



# Crater Resources Inc. Superfund Site

(Keystone Coke Co./Alan Wood Steel Co.)



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III ■ Information Update ■ April, 2000

## EPA ADDRESSES COMMUNITY CONCERNS

### Public Availability Session Scheduled

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF SECOND PUBLIC AVAILABILITY SESSION

A Public Availability Session will be held at the Upper Merion Township Building on Wednesday, May 3, 2000. Area residents are encouraged to attend between 3 - 5 p.m. or 6 - 8 p.m. At this session, members of the public will be able to pose questions to EPA's Project Manager.

EPA is currently in the process of listing and evaluating cleanup alternatives in a Feasibility Study for the Crater Site. EPA expects to finalize the Feasibility Study in May 2000, with a Proposed Plan presenting the preferred alternative to the public soon thereafter.

#### SITE HISTORY

The Crater Resources, Inc./Keystone Coke Co./Alan Wood Steel Co. Site consists of four inactive quarries on a 50-acre parcel of land. Beginning in 1919, the Alan Wood Steel Company disposed of wastes generated by its coking facility in Swedeland, Pennsylvania, into Quarries 1, 2, and 3. In 1977, Alan Wood Steel declared bankruptcy and transferred ownership of the property to Keystone Coke Company, a subsidiary of Alabama By-Products Corporation. Keystone Coke Co. continued to dispose of wastes in Quarry 3 until 1980. In 1979, Haploid Corporation purchased part of the property and later transferred a portion of Quarry 3 to Crater Resources, Inc. and other portions to Swedeland Road Corporation. Swedeland has since transferred its land holdings to several other parties.

Most of the environmental work taking place at the Site is being funded by a group of potentially responsible parties (PRPs). Under the Superfund law, PRPs are expected to conduct or pay for site cleanup. The PRP Group members are Beazer East, Inc., Keystone Coke Company, Inc. and Vesper Corporation.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) placed the Crater Resources Site on its Superfund list for cleanup in 1992. This is the EPA's third fact sheet that was developed to update residents about the site. In addition, a Public Availability Session was held in August, 1999 to answer residents questions and concerns.

#### HEALTH RISKS

EPA completed a human health risk assessment in December, 1999. This assessment showed risks to human health from the long term ingestion of or contact with contaminated groundwater and soils in the quarries. EPA believes that all surrounding residents and businesses are supplied with drinking water through a municipal water line, so there is little chance of contact with the contaminated groundwater. Complete contaminant descriptions are available on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/crater/menu.htm>. These documents are also available at the Upper Merion Township Library.

#### CONSTRUCTION NEAR QUARRIES

There has been public concern about construction which has occurred near Quarry 4 and is proposed between Quarries 1 and 2. This construction is not related to the EPA cleanup, but is being done by private developers. EPA does not believe that the underlying contaminated soil and groundwater are being disturbed. An underground pipe was unearthed during construction near Quarry 4, and the construction company properly and immediately notified the EPA. A contractor hired by the Property Owner is in the process of removing the contaminated underground piping and associated soils.

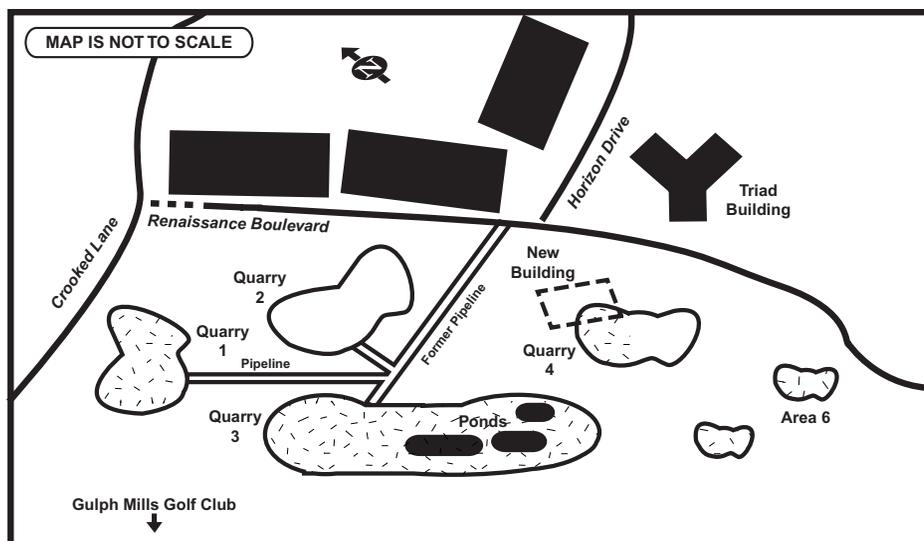


#### CONTAMINANTS

Contamination has been found in soils and sediment in Quarries 1, 2, 3 and 4 as well as in Area 6, and in the groundwater both on and off-site. EPA did not detect a risk from exposure to the air. Construction at the Site is not believed to be disturbing underlying soil or groundwater.

Soils and sediments at the bottom of Quarry 3 and in the soils of Quarries 1, 2, and 4 contain organics such as phenolic compounds, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs); volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as benzene and toluene. Cyanide and heavy metals are also present. Similar contamination has been detected in groundwater beneath and downgradient from the Site.

## SITE MAP



The Crater Resources Site is bordered on the south by the Gulph Mills Golf Course and on the east and northeast by Renaissance Boulevard. The western portion of the Site is adjacent to where Crooked Lane intersects with the SEPTA railroad tracks. Residents in Hughes Park, along Crooked Lane, and in the western portion of Swedeland are nearest to the Site.

## CLEANUP PROCESS

Cleanup activities will focus mainly on addressing the affected groundwater and contaminated soil.

EPA Region III will present a proposed remedy for the Site to the public in the Spring of 2000. Following a public meeting this summer, EPA will issue a Record of Decision (ROD) describing the chosen remedy for the Site. EPA Community Involvement Coordinators have been surveying residents to document community concerns. Those concerns, along with a community relations plan, will be included in the Administrative Record.

## HISTORY OF SUPERFUND

Superfund cleanups are very complex and require the efforts of many experts in science, engineering, public health, management, law, community relations, and numerous other fields. Congress established the Superfund Program in 1980 to clean up the Nation's most serious sites. The Superfund Program is managed by the EPA in cooperation with individual states and tribal governments. Superfund locates, investigates and cleans up hazardous waste sites.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Information on the Superfund Program, EPA, or the Crater Resources Site can be found on the EPA's Web site at:

<http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/super/crater/menu.htm>

In addition, the EPA has developed an Administrative Record for the Crater Resources Site. The administrative Record contains all relevant documents leading up to the Record of Decision and can be viewed at:

**US EPA Region III  
Administrative Records  
Room  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
Call 215-814-3157 for an  
appointment**

**Upper Merion Township  
Building  
175 W. Valley Forge Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406  
610-265-2600  
Hours: M-Th 9 am - 9 pm  
Fri. 9 am - 5 pm  
Sat. 10 am - 5 pm  
Sun. 1 pm - 4:30 pm**

*Interested parties may also contact:*

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## STATUS OF CLEANUP AT AREA SUPERFUND SITE

Look Inside for the Latest Update.



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