



**U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency**

Community Involvement Plan

**Wisconsin Public Service Corp.
Marinette Manufactured Gas Plant
Superfund Alternative Site
Marinette, Marinette County, Wisconsin**



August 2012

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1. Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prepared this Community Involvement Plan for the Wisconsin Public Service Corp. Marinette Manufactured Gas Plant Superfund Alternative Site in the city of Marinette, located in the county of Marinette, Wisconsin.

1.1 Purpose of this CIP

This CIP was prepared to support environmental investigation and cleanup activities at the site. The CIP reflects community concerns, questions and information needs as expressed during interviews conducted in February and March 2012. It also describes the EPA's plan for addressing the community's concerns and keeping residents informed and involved in decisions regarding the site investigation and cleanup. This CIP is a working document that will evolve based on input from the community and as the investigation and cleanup process continues; it is intended to be flexible, adaptable and used as a guideline for communication with the public.

The EPA is releasing this document to the public to help guide communication with citizens and other interested stakeholders. If you have comments or questions about this CIP, please contact:

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Menominee River

1.2 CIP overview

This CIP contains the following sections:

- **Section 1—Introduction:** describes the purpose and intended uses of this CIP.
- **Section 2— WPSC Marinette MGP site background:** provides background information about the site’s location and history.
- **Section 3—Community background:** profiles the economic and ethnic makeup of the community and summarizes the community’s history.
- **Section 4—Detailed summary of community concerns and questions:** provides a summary of what interviewees told the EPA about the WPSC Marinette MGP site during community interviews conducted in February and March 2012.
- **Section 5—Community concerns and questions:** summarizes the key concerns and questions raised during the community interviews.
- **Section 6—The EPA’s community involvement goals:** describes the EPA’s plans and timeline for conducting site-specific activities and for keeping residents informed and involved during site activities.
- **Section 7—What is Superfund:** provides the background of the program and its goals.
- **Section 8—Community engagement and the Superfund process:** provides an overview of the step-by-step process the EPA follows to determine the best way to clean up a contaminated site and lists opportunities for community involvement throughout the process.
- **Appendix A—Site information repository, administrative record and public meeting locations:** identifies places where community members can find more information on activities at the WPSC Marinette MGP site.
- **Appendix B—List of contacts and interested groups:** provides a list of federal, state and local agencies, and community and environmental organizations.
- **Appendix C—List of interview questions:** provides the list of questions the EPA asked during interviews with local residents in February and March 2012.



Menominee River at Nestegg Marine

2. WPSC Marinette MGP Site Background

This section describes the WPSC Marinette MGP site and summarizes the history of activities there.

2.1 Site description

The WPSC Marinette MGP site is located in Marinette, Wisconsin across the Menominee River from Menominee, Michigan. The 4-acre former manufactured gas plant is located approximately 750 feet south of the Menominee River and about 1.5 miles upstream from the river mouth at Green Bay. The site also consists of approximately 1.3 additional acres of contaminated sediment in the nearby Menominee River. Boom Landing Park is located north of the old manufacturing area, between the river and the site. The site is surrounded by commercial and industrial use properties. Currently, the site is owned by the city of Marinette; the site is occupied by the city's wastewater treatment plant and is currently being used as a boat launch facility.

FIGURE 2-1
Site Location Map



2.2 Site history and cleanup

WPSC owned and operated the MGP site between 1910 and 1960 in an area that was historically industrial, including lumber operations and asphalt manufacturing. MGPs were industrial facilities that produced gas from coal, oil and other raw materials. WPSC produced gas at the site by using coal and oil processes. These processes produced waste by-products such as tar, oil, sludge and acid. Disposal of these waste by-products often resulted in contaminated soil and underlying ground water, because MGPs were often located near bodies of water.

There is a former slough on the site that ran from the old manufacturing area to the Menominee River, across what is now Boom Landing Park. The slough was filled in when the city expanded the wastewater treatment plant. Soil contaminants in the park are likely due to the use of contaminated fill material. This material is as deep as 18 feet below ground, and consists of glass, wood, brick and concrete mixed with gravel, clay, silt and rock. The contaminants found in the soil, sediment and ground water at the site include volatile organic compounds (known as VOCs), oil and petroleum by-products and cyanide. These contaminants present potential hazards to people and/or the environment.

The site is being addressed through federal and potentially responsible party (persons or companies responsible for the contamination) actions under the Superfund Alternative (SA) approach. Cleanup funding for sites with SA agreements is provided by the companies responsible for the contamination, in this case, WPSC. This site is one of seven MGP sites being addressed by WPSC.

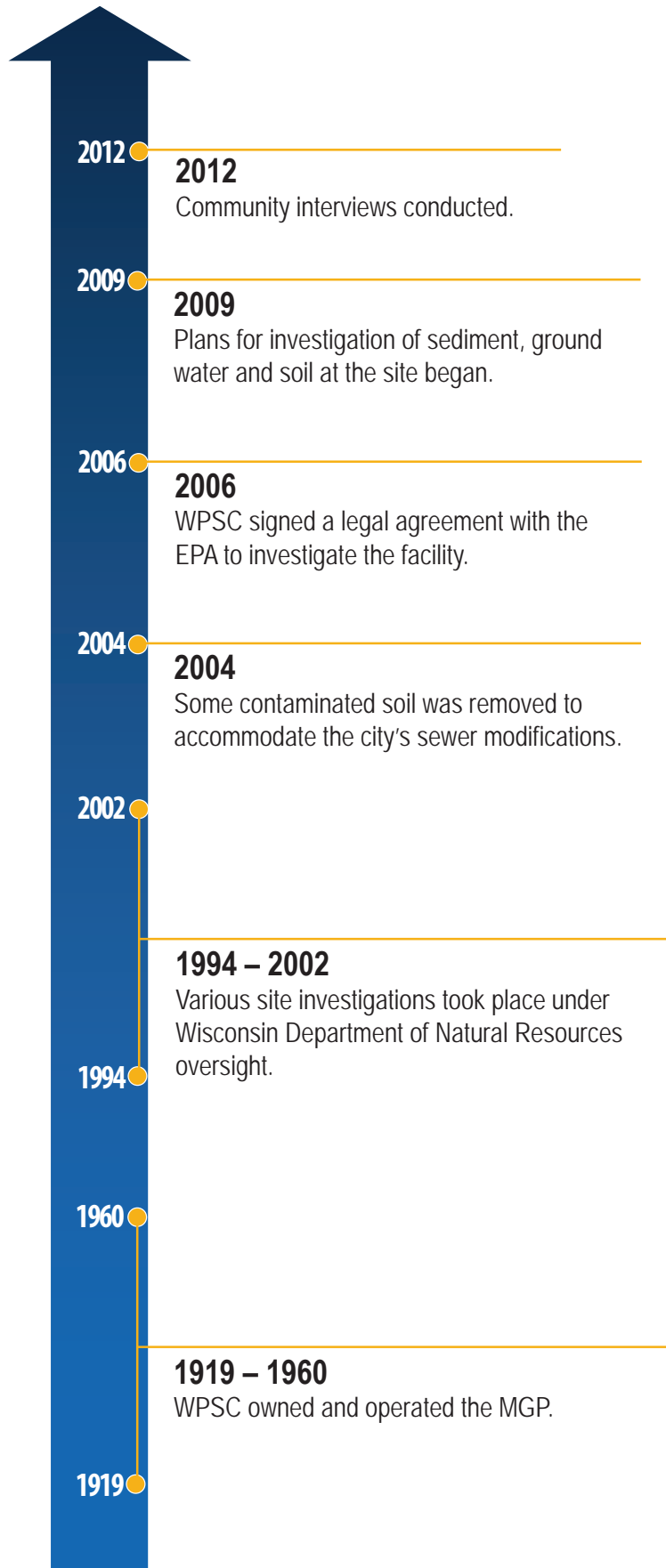
Under Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources oversight, various investigations had taken place from 1994 to 2002. In 2004, some contaminated soil was removed to accommodate the city's sewer modifications. Soil at the site still contains concentrations of VOCs and oil and petroleum by-products. In addition, routine ground water monitoring occurs annually.

In March 2009, plans for investigation of sediment, ground water and soil at six of the MGP sites, including WPSC Marinette MGP, began after a legal agreement was signed between WPSC and the EPA in May 2006. Because the six sites have similar conditions and contaminants, and WPSC is responsible for each, the agreement allows a more efficient approach to site investigation and cleanup. This agreement also allows for further investigation of the Marinette site to determine how much contamination is present.

Two important documents pertaining to the site investigation will be finalized in the summer and fall of 2012. The completion report summarizes all past cleanup work done at the site. It also recommends additional work for areas not yet completed. The site investigation work plan will outline how, where and when samples of sediment, ground water, and soil will be taken to determine how much contamination is at the site.

FIGURE 2-2

Timeline of activities and the EPA's involvement at the WPSC Marinette MGP site



3. Community Background

Marinette is the principal city of the Marinette, Wisconsin/Michigan Metropolitan Statistical Area (referred to as the MSA), which includes all of Marinette County, Wis., and Menominee County, Mich. During the scheduling of community interviews for this CIP, it was discovered that residents of Menominee, Mich., were interested in and concerned about the WPSC Marinette MGP site, due to its proximity to the Menominee River, which is a regional resource. Menominee shares a hospital, community foundation, newspaper and chamber of commerce with Marinette; in addition, numerous Marinette and Menominee city groups work together to benefit the two communities. This section describes the Marinette and Menominee communities and summarizes the history of community involvement at the site.

3.1 Marinette and Menominee community demographics

According to the U.S. Census, the 2010 population of the city of Marinette was 10,968, the population of the city of Menominee was 8,599, and the population of the MSA was 65,778. This reflects a population decrease for Marinette of 6.6 percent from the 2000 census, a decrease of 5.8 percent for the city of Menominee, and a decrease of 4.3 percent for the MSA.

According to 2010 census data, the population of Marinette, Menominee and the MSA is predominantly white (nearly 97 percent for all areas). Those of Latino and Hispanic descent make up less than 1.5 percent for all three areas, followed by American Indian and Alaska Native at 0.6 percent for Marinette, 0.9 percent for Menominee and 1.3 percent for the MSA. Asians and African Americans comprise less than 1 percent of the populations of all three areas.

The median age of the city of Marinette as of the 2010 census, was 42 years, followed by 44 for Menominee and 46 for the MSA.

According to the 2006–2010 American Community Survey, about 2.3 percent of Marinette residents and 4.4 percent of Menominee residents speak a language other than English at home. About 90 percent of Marinette residents and 89 percent of Menominee residents 25 years of age or older had attained a high school diploma or higher; and 14 percent of Marinette residents and 15 percent of Menominee residents had attained a bachelor's degree or higher. About 64 percent of Marinette residents and 65 percent of Menominee residents 16 years of age or older were in the labor force.

Similarly, for the same time period in the MSA, 89 percent of residents 25 years of age or older had attained a high school diploma or higher; and 13 percent had attained

¹Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census. 2006-2010 American Community Survey five-Year Estimates, American Community Survey.

a bachelor's degree or higher. About 60 percent of residents 16 years of age or older were in the labor force.

The estimated median household income for the city of Marinette was \$37,016, compared to \$39,698 for Marinette County and \$51,598 in the state of Wisconsin for the same year. The 2010 per capita incomes were \$20,983, \$22,999 and \$26,624 respectively. Approximately 17.5 percent of the population in the city of Marinette lives below the poverty level, compared to 13.6 percent in the county and 11.6 percent in the state of Wisconsin. Residents are primarily employed in manufacturing, retail trade, educational services, arts and entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services

The city of Menominee has an estimated median household income of \$40,453, compared to \$41,332 for Menominee County and \$48,432 in the state of Michigan for the same year. The 2010 per capita incomes were \$20,758, \$21,624 and \$25,135 respectively. Approximately 15.4 percent of the population in the city of Menominee lives below the poverty level, compared to 12.2 percent in the county and 14.8 percent in the state of Michigan. Residents are primarily employed in manufacturing, retail trade, educational services, arts and entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services.

The estimated median household income for the MSA was \$38,506. The 2010 per capita income was \$21,122. Approximately 12.8 percent of the population in the combined area lives below the poverty level.



Bridge Street bridge over the Menominee River

	City of Marinette	Marinette County	State of Wisconsin	WI-MI Micro Area	City of Menominee	Menominee County	State of Michigan
2010 Population	10,968	41,749	5,686,986	65,778	8,599	24,029	9,883,640
Change from 2000 census	-6.6%	-3.8%	+6%	-4.3	-5.8%	-5.1%	-0.6%
Demographics:							
White	96.9%	97.1%	86.2%	96.5%	96.7%	95.3%	78.9%
Latino/Hispanic	1.4%	1.3%	5.9%	1.2%	1.4%	1.2%	4.4%
Black	0.3%	0.3%	6.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	14.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.6%	0.6%	1%	1.3%	0.9%	2.7%	0.6%
Asian	0.5%	0.5%	2.3%	0.4%	0.5%	0.3%	2.4%
Median age	42 years	45 years	39 years	45.9 years	44 years	46 years	39 years
Households:							
Family	56.4%	63.5%	65%	64.9%	58%	66.7%	66.4%
With children under 18	29.2%	27.5%	31.6%	25.8%	26.3%	27.5%	32.6%
With people 65 and older	26.2%	27.8%	23.1%	31.3%	28.6%	28.6%	24.3%
Language other than English spoken at home	2.3%	2.8%	8%	Not available	4.4%	3.4%	8.9%
With high school diploma	90.2%	87.6%	89%	89.2%	88.7%	89.3%	88%
With bachelor's degree	14.4%	14.2%	26%	13%	15.2%	13.4%	25%
In the labor force	63.8%	62.2%	69%	60.4%	64.8%	62.2%	63.1%
Median household income	\$37,016	\$39,698	\$51,598	\$38,506	\$40,453	\$41,332	\$48,432
Per capita income	\$20,983	\$22,999	\$26,624	\$21,122	\$20,758	\$21,624	\$25,135
Persons below poverty	17.5%	13.6%	11.6%	12.8%	15.4%	12.2%	14.8%

3.2 Status of community involvement activities

The EPA's community involvement activities began when community interviews were held February 29–March 1, 2012, in anticipation of completing this CIP. The purpose of the interviews was to assess how much the community knew about the site, obtain area residents' and local officials' concerns about the site, and determine what information they wanted the EPA to provide them and the best way to disseminate that information.

4. Detailed Summary of Community Concerns and Questions

During the community interviews held February 29–March 1, 2012, the EPA talked with 14 residents and local officials living and working in the Marinette/Menominee area and asked them about their concerns regarding contamination and a potential cleanup of the WPSC Marinette MGP site, and how they would like to be involved. A number of those interviewed are members of the Menominee River Citizens Advisory Committee, a group devoted to restoring the Menominee River. The committee assists state and federal agencies in identifying local issues, defining restoration targets and goals, serving as a resource for historical information, and implementing small-scale restoration and community outreach activities.

None of those interviewed lives near the site, which is in an industrial area near the Menominee River harbor. Several Marinette and Menominee residents with whom the EPA spoke demonstrated a strong awareness and interest in the area that the site is located, particularly the harbor and river. However, most residents (besides the committee members) were unfamiliar with the WPSC Marinette MGP site itself and the need for a cleanup.

Here are the specific questions the EPA asked and a summary of the answers that were provided at the community interviews.

This summary is intended to record and reflect the issues and concerns expressed to the EPA by residents, officials and others on the days of the community interviews. By necessity, this is a collection of opinions, thoughts and feelings. Therefore, please be cautioned that the statements contained in this section may or may not be factual, and that the opinions and concerns expressed may or may not be valid.

1. *How long have you lived in the area?*

Those interviewed have lived in the Marinette/Menominee area from just about a year to as many as 81 years. Most had lived in the area most of their lives.

2. *What do you know about the WPSC Marinette MGP site?*

Most residents were unaware of the site; however, some of those interviewed were very knowledgeable of the site because they were members of the Menominee River Citizens Advisory Committee. Some officials and members of the committee were aware that the site was a former coal gasification plant that produced gas from coal and left coal tar that is polluting the river. One resident owns a business near the river and has seen a number of docks closed off due to coal tar contamination. One person remembered ruining shoes in the tar from the



Stephenson Public Library, Marinette.



Entrance of Stephenson Public Library, original building.

site when he was a child. Other people were familiar with a similar MGP site being cleaned up in the area.

3. What concerns do you have about the site?

Although a couple of people said they were not concerned about the site, other residents and officials were concerned about:

- potential health issues;
- the timeline for site cleanup; ensuring cleanup is done accurately in a cost-effective manner;
- whether contamination is contained and where it will be moved;
- whether residents will be notified if the contamination spreads;
- whether the contamination is moving downstream;
- pollution of the Menominee River; and
- the financial burden for business owners near the marina.
- the affect of having a contaminated site on the community; and
- whether the cost of the cleanup will cause their electricity bills to go up.

4. What risks do you think the site, in its current state, poses to you or your children?

Most of those interviewed do not think the site poses any risks, but several residents are concerned that the site is polluting the river and poses a risk to people who swim or fish in the river. They are uncertain of the effect that having contact with the water and possibly coal tar may have on a child's health.

5. How has the contamination affected your enjoyment of the area?

Residents frequently go to the river to fish and the contamination of the site has raised many questions regarding whether fish from the river are dangerous to eat. The contaminated sediment has caused the area to be shallow, which impacts the quality of fishing and the use of the area for swimming.

6. What government officials have you interacted with about the site? Do you feel these officials have been responsive to your concerns?

The government officials that those interviewed have interacted with about the site are the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, Wisconsin Department of Health (specifically Rob Thiboldeaux), and the EPA.

7. How has the city been involved in the site? Which city officials have been involved?

The city officials who have been involved include Marinette's mayor, city manager, and city engineer. The Menominee city manager is a member of the Menominee River Citizens Advisory Committee. Some residents feel that the city officials' involvement has been inconsistent and the county officials are hardly involved.

8. *If the EPA were to hold a future public meeting, what is a good meeting location? Would you attend a meeting about the site?*

The majority of the residents and officials said the college theater or classroom where the advisory committee currently meets, the high school auditorium, the library meeting room or city hall were all good meeting locations. The general consensus, however, was that most people were not interested in attending more evening meetings.

Someone asked if the EPA wants to generate interest in the site given that the cleanup process moves so slowly. Another suggested addressing the CAC at its regular meetings.

9. *How would you like to be kept informed about the site (e-mail, regular mail, newspaper, Web, gatherings)?*

Residents and officials wanted to receive mailings electronically or in hard copy. Almost everyone wanted to be kept informed about the site.

10. *What type of media (newspaper, Internet, radio) do you rely on for information? What stations and papers do you prefer?*

The majority of those interviewed read the *Eagle Herald* and *Peshtigo Times* newspapers. The radio stations mentioned include WAGN 1340 AM and 103.7 FM. Most of those interviewed watch Green Bay television stations.

11. *When possible, site information is posted on the EPA's website. Have you used the EPA website (www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/marinette)?*

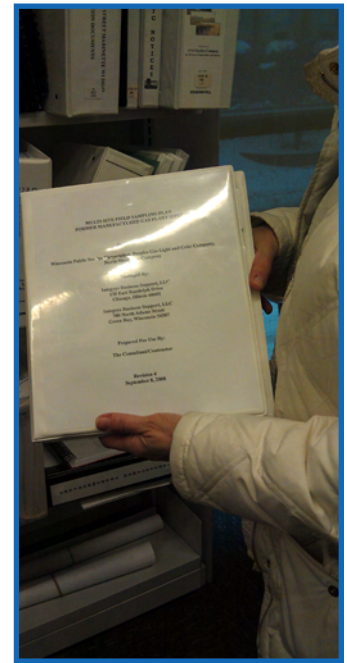
Most residents interviewed had not used the EPA website but were interested to see what was posted about the Marinette MGP site.

12. *How interested are you in environmental issues in general?*

Many follow or are interested in environmental issues in general, especially environmental issues that involve the Menominee River.

13. *Are there any other people or groups you think we should talk to about the WPSC Marinette MGP site either because they have unique information about the site, or because they would like to know more about the site from the EPA?*

Other groups or people recommended include the local Emergency Planning Committee, M&M (Great Lakes Sports) Fisherman's Club, Harbor Safety Committee, additional Menominee River Citizens Advisory Committee members (specifically Mark Erickson, Steve Zander and Nancy Douglas), WDNR (specifically Beth Olson), Communications and Public Relations Director of WPSC Jenny Short, Ken Connors, a government reporter for 95.1, and Perry Mullins, an environmental reporter for the *Eagle Herald*.



Copies of the public documents are available at the library.

5. Community Concerns and Questions

Key concerns and questions raised during the community interviews are summarized below.



5.1 Potential health effects

Some interviewees indicated that they were concerned children swimming in the water could have their health affected. Someone expressed concern that digging activities would “stir up” the contamination and could cause odors. Many felt that the overall community was unaware of the potential health risks and did not have many concerns regarding the site; but, wondered if they should be concerned.



5.2 Effect on habitat

Residents appeared to be concerned with the water quality in the river because people are still fishing and swimming. Many were also concerned about the drinking water since it comes from the river. It was mentioned that “stuff was coming out of the ground” and it should be addressed in the event that it is coal tar, which is a cancer-causing agent.



Nestegg Marine, Marinette, WI



5.3 Length of time for cleanup process

Those interviewed wanted to know how long the cleanup process would last. Someone expressed concern about the length of time that has passed since the contamination was first discovered. Some were concerned that the cleanup schedule would affect fish releases in the area.



5.4 Site reuse plans

One interviewee said cleaning up the site would enhance public access to the waterfront, which would be great for the Marinette economy. The owner of the Nestegg marina would like to put in additional docks once the site is cleaned. Fishermen that were interviewed thought dredging for the cleanup would improve fishing in the area.



Menominee River at Ogden Street bridge.

6. The EPA's Community Involvement Goals for the WPSC Marinette MGP Site

6.1 Why community engagement is important for Superfund cleanups

The objective of community engagement is to involve the public in activities and decisions related to the investigation and cleanup of hazardous waste sites. The community engagement program promotes communication between the public and the EPA. The EPA has learned that its decision-making ability is enhanced by actively soliciting comments and information from the public, which can be useful in two ways:

- Communities provide valuable information on local history, resident involvement and site conditions.
- By expressing its concerns, the community assists the EPA in developing a response that more effectively addresses the community's needs.

Communities are invited to be involved in all phases of the cleanup so that they understand how contamination is addressed to protect people and the environment. Communities may provide input on how the cleanup will be done, and understand how it may affect their plans and goals.

Community members, former employees and local government officials may be able to provide valuable information about a hazardous waste site that can help the EPA determine the best way to clean it up. Local information can help determine the location of contamination, how people may be exposed to it, and how the land may be used after it is cleaned up. If contamination will be managed at the site for long periods of time, the communities and local governments should be consulted about how to apply institutional controls (such as deed or use restrictions) to prevent exposure to people. Community members also may be able to provide information that will help monitor the effectiveness of the cleanup over the long-term such as reporting trespassing, flooding, odors or other unusual conditions.

The Superfund law requires that certain community engagement activities be conducted at designated milestones during the investigation and cleanup process. In addition, the EPA undertakes other activities to strengthen its communication with those affected by contamination.

To achieve early and meaningful input, as well as keep the community informed during the site cleanup process, the EPA is committed to:

- Encouraging and enabling residents to get involved.
- Listening carefully to community concerns.

THE EPA HAS DESIGNATED
TWO PEOPLE AS PRIMARY SITE
CONTACTS:

Susan Pastor
Community Involvement Coordinator
312-353-1325

Margaret Gielniewski
Project Manager
312-886-6244

They can both also be reached
toll free at 800-621-8431, weekdays
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST



Entrance of Stephenson Public Library, original building.



Environmental documents available for review in the site information repository at Stephenson Public Library.

- Taking the time needed to resolve community concerns.
- Changing planned actions, where warranted, based on community input.
- Keeping the community informed of ongoing and planned activities.
- Explaining to the community what the EPA has done and why.

The following activities are intended to provide opportunities for communication between the community and the EPA during the investigation and cleanup of the site.

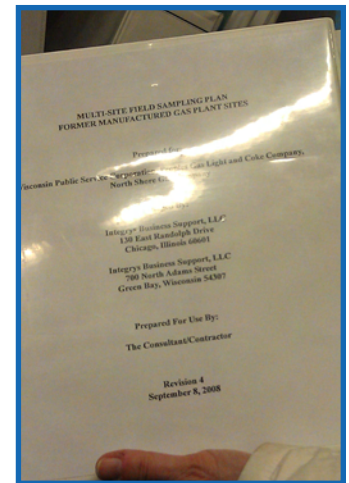
6.2 Specific community involvement activities

To address community concerns and questions described in Section 5, the EPA has conducted (or will conduct) the following activities. Through these activities, the EPA's goal is to inform, involve and engage the community.

- Designate the EPA's community involvement coordinator. Susan Pastor is the primary liaison between the EPA and the site community. She serves as a point of contact for community members and the media, and fields general questions about the site. For technical issues, Susan coordinates with the EPA's project manager, Margaret Gielniewski. If these contacts change, the EPA will notify the community.
- **Establish a toll-free number for residents to ask questions and receive information.** Susan Pastor and Margaret Gielniewski can be reached at 800-621-8431, weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., CST. Anyone can call this number as questions or concerns arise. The EPA includes this toll-free number in announcements on the Web, in the local papers and in all written materials.
- **Provide site information on the Internet.** Many of the persons interviewed have access to and are accustomed to using the Internet. Residents and officials with whom the EPA met during the community interviews said they would like to see documents on the website. Information on the site is available at: www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/marinette.
- **Create and maintain a site-specific mailing list.** The EPA has created a mailing list that includes all residences and businesses within an approximate radius of the site, as well as other interested parties who have requested to be kept informed. To keep it current, the list is reviewed and revised periodically. The EPA uses the site mailing list to distribute written information such as fact sheets. This is a way to ensure that those who do not have access to the Internet or other information sources still receive information about the site.
- **Create and maintain an electronic mailing list.** For those who prefer to receive information via e-mail, the EPA will distribute site information electronically.
- **Establish and maintain a site-specific information repository.** Superfund law requires establishing an information repository. An information repository is a designated location (usually a library or other public building) which houses a file of site-specific documents and general information about the local Superfund site and other EPA programs. The repository typically includes legal documents, work plans, technical reports and copies of laws. Establishing an information repository makes the information more accessible to the community.

The EPA has set up an information repository for the WPSC Marinette MGP site at the Stephenson Public Library located at 1700 Hall Avenue. Many documents, plans and other finalized written materials generated during the investigation and cleanup have been and will continue to be placed in the repository for review and/or photocopying by the public.

- **Publish public notices.** The EPA typically places public notices in the form of display ads in local newspapers to announce major events such as comment periods, public meetings and major milestones such as the selection of a final cleanup plan.
- **Prepare and distribute fact sheets and site updates.** The EPA will produce fact sheets and site updates, written in non-technical language and distributed to coincide with site milestones (such as completion of site investigations). The EPA uses these materials to provide the community with detailed information in a relatively quick, simple, and easy-to-understand manner. In addition to being sent to the mailing list, fact sheets and site updates also are placed in the site information repository and posted on the EPA's website: www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/marinette.
- **Establish and maintain the administrative record.** The EPA typically creates a file called the administrative record. The administrative record provides a paper trail of all documents the EPA relied on, or considered, to reach cleanup decisions.
- **Keep the CIP updated.** This CIP presents the EPA's plan for community input on key decisions. After the cleanup plan is selected, the EPA should revise the CIP to document new concerns or information needs.
- **Hold public meetings.** Although there was little interest in Marinette, public meetings can provide opportunities for the EPA to present specific information and a proposed course of action. The EPA staff is available to provide information and answer questions. A public meeting is not a formal public hearing where testimony is received. Instead, it might be a meeting to exchange information. The EPA also holds informal open-house style meetings, called availability sessions, where residents can meet the EPA experts one on one to discuss the activities at the site. Either may be held at various times throughout the investigation and cleanup process. Scheduling meetings should remain flexible to account for technical milestones and public interest. A formal meeting may also be held when the EPA officials hear the public's views and concerns about an EPA action or proposal. There are specific regulations about when the EPA is required to consider such comments. These meetings are recorded by a professional court reporter and become part of the administrative record. The transcript is also posted to the Web and sent to the information repository.
- **Attend city council meetings.** The EPA is also available to come to Marinette City Council meetings. As part of the agenda, the project manager can briefly update the Marinette elected officials as well as answer questions.
- **Attend Community Advisory Committees (Appendix B).** During the February and March 2012 interviews it was mentioned that the EPA can attend CAC meetings and make presentations to members. CAC meetings are held monthly on the third Thursday, 7 p.m., UW-Marinette Geography/Geology classroom.



Documents in the information repository.

TO MAKE IT CONVENIENT FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS TO VIEW SITE-RELATED INFORMATION, EPA HAS PLACED SITE INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT WEB PAGES:

www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/marinette

- **Provide technical assistance plan information.** Through a TAP, the company responsible for the site contamination agrees to provide (at its own expense) a qualified community group with assistance. The group can receive services from an independent technical advisor to help its members understand cleanup issues and enable the group to share this information with others in the community.
- **Maintain contact with local officials, community leaders and residents.** The process of community interviews already has established an initial communications link between the community and the EPA. Furthermore, the EPA has designated the site community involvement coordinator as a contact person (Appendix B). Access to a contact person reduces the frustration that may accompany attempts to obtain information and communicate with the several agencies and organizations involved in the project. The community involvement coordinator, along with the project manager, will continue to maintain contact with the appropriate local officials, community leaders, and residents via phone and e-mail to address any issues that may arise during the site investigation and cleanup. The community involvement coordinator and project manager may also visit the Marinette area to meet with the residents and local officials. Informal visits provide a forum for the EPA to interact one on one with individuals or small groups and respond directly to questions and concerns. They have also been invited to participate in regularly scheduled CAC meetings and conference calls.
- **Solicit input during public comment periods.** Although input is always welcome, the EPA will hold public comment periods to give community members an opportunity to review and comment on key documents. Before the EPA selects a final cleanup plan for the WPSC Marinette MGP site, the Agency will hold a public comment period to allow interested residents an opportunity to review and comment on its proposed plan. The EPA will consider the community's input before selecting a final plan. The EPA's response to public comments will be summarized in a document called a responsiveness summary, which will be placed in the site information repository and made available on the Web.
- **Participate in local community group meetings.** The EPA may offer speakers to local organizations, business clubs and schools as another means of communicating important information to local residents. These meetings can be an effective, convenient way for the EPA to interact with the community, convey information and solicit questions and input from targeted groups. By attending previously scheduled community meetings, the EPA allows residents to participate without having to disrupt or change their schedules. In addition to the CAC, it was suggested that EPA staff address the local Rotary Club.



Menominee River.

- **Evaluate community engagement and outreach efforts and make adjustments as warranted.** Throughout the site investigation and cleanup process, the EPA will assess the effectiveness of its activities outlined in this CIP. The EPA may make revisions to its community outreach methods and approaches, and may implement additional activities not mentioned in this CIP, based on feedback from residents and local officials.

6.3 Timeframe for conducting community involvement activities

The following table presents the general timeframe for the activities described in Section 6.2.

Community Involvement Activities	Timeframe
Designate an EPA community involvement coordinator	Complete
Provide a toll free number	Complete, publish in written materials
Create and maintain a site mailing list	Complete, update as needed
Establish and maintain site information repositories	Complete, update as needed
Maintain contact with local officials, community leaders and residents	Ongoing
Write community involvement plan	Complete, update as needed
Provide site and Superfund information on the Internet	As needed
Establish and maintain the site administrative record	Prior to release of proposed cleanup plan
Provide technical assistance plan information	As needed
Attend city council meetings	Upon request
Prepare and distribute fact sheets or site updates	As needed
Hold public meetings and hearings	As needed
Public notices (newspaper advertisements)	As needed
Evaluate communication efforts	Periodically throughout investigation/cleanup process
Visit the community	As needed
Solicit community input during public comment period	When proposed cleanup plan is completed
Participate in local group meetings	Upon request

6.4 Evaluating the community involvement efforts

At key milestones during the investigation/cleanup, the EPA will revisit its CIP for the WPSC Marinette MGP site. Members of the community may be asked to provide input on the EPA’s efforts to reach out to local residents and keep them engaged and involved in decisions. Based on community feedback, the EPA may make adjustments to its communication methods, as well as the frequency of communication.

7. What is Superfund?

Superfund is the name for the environmental cleanup program legally known as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, a federal law enacted in 1980. CERCLA provides the authority through which the federal government can compel people or companies responsible for creating hazardous waste sites to clean them up.

The Superfund program is overseen by the EPA, and has three basic goals:

- It establishes a system for identifying hazardous substances and listing contaminated sites on the National Priorities List, or NPL. Sites are placed on this list when they are found to contain contaminants that have the potential to affect residential areas or the environment.
- It gives the federal government the authority to investigate and clean up a site if the owner or operator cannot be found or does not do the work.
- It makes persons or parties responsible for hazardous releases liable for costs and damages resulting from those releases.

Exhibit 7-1 on Page 7-3 provides an overview of the Superfund process. The Superfund process begins with site discovery or notification to the EPA of possible releases of hazardous substances. Sites are discovered by various parties, including citizens, state agencies and the EPA regional offices.

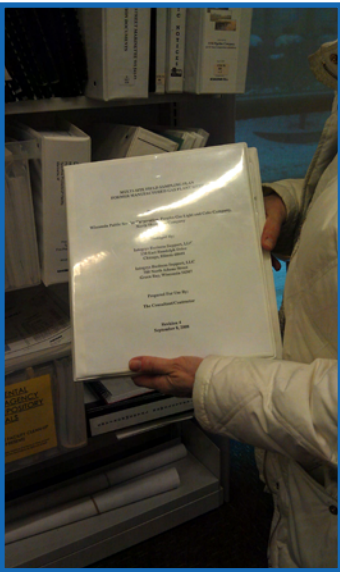
7.1 Hazard ranking system

Once discovered, sites are entered into the EPA's computerized inventory of potential hazardous substance release sites. The Hazard Ranking System considers the relative threat to public health and the environment, using information from site investigations.

Following placement on the NPL, the lead agency, whether the EPA or a state agency, investigates the site to collect information and determine the nature and extent of contamination. This investigation includes sampling and monitoring of air, water and soil, and evaluates current risks to people and the environment.

Since the investigation and cleanup process takes several years, sites are evaluated early to determine if any short-term actions need to be taken. This is the preliminary assessment step. Refer to Figure 7-1 on Page 7-3 for details associated with each step of the cleanup process.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
SUPERFUND AND EPA'S
CLEANUP PROCESS
www.epa.gov/superfund



Documents can be reviewed at the Stephenson Public Library.

As displayed in Figure 7-1, after the site investigation is underway or completed, several cleanup options are developed. These options are then evaluated against nine criteria to determine which will best protect human health and the environment. This process and an explanation of the recommended alternative are described in detail in a document called the proposed cleanup plan.

7.2 Superfund Alternative sites

The SA approach uses the same investigation and cleanup process and standards that are used for sites listed on the NPL. The Superfund approach is an alternative to listing a site on the NPL; it is not an alternative to Superfund or the Superfund process.

The SA approach can potentially save the time and resources associated with listing a site on the NPL. As long as a potentially responsible party (a person or company responsible for the site contamination) enters into an agreement with the EPA, and although the site qualifies for listing, there is no need for the Agency to list it.

Eligibility criteria for using the SA approach are:

1. Site contaminants are significant enough that the site would be eligible for listing on the NPL.
2. A long-term cleanup action is anticipated at the site.
3. There is a willing, financial viable potentially responsible party who will negotiate and sign a legal agreement with the EPA to do the investigation.

The EPA determines if the SA approach is appropriate at a particular site. (A potentially responsible party may request that a site be evaluated for the SA approach.) If a site meets criteria 1 and 2 above, the EPA may want to pursue a SA approach agreement. The agreement is similar to one for an NPL site.

7.3 The EPA's nine criteria

Threshold criteria

Overall protection of human health and the environment

Compliance with applicable or relevant and appropriate federal and state laws

Balancing criteria

1. Long-term effectiveness and permanence
2. Reduction of toxicity, mobility or volume through treatment
3. Short-term effectiveness
4. Implementability
5. Cost

Modifying criteria

1. State acceptance
2. Community acceptance

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
THE SA APPROACH:

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/cleanup/superfund/saa.html>

7.4 The community's role

While public participation is encouraged throughout the process, the release of the proposed cleanup plan is a key milestone for public input. The general public is encouraged to express opinions and concerns during a public comment period. This can be done via postal mail, e-mail, fax or at a public meeting, if one is held. The public's comments, as well as the EPA's responses to them, are included in a report called the responsiveness summary.

After public comments are received and responded to, the EPA and other regulatory agencies overseeing the process select what they believe is the most appropriate cleanup option, taking into account public concerns.

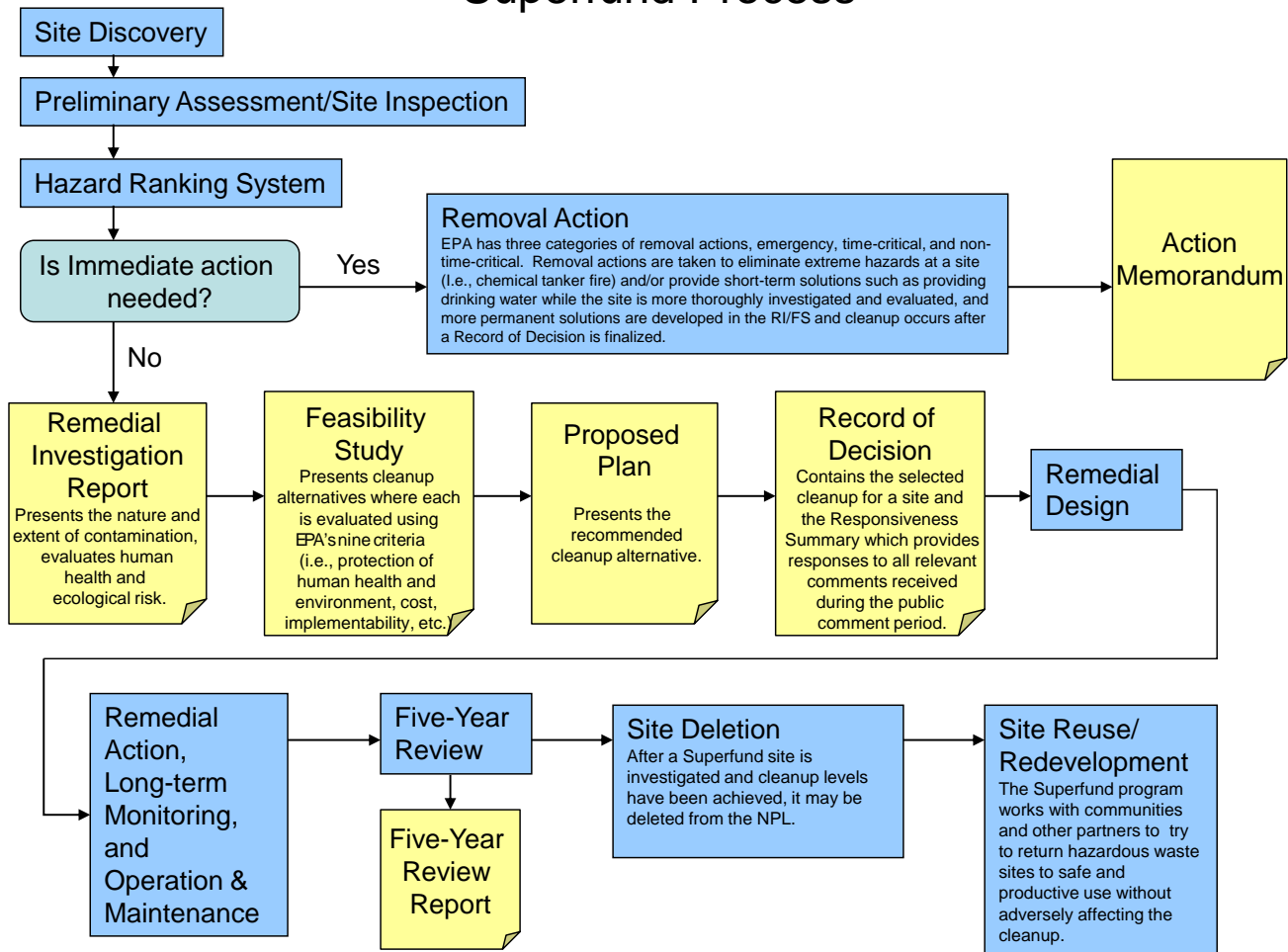
The chosen cleanup plan is described in a legal document known as the record of decision. The next step is the cleanup design, which details plans and specifications for the cleanup. This is when the EPA typically revises its CIP if the public's information needs have changed. The final step is the actual construction and implementation of the selected cleanup option.



Mouth of the Menominee River opening to the Bay of Green Bay.

FIGURE 7-1
Superfund process

Superfund Process



Nestegg Marine, Marinette.

8. Community Engagement and the Superfund Process

Opportunities for community involvement occur throughout the process, which is shown in Exhibit 8-1 below and described further in this section.

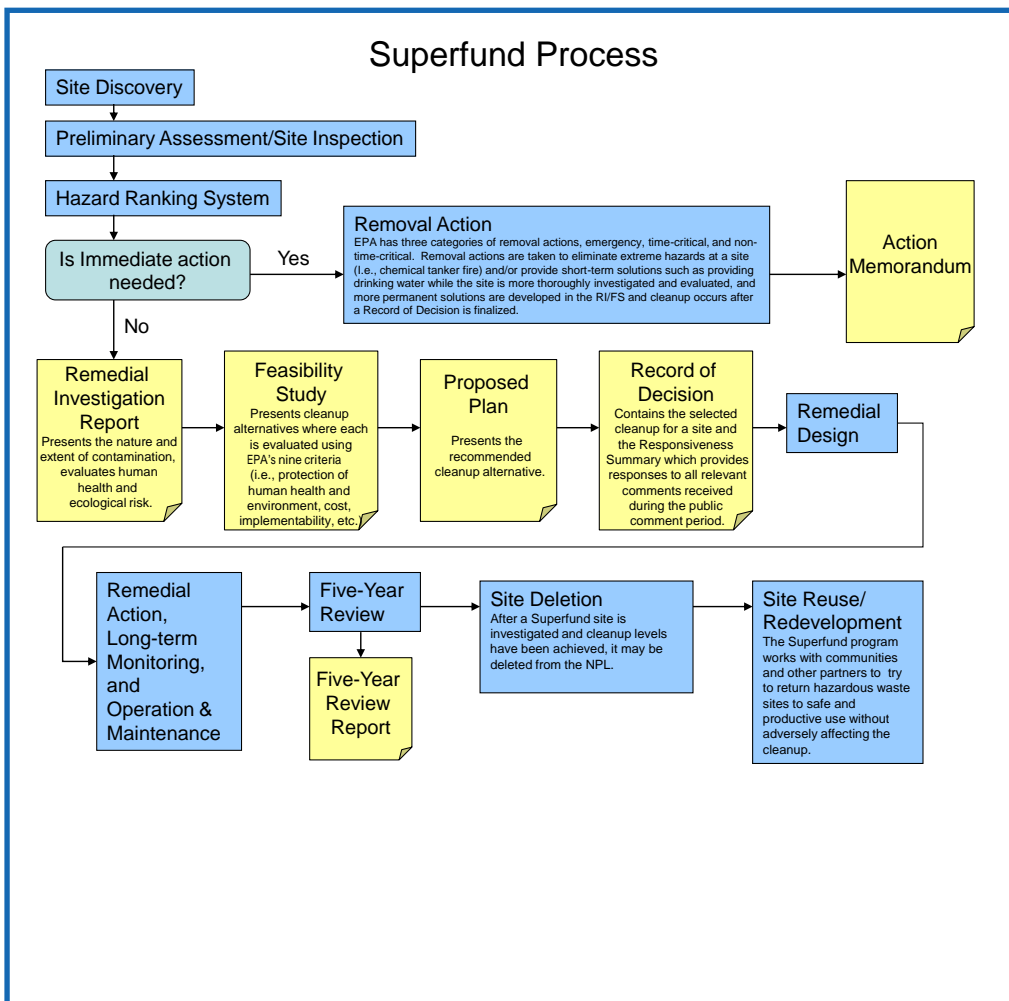
8.1 Preliminary assessment and site inspection

The preliminary assessment involves gathering historical and other available information about site conditions to evaluate whether the site poses a threat to people and the environment and whether further investigation is needed. The site investigation tests air, water, sediment and soil to determine what hazardous

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE
EPA'S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
AND SUPERFUND PROCESS
PLEASE SEE:

[www.epa.gov/oswer/
engagementinitiative/cleanup.html](http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/cleanup.html)

EXHIBIT 8-1
The Superfund Process



substances are present at the site and whether they are being released to the environment and are a threat to people's health.

Depending on the situation, the EPA may meet with local officials and community leaders, communicate potential risks and potential cleanup options to the public, conduct community interviews, prepare a CIP, establish an information repository, and designate the EPA community involvement coordinator.

Opportunities for community involvement: Provide any information you have about the site to the EPA.

8.2 Superfund alternative approach agreement

Community involvement for SA sites involves the same process for sites on the National Priorities List. After a legal agreement is in place for site investigation, the Agency is required to conduct community interviews, finalize a formal CIP like this one, establish and maintain an information repository, establish the administrative record, and notify the public of the availability of technical assistance plans. The EPA may develop fact sheets or flyers to inform the community at any point in the process.

Opportunities for community involvement:

- Read information about the site.
- Contact the EPA to ask questions or request additional information.

8.3 Study of Site contamination and possible cleanup options

The first phase of the process involves investigating the nature and extent of contamination at the site. The investigation also tests whether certain technologies are capable of addressing the contamination, and evaluates the cost and performance of technologies that could be used to clean up the site.

If it hasn't already done so, the EPA will begin its outreach and community involvement efforts. The Agency will appoint a community involvement coordinator for the site who will work with community members throughout the investigation and cleanup process. The EPA staff will interview citizens, local officials and others to gather information about the site and the community and to learn how community members want to be involved. The Agency then will prepare a CIP that specifies the outreach activities it plans to use to address the concerns and expectations raised in the interviews. The CIP is available to the public.

The EPA will establish a local information repository where site-related documents will be stored and available. In addition, the EPA will communicate important information, including the availability of technical assistance plans or other resources to help the community understand technical information. Site-related documents will also be available on a Web page.

The EPA also establishes an administrative record. As the investigation moves forward, the EPA will add to the administrative record all the relevant documents used in making the eventual cleanup decision. Although available to the public, this file is compiled primarily to document the steps taken during the investigation that led to EPA's final cleanup decision. The administrative record is reviewed by a judge if a Superfund case is ever contested in court.

During this process, the EPA studies cleanup options to develop a proposed plan for cleaning up the site. The Agency will place a notice in a local newspaper and on EPA's Web page to notify the community, so people can comment on the proposed plan. In addition, the Agency may hold a public meeting. The EPA will then respond to public comments received and gather those responses in a responsiveness summary. If, based on public comments, the proposed plan is changed substantially, the EPA may explain the changes and invite the public to comment on the changes.

Throughout this phase, the EPA staff will keep the community informed.

Opportunities for community involvement:

- Ask the community involvement coordinator or project manager questions about the site.
- Consider whether your community should request help through the EPA's Technical Assistance Services for Communities or Technical Assistance Plan programs.
- Read the EPA's proposed plan for cleaning up the site.
- Participate in any public meetings or other events on the proposed plan.
- Read about the site online or visit the information repository and read the proposed plan and other documents. Prepare and send any comments to the EPA via the Internet, fax or postal mail.
- Read the EPA's responsiveness summary to find out how the Agency plans to address major concerns raised during the comment period.
- Invite the EPA to attend community events to discuss the site and the proposed plan.

8.4 Recommended alternative/cleanup plan

The recommended cleanup option for a site is presented to the public in the EPA's proposed plan. The plan summarizes the cleanup alternatives studied, highlighting the key factors that led to identifying the proposed cleanup alternative. Public comment is taken on the proposed plan. The Agency responds to the comments, and then issues a record of decision, which is the final cleanup plan for the site.

The record of decision contains information on the site, community participation, enforcement activities, contaminants present, response actions to be taken and the selected cleanup plan. The record of decision also includes consideration of how the site could be used in the future.

The EPA must develop a proposed cleanup plan for public comment. During this stage the EPA will:

1. Notify the public of its availability in local newspapers and online.
2. Place the proposed cleanup plan in the site's information repository.
3. Hold a public comment period.
4. Offer to host a public meeting.
5. Provide a meeting transcript if a meeting is held.
6. Provide a written responsiveness summary to respond to public comments.



Mouth of the Menominee River at the Bay of Green Bay.



Mouth of the Menominee River at the Bay of Green Bay.

The EPA may have to address significant changes to the proposed plan before selecting the final cleanup plan. If new information changes the basis of the proposed cleanup plan, the EPA may:

1. Revise its proposed plan.
2. Hold another public comment period on the revised cleanup plan.
3. Prepare a written response to significant comments.
4. Notify the public of the record of decision in newspapers and online.
5. Update the community via the Internet and printed materials.

Opportunities for community involvement:

- Inform the EPA about how the community wants the site to be used in the future.
- Read the record of decision for cleaning up the site.
- Participate in any public events.
- Visit the information repository or site Web page to read the record of decision and supporting documentation.
- Contact the community involvement coordinator or project manager to ask questions or request more information.

8.5 Cleanup design and construction

This phase of the process includes preparing for and doing the cleanup at the site. The EPA develops the final cleanup design and will keep community members advised about the progress of the cleanup.

Opportunities for Community Involvement:

- Learn about the final design for the cleanup.
- Use the local Community Advisory Committee to stay informed about the progress of the cleanup.
- Visit the information repository and website.
- Contact the community involvement coordinator with questions or comments.

8.6 Operation and maintenance/five-year reviews

This process ensures that Superfund cleanups provide for the long-term protection of people and the environment. The EPA's activities will include operating and maintaining long-term cleanup technologies, reviewing the site (every five years) to be sure that the cleanup continues to be effective, and enforcing any necessary restrictions to minimize the potential for exposure to contamination. Site reviews may include examining information, inspecting the site, taking new samples and talking with affected residents.

The EPA is required to notify the community that a five-year review will be conducted. Community members may provide input about current site conditions, problems and concerns.

Opportunities for community involvement:

- Work with the local Community Advisory Committee to participate in and review the results of regular site reviews.
- Visit the site by arranging a tour through the EPA.
- Invite the EPA community involvement coordinator and project manager to your community events to discuss results of the five-year review.
- Plan an event to celebrate major milestones.



Red Arrow Park, Marinette.

Appendix A – Site Information Repository

Site information repository

The information repository is located at:
Stephenson Public Library
1700 Hall Ave.
Marinette, WI 54143
Phone: 715-732-7572

Jennifer Thiele, Director
mrt@mail.nfls.lib.wi.us

Winter Hours:
Monday to Thursday: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday: Closed

Summer Hours:
Monday to Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Sunday: Closed

You may also view site-related documents at:
www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/marinette



Stephenson Public Library.



Stephenson Public Library.

Appendix B – List of Contacts and Interested Groups

Federal elected officials

Senator Ron Johnson
Milwaukee Office
517 E. Wisconsin Ave., Room 408
Milwaukee, WI 53202-4504
Phone: 414-276-7282
www.congress.org/congressorg/webreturn/?url=http://ronjohnson.senate.gov
Washington, D.C. office
386 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 202-224-5323

Senator Herbert Kohl
Milwaukee Office
310 W. Wisconsin Ave., Suite 950
Milwaukee, WI 53203
Phone: 414-297-4451
www.congress.org/congressorg/webreturn/?url=http://kohl.senate.gov
Washington, D.C. office
330 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: 202-224-5653

Congressman Reid Ribble
District Office
333 West College Ave.
Appleton, WI 54911
Phone: 920-380-0061
www.congress.org/congressorg/webreturn/?url=http://ribble.house.gov
Washington, D.C. office
1513 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: 202-225-5665

State elected officials

Governor Scott Walker
115 E. Capitol
Madison, WI 53702
Phone: 608-266-1212
govgeneral@wisconsin.gov

Senator Dave Hanson
Room 5
South State Capitol
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Phone: 608-266-5670
Sen.Hansen@legis.wisconsin.gov

Representative John Nygren
Room 306
East State Capitol
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Madison, WI 53708-8952
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Local elected officials

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Fax: 715-732-7532
scorbeille@marinettecounty.com
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Phone: 715-735-7039

Shirley A. Kaufman, District 25
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Marinette, WI 54143
Phone: 715-732-9464

Ken Keller, District 22
309 Ogden St.
Marinette, WI 54143
Phone: 715-923-2514

Thomas P. Mailand, District 27

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Phone: 715-735-9179

Allen L. Mans, District 30
303 Park St.
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Ted Sauve, District 28
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Phone: 715-732-2137

City of Marinette

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Phone: 715-732-5120

Robert Harbick, Mayor
Phone: 715-732-5120

Judge Carl Mercier, Municipal Court Judge
Phone: 715-732-5125

Sandra Saunier, Ward 1, Council President
101 Water St.
Marinette, WI 54143
Phone: 715-732-2115

Terry Setunsky, Ward 2
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Phone: 715-587-1741

John Marx, Ward 3
2655 Shore Dr.
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743 Michaelis St.
Marinette, WI 54143
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Bradley Behrendt, At Large
3400 Pierce Ave., #702
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County of Menominee

County of Menominee
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839 10th Ave.
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[board/?i=ba1bdef1e7bc](http://www.menomineecounty.com/county_board/?i=ba1bdef1e7bc)

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[board/?i=3b7aef4ea8f3](http://www.menomineecounty.com/county_board/?i=3b7aef4ea8f3)

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Leon Felch, Ward 3
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W. Allen Walker, Ward 3
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Phone: 906-863-2757

Arnold Organ, Ward 4
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Frank Pohlmann, Ward 4
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Sharon Baker
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bakersl@michigan.gov



Menominee Public Library, Menominee, Mich.

EPA

EPA
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Phone: 800-621-8431
www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/marinette

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pastor.susan@epa.gov

Margaret Gielniewski, SR-6J
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Interested parties

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Great Lakes Program Specialist
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benjamin.uvaas@wisconsin.gov

Media – newspapers

Eagle Herald
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Fax: 262-284-0067
Terri Leselius, Editor

Penny Mullins, Reporter
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news@PeshtigoTimes.com



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www.thefan1075.com/pages/11777396.php



AM 1360 WTAQ

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Green Bay, WI 54305
Phone: 920-435-3771
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wtaq.com/contact-us/

WNFL 1440-AM

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Appendix C – Interview Questions

Community interview questions

1. How long have you lived in the area?
2. What do you know about the WPSC Marinette MGP site?
3. What concerns do you have about the site?
4. What risks do you think the site, in its current state, poses to you or your children?
5. How has the contamination affected your enjoyment of the area?
6. What government officials have you interacted with about the site? Do you feel these officials have been responsive to your concerns?
7. How has the city been involved in the site? Which city officials have been involved?
8. If the EPA were to hold a future public meeting, what is a good meeting location? Would you attend a meeting about the site?
9. How would you like to be kept informed about the site (e-mail, regular mail, newspaper, Web, gatherings)?
10. What type of media (newspaper, Internet, radio) do you rely on for information? What stations and papers do you prefer?
11. When possible, site information is posted on the EPA's website. Have you used the EPA Web site? <http://www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/marinette/index.htm>
12. How interested are you in environmental issues in general?
13. Are there any other people or groups you think we should talk to about the WPSC Marinette MGP site either because they have unique information about the site, or because they would like to know more about the site from the EPA?



Menominee Marina, Menominee, Mich.