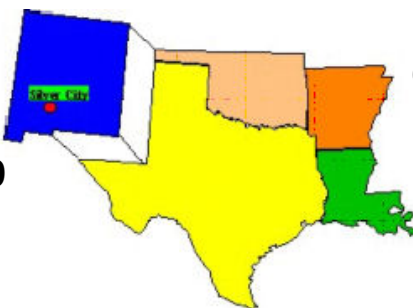


# CLEVELAND MILL NEW MEXICO

EPA ID# NMD981155930  
Site ID: 0600952



EPA Region 6  
Congressional District 02  
Grant County

Contact: Mark Purcell  
214-665-2240  
September 2009

*Note: This Site has been deleted from the NPL and this Fact Sheet will be updated annually.*

## Present Status and Issues

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- The Site is currently remediated. Operation and Maintenance activities, including site inspection and ground water monitoring are being undertaken by the responsible parties.
- The site was deleted from the National Priorities List in July 2001.
- A Five Year Review of the site was completed in August 2007. The Five-Year Review concluded that the remedy for the Site continues to be protective of human health and the environment.
- The annual site inspection and ground water sampling event was performed in October 2008.

## Benefits

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- After the removal action, the site was addressed in a single long-term remedial phase that focused on contamination at the entire site and monitoring of the ground water.
- Remediation of the tailings addressed a source of contamination to Little Walnut Creek and a potential threat to the residential wells that were already established.
- The site and adjacent five mile stretch of Little Walnut Creek is in a rapidly developing residential area.

## National Priorities List (NPL) Site History

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- Site HRS Score: 40.37
- Proposed Date: 6/24/88
- Final Date: 3/31/89
- Proposed deletion from the NPL: 5/22/2001
- Deleted From the NPL: 7/23/2001
- Location: 5 miles northeast of Silver City
- Photos: [Site Photos](#)
- Population: Approximately 1,200 area residents, mainly along Little Walnut Creek, draw drinking water from private wells within 3 miles of the site.
- Setting: The site is an abandoned lead, zinc, and copper mine and mill covering about 4 acres near mine and about 10 acres of the bed of Little Walnut Creek. Tailings from the mill were deposited in piles in the mill area and then washed into Little Walnut Creek.
- Hydrology: Run-off from the facility had acidified Little Walnut Creek and has contaminated it with metals. Residential wells installed along the creek, though not contaminated with toxic substances, had shown indicator parameters, which indicate that they have been affected by the mine tailings.
- Principal pollutants: arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, lead, and zinc.

- Volume: 164,960 cubic yards in about 9 piles and in the streambed.

## Human Health and Ecological Considerations

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- Direct contact and ingestion threat; shallow, on-site aquifer is contaminated with metals.
- Acidic run-off from facility into Little Walnut Creek potentially transports metals into residential wells.

## Record of Decision

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Signed: September 22, 1993

Remedy Selected: Off site reprocessing, recycling and disposal

## Contacts

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**Remedial Project Manager (EPA):**

Mark Purcell, 214/665-6707

**State Contact (NMED):**

Dana Bahar, 505/827-2906

**Attorney (EPA):**

Jim Costello, 214/665-8045

**Prime Contractor:**

PRP lead (Mining Remedial Recovery Company), EPA and NMED oversight

**Public Liaison(EPA):**

Donn R. Walters, 214-665-6483

**EPA Toll Free Number**

1-800-533-3508