UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

June 17, 2022

RE: Initiation of Operable Unit 1 In-Situ Stabilization Remedy
Central Chemical Superfund Site
Hagerstown, Maryland

Dear Resident:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information about the continuing cleanup of the Central Chemical Superfund Site. The new groundwater extraction and treatment system is nearly complete and is planned to start treating contaminated groundwater in June of this year. The next step in the cleanup is in-situ stabilization for the former waste lagoon on the northwestern part of the property that is scheduled for the fall of this year. Excavation and consolidation of contaminated soils from other parts of the site and placement of a cap over the contaminated soils is scheduled for next year. The location of the former lagoon and the approximate limits of the cap are presented on the attached Figure 1. More details of the 2022 work are provided below.

The following work is planned as part of the upcoming OU-1 remedial activities in 2022:

- July 2022: Startup of the recently constructed Hydraulic Control System, which will be used to extract and treat groundwater from the area around the former waste lagoon. The groundwater will be treated at the newly constructed on-Site treatment plant to reduce contamination to a protective level, and then it will be discharged to the City of Hagerstown storm sewer system. As a reminder, Hagerstown residents receive their drinking water from the municipal water supply, which pumps water from the Potomac River up-gradient of the site and is not impacted by Site-related groundwater contamination
- September through December 2022: In-Situ Stabilization (ISS) to solidify and immobilize the waste in the former lagoon. This treatment will use cement and activated carbon to bind and trap the former lagoon waste into a solid concrete block.

The Hydraulic Control System extraction and treatment of groundwater will not be apparent to observers at the Site boundary, as the extraction and treatment occur below ground and in the treatment building, respectively. The In-Situ Stabilization activities, some of which will be visible from Mitchell Avenue and Matthew Court residences, include:

- The waste in the former lagoon will be stabilized and solidified to bind and trap the waste into a solid block that we refer to as in-situ stabilization.

- Construction activities will be conducted weekdays during daylight hours.
- Construction equipment will include backhoes, excavators, bulldozers, front-end loaders, small cranes, etc.
- Throughout the construction period, dust monitoring will be performed daily at six locations around the perimeter of the Site, and monitoring for pesticides, arsenic, and volatile organic compounds will be conducted once per week in the vicinity of the ISS operations at the former waste lagoon to verify protective conditions for the nearby community during the ISS of the former waste lagoon.
- Dust suppression measures will be employed in the earthwork areas (e.g., spraying water over work areas using a spray nozzle connected to a water truck).
- USEPA will provide regular oversight of construction activities to confirm that the work/treatment plant is being constructed in accordance with the USEPA-approved design.
- Construction activities at the site are not expected to affect local traffic; however, a traffic safety and control plan will be implemented during the construction period.

USEPA is available to discuss with you the anticipated 2022 construction activities summarized. If you would like to discuss these planned activities with USEPA, please contact Mr. Eric Pollard at (215) 814-5535, or pollard.eric@epa.gov. You can also dial the Superfund hotline at 1-800-553-2509.

Sincerely,

Mitch Cron

Mitch Cron
Remedial Project Manager
Western Pennsylvania and Maryland Remedial Section

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