



**U.S. EPA Seeks Public Comment on
Plan to Modify the Record of Decision
at the Foote Mineral Co. Superfund Site**



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 3 is seeking public comment on the Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) for the Foote Mineral Co. Superfund Site located in East Whiteland Township, Pennsylvania. To access the ESD on the internet, please follow the instructions below. The draft ESD presents three modifications to the Record of Decision (ROD) that was issued in March 2006.

The remedy selected in the ROD required:

- Excavation of all contaminated soils to specific cleanup standards
- Consolidation of excavated soils and other debris at two on-site quarries which would be capped to the level of the surrounding area
- Backfilling of excavated areas with clean fill

Explanation of Significant Differences

The ESD will:

- Expand the horizontal and vertical limits of the area to be capped on the site
- Use the revised soil clean up standards developed from site-specific information for antimony, arsenic, lithium, and thallium
- Use subterranean caps and alternate cleanup standards, at a minimum of fifteen foot depth, in limited areas on the site

The ESD is necessary in order to properly handle the increased volume of contaminated soil encountered during initial excavations. The expansion of the capped area will allow for more contaminated soil to be consolidated on-site. The use of site-specific cleanup standards will reduce the amount of soil that will need to be excavated, while still protecting the groundwater. The subterranean cap is only a contingency plan to be used when excess contaminated soil is encountered.

Public Comment Period: 12/01/2007-12/30/2007

Public comment on the draft ESD will be accepted by EPA for 30 calendar days starting December 1, 2007. Additionally, a public availability session has been scheduled for December 18, 2007 with EPA representatives to provide information and answer questions.

Public Availability Session
East Whiteland Township Municipal Building
209 Conestoga Road
Frazer, Pennsylvania, 19355
Tuesday, December 18, 2007 Time: 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Comments to the ESD may be mailed to the following address by midnight on December 30, 2007:

Francisco J. Cruz
U.S. EPA
1650 Arch Street (3HS52)
Philadelphia, PA 19103

The draft ESD and other documents related to the Foote Mineral Co. Superfund Site can be reviewed online at <http://www.epa.gov/arweb>. Select 'PA' for State, 'Foote Mineral' for Site Name, and leave AR Type blank. Select 'Search,' and on the next screen select 'Search Results.'

For more information regarding this ESD, please contact Francisco J. Cruz (Community Involvement Coordinator) at 215-814-5528 or by e-mail at cruz.franciscoj@epa.gov, or James Feeney (Remedial Project Manager) at 215-814-3190 or by e-mail at feeney.jim@epa.gov.