Road to control runoff and erosion.
- Establishing and installing barricades along site work zones such as the exclusion zone, contamination reduction zone, and support zone.
- Installation of additional signage at the entry gate to the site.

Additional updates:

- Security cameras have been installed at the site allowing for 24/7 video surveillance.
- The EPA and contractor personnel regularly screen AFR Road with radiation monitoring equipment.
- Additional preparation work will continue in the following weeks.

Biweekly update February 28, 2025

The EPA and its contractors mobilized to the site the week of February 24, 2025. The EPA and contractors are conducting site preparation tasks prior to conducting the removal of hazardous substances (TENORM) from the site. Work being performed includes the installation of security cameras, leveling and grading surfaces for office trailers, cleanup and disposal of non-contaminated site debris, and establishing air monitoring locations to collect background readings from the site. Additional preparation work will continue on-site in the following weeks.

November 2024 - Community Meeting

Join the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and our Unified Command partners for a community meeting. The purpose is for community members to meet and engage with the EPA site team and our partners to discuss next steps for the Fairmont Brine Processing site.

- **Thursday, November 14, 2024**
6:00—7:30 PM
- **West Virginia State Office Building**
416 Adams St, Fairmont, WV 26554

July 2024 - Radiological Survey Final Report

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Center for Radiation Field Operations (NCRFO) performed a radiological survey of the Fairmont Brine Processing (FBP) site. The NCRFO is a specialized team in EPA that is stationed in Las Vegas, Nevada. The purpose of the radiological survey is to assist EPA Region 3 in identifying areas where radiation was found elevated at the Fairmont Brine Site.

The radiological survey involved scanning all physically accessible areas of the site with a scanning system to find anomalies (i.e., areas of high radioactivity) and to identify any radionuclides that are not naturally occurring. The NCRFO scanned 100% of the accessible parts of the Fairmont Brine Site.

In this report, an anomaly is defined as a location with radiation readings at least three times background. Background is identified as the levels of radiation that naturally occurs in the environment. The report highlights areas of anomalies, as well as areas approaching the threshold of anomalies. However, no unexpected radionuclides were detected. The findings indicate that all radioactivity at the site is from Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TENORM).

The radiological survey guided development of the sampling plan at the Fairmont Brine Site. Laboratory results from sampling will also be posted online when available.

April 2024

A list of FAQs has been uploaded to the documents section of this web page.

March 2024

Continued assessment work was performed during the week of 3/25/2024 to assess radiation at the Site. This assessment included surveying and sampling.

EPA's National Center for Radiological Field Operations (NCRFO) provided a specialized team and equipment to perform surveying at the Site. The team utilized two complementary scanning systems to detect anomalous radiation levels above background. High-purity germanium (HPGe) detectors were used at those anomalous areas to identify any potential non-Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) radionuclides. Preliminary results indicate all the radionuclides on Site are TENORM.

The NCRFO team used their equipment to guide the OSCs in selecting sampling locations. EPA's START contractor collected the samples.

A combination of water, sediment, and surface soil samples were collected. Water samples were collected from both the upper and lower impoundments, the concrete basin in the pre-treatment area, the eastern pond, and a seep identified along AFR drive.

January and February 2024

EPA continues to monitor and regularly check in on the Site. EPA and its contractors were on-site the week of 2/26/24 to implement additional Site security measures. Security measures included installing new / additional fencing panels and locks on gates around the Site. Additionally, a roll-off dumpster was secured and covered with tarps. EPA is in the process of scheduling a comprehensive site assessment with the EPA National Center for Radiation Field Operations (NCRFO), and EPA Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) contractors.

EPA is continuing to work with our state and local response partners to plan future activities at the Site.

December 2023

West Virginia Department of Health [also known as WVDH (formerly known as WV DHHR)] has reviewed data from radiological testing which occurred in 2019 as part of routine compliance testing and conducted new tests of both raw (untreated) and finished (treated) drinking water at the Morgantown Utility Board water treatment facility in October 2023. This facility is operated by the only West Virginia public water system downstream of the former Fairmont Brine along the Monongahela River. All testing results for regulated radionuclides are well below EPA drinking water standards. This data provides strong evidence that the radioactivity at the former Fairmont Brine site has had no effect on public drinking water supplies.

EPA mailed informational postcards to addresses within 1.5 miles of the site on 12/12/2023. The postcards provide residents with current information regarding the site and contact information to address potential concerns. A digital version of the postcard is uploaded in the documents section of this website.

November 2023

Based on current radiological data obtained at the Fairmont Brine site, none of the data collected suggests that there are measurable health impacts to the public resulting from the May 2023 fire. Individuals that would like to discuss specific health concerns may reach out to the West Virginia Department of Health (WVDH), Bureau for Public Health's Office of Environmental Health Services Radiological Health Program at 304-558-2981.

The only verified assessments of the site at this time are those which have been undertaken by responding federal and state agencies. These assessments did confirm the presence of radioactivity originating from radium 226, with the highest dose rate at 3 mrem per hour in one location. This dose rate, although one of concern, would not cause immediate health effects. However, exposure over a lifetime to lower levels can cause an increase in cancer risk. [For general information about relative doses from radiation sources, click here.](#)

Current and future actions to restrict access to the site are also meant to mitigate long term exposures from radiation to trespassers, responders, and the public. By mid-November a fence was erected as a safety protocol to ensure the areas in which the most elevated levels of radium 226 contamination were found remain undisturbed by preventing any unauthorized access. [Click here to learn more about radiation contamination versus exposure.](#)

September-October 2023

EPA and its contractors have posted "NO TRESPASSING" signs at the Site. Trespassers will be reported to law enforcement. **EPA has established a public phoneline** for additional questions and concerns pertaining to the site at **(800) 438-2474**. The phone line is staffed Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST.

[Click here to read the October 2023 press release](#) with more information about the response and public resources.

May-August 2023

EPA is assisting the WV Department of Environmental Protection (WV DEP) with their response to the fire at FBP. EPA is coordinating with WV DEP, the WV Department of Health (WVDH), and Marion County Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services to take actions to mitigate the release or potential release of hazardous substances from the facility. [Click here for more information on how EPA responds to hazardous waste sites](#)