



## **EPA's Guiding Principles:**

- Use Sound Science
- Follow the rule of law in our decision-making
- Incorporate transparency into our actions

**Fact Sheet hyperlinked by Program:** [Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division](#) ; [Superfund Division](#); [Integrated Project Planning Coalition](#); [Water Protection Division](#); [RCRA Division](#); [Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry](#); [Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability](#); [Enforcement/Office of Environmental Accountability/NEPA](#)

**Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division**   
**Beverly H. Banister, Director**

## **Issue: Air Toxics Risk Assessment**

**Update:** The air toxics risk assessment is being finalized by EPA staff, and the results will be presented to the North Birmingham community at a public meeting scheduled for March 2013. Public availability meetings will be planned for each neighborhood in March and April, and will be held jointly with ATSDR and Jefferson County Dept. of Health (JCDH) to provide additional information on soil and air issues.

**Contact:** Donnette Sturdivant

## **Issue: Toxics Release Inventory**

**Update:** EPA HQ has developed the “Community Guide for Assessing Pollution Prevention (P2) Opportunities Using the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)”. The report suggests that P2 efforts applied at other facilities be explored by local industry in Birmingham to reduce air toxics emissions. EPA plans to hold public meetings to explain the guide and demonstrate potential P2 efforts local facilities should explore. The guide is being finalized and is expected to be available by the end of February 2013.

**Contact:** Ezequiel Velez

### **Issue: Emergency Evacuation Plan**

**Update:** A draft Community Response Plan has been developed with input from local responders in North Birmingham and Walter Coke in response to community concerns about emergency evacuations. The plan addresses railway crossing blockage in emergency situations. The plan is currently under review by Walter Coke and is scheduled to be presented to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) on April 24, 2013. EPA has requested that the community be allowed to review and comment on the plan prior to release and has committed to assisting the LEPC with outreach and distribution of the plan within the community.

**Contact:** Erika White

**Superfund Division** ■  
**Franklin E. Hill, Director**

### **Issue: Superfund Sampling Activities**

**Update:** EPA will issue sample result letters on 200 properties beginning Feb 12<sup>th</sup>. The letters will also state that residents contact the Outreach Center if they have questions or concerns about the results and that at a later time EPA will notify property owner/tenant regarding future steps. Enclosed with the letters will be Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that offer further explanation about the sampling results and other outreach/health education materials about the site related contaminants. Sampling activities are continuing and EPA is still seeking access for certain properties in Collegeville, Fairmont and Harriman Park.

**Contacts:** Stephanie Brown and Jeffrey Crowley

### **Issue: Integrated Project Plan**

**Update:** Regional contacts from the Superfund, Air, Water and RCRA Divisions have held conference calls with our contractors to discuss the formation of a community coalition which is referred to as the Birmingham Integrated Planning Project (BIPP). EPA contractor's will be providing assistance in the formation of the BIPP as well as assisting EPA in conducting future meetings. This concept will be introduced to the community during a public meeting which is tentatively scheduled for March 7, 2013. The tentative plan is for regional contacts to reach out to key leaders in the community in the areas of business, education, health and government prior to the public meeting to provide information and answer questions during the next few weeks. Over the next 12 months EPA will hold 3-4 Coalition meetings, trainings, and public meetings.

## North Birmingham Update – February 2013

The first informational meeting is planned for Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at the Harriman Park Recreation Center. The EPA will provide information on establishing a community coalition to address environmental and other quality of life concerns impacting residents in the north Birmingham communities. If you need more information or have questions you can contact us at the EPA Community Outreach Office at (205) 326-8640 or brown.stephaniey@epamail.epa.gov

**Contact:** Stephanie Brown

**Water Protection Division**   
**Jim Giattina, Director**

**Issue:** Water Protection Division conducted inspections at Walter Coke, Inc and ABC Coke in 2012/2011

**Update:** Inspection report currently under review

**Contact:** Denisse D. Diaz, Chief Clean Water Enforcement Branch

**RCRA Division**   
**G. Alan Farmer, Director**

**Issue:** Onsite Cleanup at Walter Coke Facility

**Update:** The EPA has approved plans for a groundwater clean-up at the Former Chemical Plant area of the Walter Coke property. This will eliminate the off-site release of contaminated groundwater and was installed by Walter Coke with EPA oversight in December 2012. The system is operating and will pump contaminated groundwater out of the ground, treat and dispose of this groundwater properly, and "pull" the contaminated plume back onto the property, with eventual elimination of the plume. (\*Note: There are no drinking water wells in the vicinity of this groundwater plume.)

EPA has also approved the final Community Involvement Plan, prepared and submitted by Walter Coke, to direct communication efforts between Walter Coke and the adjacent communities during the on-site cleanup process. The EPA is working closely with Walter Coke on the clean-up study for the Biological Treatment Facility area of the property. This study will develop protective cleanup goals and evaluate cleanup options that can achieve these goals. The most effective cleanup option will be recommended. This study is due on March 24, 2013 for EPA review. Cleanup Studies for other areas of the property will take place throughout 2013-2014.

**Contact:** Meredith Anderson, anderson.meredith@epa.gov; 404-562-8608


**Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry** 

**Issue: ATSDR Soil Health Consultation**

**Update:** The ATSDR soil health consultation will be released February 12, 2013. Walter Coke, Inc. collected soil samples at about 78 residential properties located in Collegeville, Harriman Park and Fairmont in 2005 and 2009. ATSDR studied the test results to see if arsenic and polycyclic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in soil could cause health problems in people.

ATSDR will release an air health consultation report this year. The Jefferson County Department of Health and EPA collected air samples in the North Birmingham area in 2011 and 2012. ATSDR is studying the test results now to see if breathing air in this area could cause health problems in people.

**Contact:** Sue Casteel

**Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability**   
**Denise Tennessee, Acting Director**

**Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability**

**Issue : Birmingham Southern College Sampling and Environmental Justice Outreach Grant**

**Update:** EPA awarded an Environmental Justice education grant to Birmingham Southern College (BSC) in the fall of 2012. The project area is located in Jones Valley, which is in western portion of North Birmingham. The project proposes to conduct a limited amount of residential soil sampling, engage students and faculty in research, and expose students to community outreach techniques. BSC students plan to begin its sampling activities in February/March 2013 and will have an opportunity to view the Superfund sampling activities.

Contact: Sheryl Good  
Environmental Scientist

**Office of Environmental Accountability **  
**Scott Gordon, Deputy Director**

**Issue: FHWA and ALDOT Transportation Projects in Collegeville**

**Update:** EPA will participate in a public meeting hosted by ALDOT and FHWA regarding the Vehicular/Pedestrian Bridge on Shuttlesworth Drive from 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 32 Avenue North. The project is designed to improve safety and mobility of the residents that cross at railroad tracts to enter and exit their residences, schools or communities. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 26, 2013. Environmental review documents for this project are scheduled for Spring-Summer, 2013.

**Contact:** Ntale Kajumba, NEPA  
Sandra Bonner, ALDOT