

## HAZARDOUS SITES CLEAN-UP UNDER THE ACT OF OCTOBER 18, 1988

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED INTERIM RESPONSE

Remacor Site, Taylor Township, Lawrence County

The Department of Environmental Protection (Department), under the authority of the Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act (HSCA) (35 P.S. §§6020.102-6020.1303), is proposing an interim response at the Remacor Site (Site), Taylor Township, Lawrence County, Pennsylvania. The Site is comprised of 45 acres and is located at 204 Industrial Street, West Pittsburg, PA 16160 in Taylor Township, Lawrence County, Pennsylvania.

The Site was previously operated and owned by Reactive Metals & Alloys Corporation (RMA), a metal processing company. The Site was previously developed as an industrial complex, containing multiple manufacturing buildings, laboratories, office buildings, processing and storage areas. Taylor Township maintains an office building adjacent to the Site entrance and maintenance sheds along the Beaver River on the west side of the Site. The former manufacturing facility structures on the Site are all in various states of disrepair.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Department, through their contractors, conducted investigations of the Site between 2007 and 2015 to characterize and evaluate environmental and building conditions. Site investigations identified soils, wastes, and groundwater impacted with metals, volatile organic compounds, and radiological contaminants. Additionally, elevated levels of radiological contaminants were found inside and adjacent to several onsite buildings. Contractors were unable to completely characterize radiological contamination within, under, and directly adjacent to certain structures due to the deteriorated and unsafe buildings on Site. Once the issue of the unstable buildings has been resolved, soils and groundwater cleanup will be addressed in a separate remedial response.

The Departments Remedial Action Objectives (RAO) for the Site include: 1) protect the public and environmental receptors from direct contact exposure to radiologically contaminated building materials and physical risks associated with structurally unsound buildings; 2) demolish structurally unsound buildings so that future investigation and remediation of radiologically and chemically contaminated site soils can be completed to protect the public and environmental receptors from site-related hazardous substances; and 3) comply with applicable federal, state, and local regulations. The objectives are based on the premise that: 1) if the buildings are demolished and properly disposed, the threat of protecting the public from radiologically contaminated building materials is achieved; and 2) if the buildings are demolished and properly disposed, contaminated soils located between and potentially beneath the buildings can be safely assessed and addressed to protect public and ecological receptors from exposure to Site contaminants.

To achieve RAOs, the following alternatives were developed for the Site, including: 1) no action alternative which is required for all alternative comparisons; 2) building demolition and shipment

of all demolition debris offsite (Removal); and 3) building demolition and shipment of radiologically contaminated building debris offsite with clean material used onsite (Selective Removal).

Alternative 1: This alternative would involve no further action to reduce threats posed by the Site.

Alternative 2: This alternative would include the demolition, removal and offsite disposal of all demolition wastes including:

- Demolition of all Site buildings, and building slabs will remain in place;
- Offsite disposal of masonry/concrete materials, steel, and radioactive Low Level or High-Level Low Specific Activity (LSA) material to an approved waste processing facility; and
- Regrading, establishment of soil cover, and revegetation of disturbed areas.

Alternative 3: This alternative would include the demolition, removal and offsite disposal of selective Site wastes including:

- Demolition of all Site buildings, and building slabs will remain in place;
- Uncontaminated masonry/concrete materials will be crushed and disposed onsite;
- Offsite disposal of steel and either Low Level or High Level LSA material to an approved waste processing facility; and
- Regrading, establishment of soil cover, and revegetation of disturbed areas.

Each alternative was evaluated with respect to four comparison criteria of: 1) the extent to which each alternative protects the public health and the environment (effectiveness); 2) the extent to which each alternative is feasible, effective, implementable and permanent (implementability); 3) the relative cost of each alternative (cost); and 4) the extent to which each alternative complies with or otherwise addresses Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Response (ARARs). These criteria are derived from the remedy evaluation criteria set forth in Section 304 (j) of Act 2, and in Section 504 (a) of HSCA. A comparative analysis evaluated advantages and disadvantages of each alternative.

Pursuant to Section 505(b) of HSCA, 35 P.S. §6020.505(b), the Department proposes Alternative 3 as an interim response at the site. Alternative 3 is proposed because it would, in the most cost-effective manner, protect the public and environmental receptors from direct contact with site-related hazardous substances and allow for further Site characterization within and near demolished building footprints.

The response protects the public health and environment; complies with or otherwise addresses all ARARs relating to contaminated demolition materials and disposal, is feasible, implementable, permanent and effective to the maximum extent practicable; and is cost effective. The proposed action addresses the identified immediate threats to human health and the environment.

The proposed interim response is not a final remedial response pursuant to Section 504 of HSCA, and, therefore, is not required to meet the cleanup standards that apply to final remedial responses. The proposed interim response is consistent, however, with any potential future remedial actions and future investigation activities.

This notice is being provided pursuant to Section 506(b) of HSCA. The administrative record, which contains the information that forms the basis and documents the selection of this response, is available for public review and comment. The administrative record is located at the Department's Northwest Regional Office, 230 Chestnut Street, Meadville, PA 16335, and is available for review Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please telephone for an appointment at: 814-332-6648.

The administrative record will be open for comment from February 24, 2018 until May 25, 2018. Persons may submit written comments into the record during this time only. Comments should be sent to Mr. Jacob Moore, Project Manager, at the Department's Northwest Regional Office or by delivering them to the office in person.

The Department will hold a public meeting on March 28, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., to briefly describe the Department's proposed interim response and answer questions from the public. The meeting will be held at the Taylor Township Building, located at 218 Industrial Street in West Pittsburg, PA 16160. Also, the public will have an opportunity to present oral comments, for inclusion into the administrative record, regarding the proposed interim response, at a public hearing immediately following the public meeting at 7:00 PM. Persons wishing to pre-register to present oral comments at the public hearing can call Mr. Moore at (814) 332-6648.

Persons with a disability who wish to attend the meeting or hearing and require auxiliary aid, service or other accommodations to participate in the proceedings, should call Mr. Moore or through the Pennsylvania AT & T Relay Service at 1-800-654-5984 (TDD) to discuss how the Department may accommodate their needs.