

## Contacts

For more information about the site, contact one of these team members:

### Diane Russell, EPA

Community Involvement Coordinator  
989-395-3493  
russell.diane@epa.gov

### Tricia Edwards, EPA

On-Scene Coordinator  
734-214-4891  
edwards.tricia@epa.gov

### Joe DeGrazia, EGLE

Incident Management Specialist  
586-291-0476  
degraziaj@michigan.gov

### Lisa Fischer

Michigan Department of Health and  
Human Services (MDHHS)  
517-331-2523  
fischerl@michigan.gov

## Webpage

To find more details about the site, visit the EPA webpage at:  
[www.epa.gov/mi/electro-plating-services-i696-release-site](http://www.epa.gov/mi/electro-plating-services-i696-release-site)

## Virtual public meeting

EPA and EGLE will host a virtual public meeting on **Tuesday, August 11, from 6-8 p.m.** To attend the online public information meeting register at [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_McyVmpKIT2mllzP-AKMYtw](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_McyVmpKIT2mllzP-AKMYtw). After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you do not have internet access and would like to join by **PHONE ONLY**, please use the following phone number: 312-626-6799 and use access code 988 7658 3717#. Pre-registration is not required to attend the meeting. Individuals interested in participating can click the link above at the start of the event (6:00 p.m.).

# Groundwater Cleanup to Begin This Summer

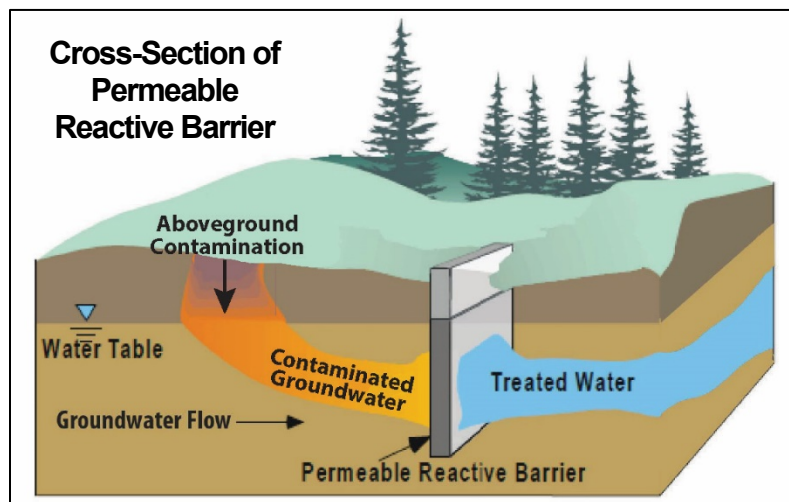
**Electro-Plating Services – I696 Site**  
Madison Heights, Michigan

July 2020

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) are implementing a plan to clean up groundwater contamination at the former Electro-Plating Services facility in Madison Heights. EGLE requested EPA assistance at the site in December 2019 when yellow-green liquid containing toxic chemicals from Electro-Plating Services seeped from the former business onto the shoulder of I-696.

Contaminants at the site include hexavalent chromium, trichloroethylene, or TCE, cyanide, and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, known as PFAS. Since December 2019, EPA has collected over 270,000 gallons of contaminated groundwater and transported it off-site for treatment and disposal. While effective, this method is not sustainable long-term, as it is both costly and resource intensive.

After evaluating several options, EPA and EGLE selected in-place treatment with a permeable reactive barrier as the remedy for groundwater contamination. A permeable reactive barrier is created when chemicals are added to the ground in the path of groundwater flow to form a treatment zone. (*See graphic below*). Contaminated groundwater then flows through the zone where it is treated by the chemicals and comes out treated on the other side.



A variety of treatment chemicals that break down and adsorb the different contaminants will be placed into the saturated soil between the EPS building and the service drive, as well as along the top of the I-696 embankment. The treatment chemicals are non-toxic and not harmful. These treatment chemicals have been widely used on other sites, both at the state and federal level cleanup sites.

To learn more about this treatment technology, see “A Citizens Guide to Permeable Reactive Barriers” document, which can be found on the site’s webpage listed in the box on the left.

The cleanup transitions the site from the immediate response efforts that have been ongoing since December 2019 to a long-term management process that protects residents and natural resources.

Installation of the treatment chemicals will begin next month. EPA will conduct sampling to ensure the treatment is effective before stopping the current groundwater collection system. EPA expects to transfer the site to EGLE in December 2020 to maintain this new groundwater treatment remedy. It is estimated that the treatment materials may need to be reapplied every three to five years.

The goal of the treatment is to clean the groundwater contamination as it moves off the Electro-Plating site and

across the service drive. On-site soils still contain contaminants above clean-up criteria. Removing the source of the contamination (the building and site soil) will reduce the duration of groundwater treatment.


Legal proceedings are currently underway to authorize demolition and removal of the Electro-Plating building. Additional investigation is required. It is anticipated that once the building has been removed source contamination can be addressed.



*Vacuum truck with high pressure pump cleaning out the storm sewer line along the service drive.*



*Photo of completed interceptor trench and frac tank along the service drive.*

Reproduced on Recycled Paper 

## ELECTRO-PLATING SERVICES – 1696 SITE: Groundwater Cleanup to Begin This Summer

United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency  
Region 5  
Community Involvement and  
Outreach Section (RE-19J)  
77 W. Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

