

COVID Community Update

March 2020

Public participation is essential to the success of EPA's community involvement program. If you have any questions, please contact:

Mike Basile
EPA Community Involvement
Coordinator
(716) 551-4410
basile.michael@epa.gov

John DiMartino
EPA Remedial Project Manager
(212) 637- 4270
dimartino.john@epa.gov

As we continue to adjust to the evolving COVID-19 situation, EPA is taking the necessary steps to ensure that decisions about ongoing cleanup activities at Superfund sites are made with the health and safety of communities, EPA staff, state and tribal partners, and contractors as the priority.

Because the work at Diaz involves approximately 20 team members, including EPA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers personnel, plus contractors, we are temporarily suspending bringing equipment and personnel to the Diaz Chemical Superfund site. The suspension of work is a temporary measure as we adjust to the ongoing situation with COVID-19. We will be periodically reassessing this decision moving forward and are prepared to come back to the site to continue work as soon as possible. The decision to suspend work was made in consultation with, or at the recommendation of, the Village of Holley.

Once work resumes, EPA will oversee the second phase of in-place or in-situ thermal treatment of both contaminated soil and groundwater at the site. We will be periodically reassessing our temporary hold and are prepared to mobilize to the site as soon as possible. EPA will continue to work closely with state and local health officials, and all partners and stakeholders, to make determinations about site work based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

It is important to know that under the current situation, EPA has maintained its ability to respond to human health or environmental emergencies at Superfund sites, or in any situation where we are called upon to address immediate risks from releases of chemical, oil, radiological, biological, and other hazardous materials.

For more information on Diaz Chemical, please visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diazchemical/>

For more information on EPA's response to COVID, please visit:

<https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus>



In May 2017, EPA established a task force to restore the Superfund program to its rightful place at the center of the Agency's core mission to protect health and the environment.

epa.gov/superfund/superfund-task-force



In May 2017, EPA established a task force to restore the Superfund program to its rightful place at the center of the Agency's core mission to protect health and the environment.

epa.gov/superfund/superfund-task-force