

Tub Mill and Clearview Farms HSCA Response Public Meeting and Hearing

Hazardous Sites Cleanup Act Program
January 22, 2025

JOSH SHAPIRO, GOVERNOR | JESSICA SHIRLEY, ACTING SECRETARY



Pennsylvania
Department of
Environmental Protection



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Tub Mill & Clearview Farms

DEP estimates over 70,000 utility poles and railroad ties on the combined sites.



Parcel A: Tub Mill Farms

122 acres with approximately 11 acres containing potentially hazardous material

Parcel B: Clearview Farms

390 acres with approximately 10 acres containing potentially hazardous material



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DEP Compliance History

- 1995: Investigated by DEP Waste Program
- 1995-2016: DEP cited violations of the PA environmental laws
- 2002: DEP issued Administrative Order to cease transportation of waste to site
- 2014: Agreement (COA) reached to remove all utility poles and railroad ties by 2020



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Wood Preservatives

Utility poles and railroad ties are chemically treated to prevent wood decay and insects.

Chemicals are potentially cancerous and carcinogenic.

2016 sampling confirmed presence of these chemicals within soil:

- Chromated arsenicals (CCA)
- Pentachlorophenol (PCP) – EPA banned use in Feb 2022
- Creosote



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Tub Mill Farms

Utility Poles and Railroad Ties



Aerial photo of Tub Mill Farms (Parcel A)



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Clearview Farms

Utility Poles and Railroad Ties



Aerial photo of Clearview Farms (Parcel B)



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Example of Waste on Site

Utility Poles and Railroad Ties



2013 photo of utility poles pile to show scale



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Example of Waste on Site

Utility Poles and Railroad Ties



2024 photo of site with waste remaining



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Example of Waste on Site

Utility Poles and Railroad Ties



2024 photo of Tub Mill Farms with waste remaining



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Example of Waste on Site



2024 photo of Tub Mill Farms with waste remaining



2024 photo of Tub Mill Farms with waste remaining



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Alternatives



2024 photo of with waste remaining

Option 1: **No Action**

Cost: **None**

Option 2: **Removal of utility poles and railroad ties**

Cost: **< \$2 million with possible cost recovery**



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Public Comments

**The Administrative
Record is open for
review until
March 21, 2025**

A digital copy of the Administrative Record and more info can be found at www.dep.pa.gov/southwest under the Community Information tab labeled “Tub Mill and Clearview Farms HSCA”

Any person may submit written comments during the 90-day public comment period to Tub Mill/Clearview Farms HSCA, Pennsylvania DEP, 400 Waterfront Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 or RA-EPSW-HSCA@pa.gov.



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The Department of Environmental Protection's mission is to protect Pennsylvania's air, land and water resources and to provide for the health and safety of its residents and visitors, consistent with the rights and duties established under the Environmental Rights Amendment (Article 1, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution).



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NOTICE

This hearing will be recorded by a court stenographer and DEP will receive a transcript of the hearing. By participating in tonight's hearing, you are consenting to be recorded.



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