

Advocates for VA Groundwater Plume Resolution

Meeting Summary

Date: 25 January 2017

Time: 6:30 pm MST

Meeting Objectives

Discussion of upcoming field work and sampling for 2017

Location

George E. Wahlen
Department of Veterans Affairs
Medical Center
500 Foothill Drive,
Building 9 – Auditorium
Salt Lake City, UT 84148

Attendees

VA: Jeremy Laird, Lynne Welsh, Nic Kirkham (Avalon BES)

EPA: Mark Aguilar, Chris Wardell

SLCO: Dan Moore

UDEQ: Tom Daniels, David Allison

Community: Anita Davis, Barbara Jones (CAG Chair), Mike Van Voorhis, James Webster

Materials Presented

- 2017 Field Work PowerPoint Presentation (Mr. Laird/Ms. Welsh)

Meeting Actions

- Public meeting scheduled for 03/30/2017
- Next CAG meeting set by group for 4th Wednesday in April
- Existing Bike Rack Issues discussed
 1. PCE risks and its potential pathways
 2. Health impacts of volatilizing PCE

Meeting Bike Rack/Issues Raised

- What is the purpose for resampling the 13 locations in 2017?
 - *Ms. Welsh explained that issues with field documentation were identified, by VA, of the sampling conducted in 2015. Due to the identified documentation issues, VA will conduct confirmatory sampling at 13 locations to obtain validated laboratory data to support the survey work done in 2015.*
- Was the 2015 and 2016 sampling qualitative or quantitative?
 - *The sampling work conducted in 2015 with the HAPSITE was both qualitative and quantitative but did not have the rigorous QA review that laboratory analysis does. HAPSITE quantitative results were checked with a laboratory analysis collected with a 24-hr. SUMMA.*
- What is a SUMMA® canister and how does it work?
 - *A SUMMA is a pressurized canister with a regulator that can be set to collect specified aliquots of air every fifteen minutes. The period of sampling specified in our SOP is 23-25 hours. This type of sampling normalizes potential variation in contaminant concentrations which are somewhat dependent on local air pressure.*
- What is the pertinent history of the area that might impact the spread of the PCE plume?
 - *Present information on the release of PCE is contained on the VA website. <http://mockup.pceplume-700s1600e.net/>. Generally contaminant movement in groundwater is dependent on both diffusion and advection and without additional water infiltration contaminants will not 'spread' very much. VA has limited knowledge of the subsurface conditions surrounding the VA and East Side Springs. That data will be collected in our second remedial investigation that is currently in the planning stages.*
- In what direction is the Plume moving? Where is the 'peak' of the plume currently?
 - *The plume is moving south-southwest but as stated above very little is known about the plume, specifically, its extent, the location of its release or if there is a 'pool' of PCE. Data to begin to answer these questions will be collected in our second remedial investigation that is currently in the planning stages.*
- What is the timeframe for the monitoring well installation and OU-2 work?
 - *After the remedial investigation work plan for OU-2 is approved, VA will work with Salt Lake City and other property owners schedule additional permanent monitoring well installations. VA anticipates drilling to begin next spring or summer.*

Meeting Task Items

- Plan to address the public at the public meeting on 03/30/2017 and request increased involvement at CAG meetings.

Next Meeting

Wednesday April 26, 2017
6:30 pm
George E. Wahlen
Department of Veterans Affairs
Medical Center
500 Foothill Drive,
Building 9, Auditorium
Salt Lake City, UT 84148