

TECHTRIX, INC.
GADSDEN, ETOWAH COUNTY, ALABAMA
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN



2025
March

Approver Maylene Thomas

Date **03/07/2025 (revised)**
Date **01/23/25 (original)**

Title Page

Project Title: Techtrix, Inc.

Document Title: Techtrix, Inc., Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, Community Involvement

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Date Prepared: January 2025

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Federal On-Scene Coordinators
Emergency Response and Removal Branch

ACTIVE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IS CRUCIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF ANY PUBLIC PROJECT

The United States Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) Superfund Community Involvement Program is committed to promoting communication between citizens and the agency. EPA's community involvement activities at the Techtrix, Inc. Site are to:

- Inform the public of the nature of the environmental issues associated with the site.
- Involve the public in the decision-making process that will affect them.
- Involve the public in the responses under consideration to remedy these issues.
- Inform the public of the progress being made to implement the remedy.

***EPA REGION 4 WILL REVISE THIS COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN AS COMMUNITY CONCERNS WARRANT OR AT LEAST EVERY THREE YEARS UNTIL RESPONSE ACTIVITIES AT THE SITE HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.**

Table of Contents

Section		Page
1.0	Overview of the Community Involvement Plan	5
2.0	Community Background	6
2.1	Community Profile	6
2.2	History of Community Involvement	7
2.3	Community Concerns	7
2.4	Response to Community Concerns	8
2.5	Summary of Communication Needs.....	8
3.0	Community Involvement Goals and Activities	9
3.1	The Plan... ..	9
3.2	Timeframe Summary for Community Involvement Activities.....	13
4.0	What is Superfund?	14
5.0	Site Description	15
5.1	Map.....	15
5.2	Site Investigations and Cleanup Activities.....	16
Appendices:		
A	EPA Regional Contacts.....	17
B	Local Officials.....	18
C	Federal and State Elected Officials.....	19
D	Affiliated Agency Contacts	20
E	Media Contacts	21
F	Seven Cardinal Rules for Risk Communication	22
H	Glossary	23
I	Interview Questions.....	25

Section 1.0

Overview of the Community Involvement Plan

One of the steps required under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) or simply, Superfund, for sites listed on the National Priorities List or for sites where removal actions will go beyond 120 days is to prepare a Community Involvement Plan (CIP).

EPA developed this CIP to facilitate two-way communication between the community surrounding the Techtrix, Inc. Site and EPA and to encourage community involvement in site activities. EPA will utilize the community involvement activities outlined in this plan to ensure that residents are continuously informed and provided opportunities to be involved.

This CIP provides a background of the community (Section 2.0), presents EPA's community involvement program (Section 3.0), outlines the Superfund program (Section 4.0), addresses relationships between the community and EPA (Section 5.0) and provides a listing of resources available (Appendices). EPA drew upon several information sources to develop this plan, including community interviews, a public meeting, internet research and site files. EPA's Regional Office will oversee the implementation of the community involvement activities outlined in this Plan.

The CIP will be revised as community concern warrants during this removal action. Revisions may include additional community interviews, updating mailing lists, updating the digital files for the information repository and updating the contacts and resources provided in the appendices of the CIP as necessary.

If you are interested in submitting comments or have questions or suggestions concerning the CIP, please contact:

Marjorie Thomas
Community Involvement Coordinator
(404) 562-9151
Thomas.Marjorie@epa.gov

Section 2.0

Community Background

This section describes the composition of Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama, and the history of community involvement with the Site.

2.1 Community Profile

Gadsden, Alabama is located on the Coosa River, in the northeast section of the state between Birmingham and Chattanooga, TN. It is the largest city in Etowah County and serves as the county seat. Gadsden is in the Cumberland Plateau region, the southernmost part of the Appalachian Mountains, characterized by high, flat-topped plateaus separated by deep valleys.

In the 19th century, Gadsden was a major river port, second in Alabama only to Mobile on the Gulf Coast. Heavy industry, such as iron and steel, developed as major economic forces as companies such as Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company and Republic Steel set up manufacturing plants in the city and nearby areas. Between the mid-twentieth century to present, the area saw a decline in industrialization, but successful redevelopment efforts have helped to revitalize the city. According to the city's last comprehensive financial report from 2022, the three largest employers are the Gadsden Regional Medical Center, the Etowah County Board of Education, followed by Koch Foods.

The Gadsden City Schools system includes eight elementary schools, three middle schools and one high school. Competitive athletic teams compete in the 6A level. For secondary education, students can choose technical courses geared around career themes or the traditional college preparatory route. For post-secondary education, Gadsden is home to Gadsden State Community College, the second largest two-year college in the state.

For outdoor enthusiasts, Gadsden boasts two golf courses, a marina, and Noccalula Falls Park. The Center for Cultural Arts is a popular point of interest for the art enthusiasts.

Gadsden Regional Medical Hospital and Riverview Medical Center are the main medical facilities that serve Etowah County.

2.2 History of Community Involvement

EPA Region 4 has established community involvement activities since the discovery of the Site, which include the following:

- A public notice announcing the time-critical removal action at Techtrix, Inc. and associated public meeting was published in the Gadsden Times on October 10, 2024. The availability of the Administrative Record (AR) was also published in the Gadsden Times.
- EPA made a presentation to City Council on September 10, 2024 to inform them of the upcoming RA Start.
- EPA sent Fact Sheets via postal mail on October 8, 2024 to inform the community of an upcoming public meeting.
- EPA hosted a public meeting on October 15, 2024 to discuss the cleanup with the community.
- EPA routinely meets with the Mayor's Office and District 3's Councilman regarding Site updates. During the initial stages of cleanup, these meetings were held via Teams bi-weekly. The last bi-weekly meeting for 2024 was held on December 3rd. The OSC provided an email update to the group on December 16, 2024. For 2025, meetings are held when there is new information to share. A Teams meeting was held on February 24, 2025 to provide updates.

2.3 Key Community Concerns

- Several community members have expressed concerns about sickness for them or their loved ones working in the Techtrix, Inc. building. There was interest expressed about trying to receive compensation for health-related issues, though it was stated that EPA is unable to provide direct compensation for health-related issues.
- Several community members expressed frustration about why they were not informed earlier about potential health risks while the Site was in operation.
- Community members would like assurance that the site will be properly cleaned and the environment surrounding the site is safe after the cleanup.
- The removal of the chemicals from the facility is safely transported off site and disposed of properly, making sure that no environmental harm is done in the process, is a concern.
- One interviewee would like the soil to be tested to ensure there is no contamination in the soil or elsewhere. Another interviewee would like to see thorough inspections/tests done to guarantee safety standards/safety measures are met.
- The efficiency of the process, the projected time frame for completion, and the safety measures implemented post clean-up are listed concerns.
- A desire for complete, open, and transparent communication with the administration, city council, and the community so that all are fully informed is a common thread in the interviews.

*Interviews were conducted with two local government officials, one City staff person, one EMA staff person, and a community member (a local pastor speaking on behalf of himself and his congregation). Interviews were conducted by email and by phone. Three community members that were suggested for interviewing were unreachable, with various attempts made by the CIC. Concerns that were identified during the October 2024 public meeting have also been captured in this section.

2.4 Response to Community Concerns

In response to community stakeholders' concerns, EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) and On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) will address the community's concerns in an effective and efficient manner. EPA will maintain outreach in the community via email updates, fact sheets, phone calls, door-to-door visits and public meetings as necessary, in addition to update information being posted on the Site webpage.

2.5 Summary of Communication Needs

Stakeholders have indicated a preference for EPA outreach efforts to include public meetings, phone calls, and electronic notifications (emails). Local government has requested weekly or bi-weekly updates, either by email or Teams call.

Section 3.0

EPA's Community Involvement Program

The overall goal of EPA's community involvement program is to promote two-way communication between citizens and the EPA and to provide opportunities for meaningful and active involvement by the community in the cleanup process. EPA will implement the community involvement activities described below. The following plan is based on the results of the community interviews described earlier; it addresses each issue that was identified as being important to the community.

3.1 The Plan

Issue 1: Maintaining the Most Current Site Information for the Public

Activity 1A: Establish a Liaison for the Community and the EPA

Objective: To provide a primary liaison between the community and EPA and to ensure prompt, accurate and consistent responses and information dissemination about the Site. In instances where EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC) may be unable to provide adequate information (such as on technical issues), inquiries will be directed to the appropriate EPA contact.

Method: EPA Region 4 has designated Marjorie Thomas as the CIC to handle Site inquiries and serve as point of contact for community members. She works closely with Chuck Berry, David Reed, and John Maddox, EPA's On-Scene Coordinators. CIC Marjorie Thomas can be contacted at (404) 562-9151 and by email at thomas.marjorie@epa.gov.

Timing: A CIC has been involved at the Site since June 24, 2024.

Activity 1B: Prepare and Distribute Site Fact Sheets and Technical Summaries

Objective: To provide citizens with current, accurate, easy-to-read, easy-to-understand information about the Site.

Method: Fact sheets will be mailed and/or emailed to all parties on the mailing distribution list and delivered door-to-door to those who are not.

Timing: EPA will prepare and distribute fact sheets as needed.

Activity 1C: Provide a Toll-free "800" Number the Community to Contact EPA

Objective: To enable citizens to obtain the latest site information available when they want it, rather than having to wait for a meeting or a fact sheet mailing, and without incurring any cost.

Method: EPA will activate the 800 number and publish it in all Site fact sheets.

Timing: The line is currently operational. The number is (877) 718-3752.

Activity 1D: Develop a Mailing List for the Site.

Objective: To facilitate the distribution of Site-specific information to all parties who would like to be kept informed about the Site.

Method: EPA will create a mailing list that includes all residences adjacent to the Site. EPA will also solicit interested parties via fact sheets, newspaper articles and public meetings. The Site distribution list will include postal mail and email addresses.

Timing: EPA has developed a Site distribution list that is updated as needed.

Activity 1E: Establish and Maintain the Designated Information Repositories

Objective: To provide a convenient location where citizens can read and copy official documents and other pertinent information about the Site and EPA activities.

Method: The repository is a digital collection of Site information containing the Administrative Record file, other Site-specific information, the Community Involvement Plan (CIP), and relevant community information.

Timing: In compliance with the Paper Reduction Act, EPA maintains electronic files of Site-related information. These digital documents are accessible at the public library so that patrons may use public computers if needed to access information regarding the Site. All documents are housed online at the Techtrix, Inc. site webpage: <https://www.epa.gov/al/gadsden-al-techtrix>.

The information repository is established at the Gadsden Public Library:
Main Branch, 254 South College Street, Gadsden, Alabama 35901
Genealogy Branch, 2700 West Meighan Boulevard, Gadsden, AL 35904

Activity 1F: Provide Site and Superfund Information on the Internet

Objective: To provide key resources for searching and listing both general and specific information pertaining to Superfund and hazardous waste issues.

Method: General information about EPA and the Superfund program can be found at the following website URL addresses:

- EPA Headquarters: www.epa.gov.
- EPA Region 4: <http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/region4.html>.

Timing: EPA updates Site Status Summaries periodically.

Activity 1G: Establish and Maintain the Administrative Record.

Objective: To provide residents with an index of all documents generated and referred by EPA during the Superfund process at the Site.

Method: EPA opened the Administrative Record during Site investigations, and it will remain open during the planning and implementation of the Site's cleanup.

Timing: EPA opens the Administrative Record at the beginning of Site investigations. The Agency will continue to include additions to the Administrative Record until completion of removal activities. EPA announced the Administrative Record with the community through a public notice in the Gadsden Times on November 21, 2024.

Activity 1H: Develop the Community Involvement Plan

Objective: The Community Involvement Plan (CIP) is a living document, which means that EPA can revise it at or before the standard three-year term. The plan provides a thorough discussion of the Site's history, cleanup progress, community concerns, community participation/events and community contacts. The purpose of the Community Involvement Plan is to serve as a document that represents the community and its interests, concerns, and priorities to EPA.

Method: EPA will develop a draft of the CIP for internal review. The final CIP will be available online. Digital access for those needing computers is provided at the Site's local information Repository.

Timing: EPA finalized the draft Community Involvement Plan January 2025.

Issue 2: Provide Effective Opportunities for Community Involvement

Activity 2A: Schedule Public Meetings.

Objective: To update the community on the most recent Site developments and address community questions, concerns, ideas, and comments.

Method: Refer to Appendix G for meeting locations. EPA will schedule, prepare for and attend all announced meetings. EPA will provide at least two weeks notice of each scheduled meeting. The Site's On-Scene Coordinator, Community Involvement Coordinator and other appropriate EPA staff will attend.

Timing: EPA may schedule additional public meetings to provide the community with updates regarding the Site's cleanup as needed.

Activity 2B: Revise the Community Involvement Plan.

Objective: To identify and address community needs, issues, and concerns regarding the Site.

Method: The revised plan will update the information presented in the previous version of the document.

Timing: EPA will revise the Site's Community Involvement Plan as community concerns warrant or, at minimum, every three years until completion of all Site activities.

Activity 2C: Forming Citizen Groups and Community Organizations

There were no community organizations and/or environmental groups identified.

3.2 Time Frame Summary for Community Involvement Activities

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>TIME FRAME</u>
Designate an EPA Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC)	Established
Prepare and distribute site fact sheets and technical summaries	As needed
Provide a toll-free "800 number" for the community to contact EPA	Currently in operation (877) 718-3752
Create and maintain a mailing/email list for the Site	Ongoing
Establish and maintain Information Repositories	See Site webpage for digital documents
Establish and maintain the Administrative Record	Established, update as needed
Conduct special events	As needed or required
Schedule and conduct public meetings	As needed or required
Make informal visits to community	As needed

Section 4.0

What Is Superfund?

Superfund is an environmental cleanup program enabled by a federal law enacted in 1980 known as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, or CERCLA. In 1986, another law, the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) reauthorized CERCLA to continue Superfund cleanup activities. The CERCLA law gives EPA the authority to require those parties responsible for creating hazardous waste sites to clean those sites up or to reimburse the government if EPA cleans up the site. EPA requires responsible parties to clean up hazardous waste sites through administrative orders, consent decrees, and other legal settlements. EPA is authorized to enforce the Superfund laws in all 50 states and in U.S. territories. Superfund site identification, monitoring, and response activities are coordinated with state, tribal, and territorial environmental protection or waste management agencies.

The Superfund program encourages active dialogue between communities affected by the release of hazardous substances and all of the agencies responsible for carrying out or overseeing cleanup actions. EPA follows a step-by-step process to determine the best way to clean up a polluted site and protect human health and the environment. EPA considers community involvement to be an important part of the Superfund program and opportunities for community involvement occur throughout the procedure. Figure 1 on the next page outlines the stages of the Superfund process and highlights opportunities for community involvement at each step of the process.

Visit these EPA websites for more information on the Superfund process.

Superfund: www.epa.gov/superfund/index.htm

Cleanup Process: www.epa.gov/superfund/cleanup/index.htm

Community Involvement: www.epa.gov/superfund/community/index.htm

Section 5.0 Site Description

The Site is located at 525 Plainview Street, Gadsden, Alabama. Site coordinates are 33.832412, 84.364083. The site is surrounded to the west, south and east by predominately residential housing, including the Damascus Baptist Church directly across the street to the south. There is a daycare facility within 250 feet to the south, and a subsidized housing community with 160 units on the other side of Tuscaloosa Avenue.

Techtrix, Inc. (Techtrix) was founded in 1987 and operated as an electroplating and metal finishing shop, which provided zinc, cadmium, copper, tin, nickel, gold, and silver electroplating services. The Facility is in a predominately residential area and is approximately 5.30 acres in size with one 50,000 square foot operations building, a workshop building, and a laydown yard. The operations building includes office space, a warehouse area for receiving, shipping, multiple plating line operations, chemical storage, waste storage, and a tank treatment area consisting of twelve tanks.

5.1 Map



5.2 Site Inspections and Cleanup Activities

Techtrix, Inc. has been cited for several regulatory violations. In 2021, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) conducted a site inspection after receiving a complaint about improper storage and management of hazardous waste. Since then, EPA conducted further sampling and investigations. An EPA Administrative Order on Consent was issued to Techtrix, Inc. in August of 2021 directing the company to properly store their products and begin disposing of the wastes on site.

After the owner of the Site passed away in March 2024, the estate could not complete the required closure actions for the facility, and it became necessary for the EPA to conduct the cleanup. In July 2024, the EPA conducted a site assessment, collecting multiple samples of the wastes and soil outside the facility.

A follow-up Site visit in early August 2024 revealed several damaged tanks that were leaking. In mid-August, EPA transferred the liquid wastes from the tanks into secure containers and put robust safety measures in place.

EPA started a time-critical removal action October 15, 2024, to permanently remove the material from the site and protect human health and the environment. The ongoing cleanup includes disposing of cyanide and other hazardous waste at approved off-site disposal facilities. The liquid cyanide was given top priority for removal, and nearly all of it was shipped off site by mid-January 2025. EPA continues to package material for shipment and expects to dispose of the majority of the waste by the end of February 2025.

Though the Site investigations fall under the Comprehensive Emergency Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA, commonly called “Superfund”), it has not been placed on the Superfund National Priority List (NPL). CERCLA divides response actions into two categories, short-term removal (to address an immediate threat to human health and/or the environment) and long-term remedial actions. The EPA’s cleanup of the Techtrix, Inc. Site is being performed under the removal program.

Appendix A

EPA Regional Contacts

Chuck Berry

Federal On-Scene Coordinator (OSC)
U.S. EPA, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 859-0970
berry.chuck@epa.gov

John Maddox

Federal On-Scene Coordinator (OSC)
U.S. EPA, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
(229) 621-5452
maddox.john@epa.gov

David Reed

Federal On-Scene Coordinator (OSC)
U.S. EPA, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
(470) 929-2366
reed.david@epa.gov

Marjorie Thomas

Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. EPA, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 562-9151
thomas.marjorie@epa.gov

Appendix B Local Officials

Gadsden City Mayor

Craig Ford

bperkins@cityofgadsden.com

(256) 549-4646

City Clerk of Gadsden

Iva Nelson

citycouncil@cityofgadsden.com

(256) 549-4517

Gadsden District Council Members Elected

email: citycouncil@cityofgadsden.com

District 1: Tonya Latham 2022 [District 1 Map](#)

District 2: Steve Smith 2022 [District 2 Map](#)

District 3: Larry Avery 2022 [District 3 Map](#)

District 4: Kent Back 2018 [District 4 Map](#)

District 5: Jason Wilson 2018 [District 5 Map](#)

District 6: Dixie Minatra 2022 [District 6 Map](#)

District 7: Chris Robinson 2022 [District 7 Map](#)

Appendix C

Federal and State Elected Officials

U.S. Senate

Senator Katie Britt
502 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-5744

Senator Tommy Tuberville
Russell Senate Office Building, Suite 455
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4124

U.S. House of Representatives

Congressman Mike Rogers
2469 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-3261

Congressman Robert Aderholt
266 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-4876

State Legislators

Capitol Office for all
11 S. Union St., Montgomery, AL 36130
<https://alison.legislature.state.al.us/house-leaders-members?tab=1>

Representative Mack Butler (House District 28)
Post Office Box 7184
Rainbow City, AL 35906
mack.butler@alhouse.gov
(334) 261-0490

Representative Mark Gidley (House District 29)
Post Office Box 2671
Gadsden, AL 35903
mark.gidley@alhouse.gov
(334) 261-0432

Representative Craig Lipscomb (House District 30)
442 Chestnut Street
Gadsden, AL 35901
info@craiglipscomb.com
(334) 261-0546

Appendix D Affiliated Agency Contacts

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Office of Community Health and Hazard Assessment
(770) 488-3002

Alabama Department of Environmental Management
[alabamapublichealth.gov](https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov) (in Montgomery)
(800) 252-181

Etowah County Health Department (in Gadsden)
<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/etowah>
(256) 547-6311

Appendix E Media Contacts

Newspaper

The Gadsden Times

251 S. 4th Street
Gadsden, AL 35901
www.gadsdentimes.com
(800) 950-2022

Television Stations

WJXS-TV (Gadsden bureau)

301 North 12th Street, Suite J
Gadsden, AL 35901
(256) 328-3053

WTJP-TV (TBN repeater)

313 Rosedale Avenue
Gadsden, AL 35901
(256) 546-8860

CGTV (City of Gadsden's Television Network)

90 Broad Street
Gadsden, AL 35901
(256) 549-4500

WBRC Fox 6

1720 Valley View Drive
Birmingham, AL 35209
(205) 322-6666

Radio Stations

WAAX 570 AM

6510 Whorton Bend Rd
Gadsden, AL 35901
(256) 543-9229

WTDR 1350 AM

Station Address:
P.O. Box 1350
Gadsden, AL 35901
(256) 741-6088

WLGQ 91.5

5700 West Oaks Blvd
Rocklin, CA 35901
(800) 525-LOVE (5683)

WKXX 102.9

P.O. Box 190
Albertville, AL 35950
(256) 442-3944

Appendix F

Seven Cardinal Rules for Risk Communication

Seven Cardinal Rules of Risk Communication

The “Seven Cardinal Rules of Risk Communication” were developed by Vince Covello and Frederick W. Allen and published in an EPA pamphlet in 1988 (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, OPA-87-020, April 1988). The rules, which are appropriate for all Superfund site communications follow:

1. Accept and involve the public as a legitimate partner.
2. Plan carefully and evaluate your efforts.
3. Listen to the public’s specific concerns.
4. Be honest, frank, and open.
5. Coordinate and collaborate with other credible sources.
6. Meet the needs of the media.
7. Speak clearly and with compassion.

Appendix G

Glossary

Administrative Order on Consent

An agreement in which an individual, business, or other entity agrees to pay for environmental damages.

Administrative Record

A file maintained for the public that contains information used to make a decision about a site under CERCLA. The file is available for public review and is available on the Site's webpage.

Cleanup

Actions taken to deal with a release or threatened release of hazardous substances that could affect public health or the environment. Cleanup is often used broadly to describe various response actions. The term "cleanup" is sometimes used interchangeably with the terms "remediation," "removal action," "response action" or "corrective action."

Community

An interacting population of various types of individuals in a common location; a neighborhood or specific area where people live.

Community Involvement

The term used by EPA to identify its process for engaging in dialogue and collaboration with communities affected by Superfund sites. EPA community involvement is founded on the belief that people have a right to know what the Agency is doing in their community and to have a say in it. Its purpose is to provide people with the opportunity to become involved in the Agency's activities and to help shape the decisions that are made at Superfund sites.

Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC)

EPA official whose lead responsibility is to involve and inform the public about the Superfund process and response actions in accordance with the interactive community involvement requirements set forth in the National Contingency Plan.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)

Commonly known as Superfund, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) was enacted by Congress on December 11, 1980. CERCLA is intended to protect human health and the environment by enabling the investigation and cleanup of abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Under the program, EPA either can pay for a site cleanup when parties responsible for the contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to perform the work or take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or repay the federal government for the cleanup cost.

Contamination

Introduction into water, air and soil of microorganisms, chemicals, toxic substances, wastes or wastewater in a concentration that makes the medium unfit for its next intended use. Also applies to surfaces of objects, buildings and various household use products.

Environment

The sum of all external conditions affecting the life, development and survival of an organism.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Federal agency whose mission is to protect human health and safeguard the environment.

Hazardous Substance

(1) Any material that poses a threat to human health and/or the environment. Typical hazardous substances are toxic, corrosive, ignitable, explosive or chemically reactive. (2) Any substance designated by EPA to be reported if a designated quantity of the substance is spilled in the waters of the United States or is otherwise released into the environment.

Hazardous Waste

Byproducts that can pose a substantial or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly managed. Possesses at least one of four characteristics (ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity or toxicity) or appears on special EPA lists.

Monitoring

Periodic or continuous surveillance or testing to determine the level of compliance with statutory requirements and/or pollutant levels in various media or in humans, plants and animals.

National Priority List (NPL)

The list of national priority sites with known releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants throughout the United States.

On-Scene Coordinator (OSC)

An On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) is a federal official predesignated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Coast Guard to coordinate and direct Federal removal efforts at the scene of an oil or hazardous substance discharge. EPA's OSCs have primary responsibility for spills and releases to inland areas and waters. EPA's OSCs are responsible for monitoring or directing responses to all oil spills and hazardous substance releases reported to the federal government.

Public

The community or people in general or a part or section of the community grouped because of a common interest or activity.

Stakeholder

Any organization, governmental entity or individual that has a stake in or may be affected by the Superfund program.

Superfund

The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA that funds and carries out EPA solid waste emergency and long-term removal and remedial activities. These activities include establishing the National Priorities List (NPL), investigating sites for inclusion on the list, determining their priority, and conducting and/or supervising cleanup and other remedial actions. Superfund is the common name for CERCLA and is often used as an adjective for hazardous waste sites and the investigation and cleanup process directed by EPA.

Treatment

(1) Any method, technique or process designed to remove solids and/or pollutants from solid waste, waste-streams, effluents, and air emissions. (2) Methods used to change the biological character or composition of any regulated medical waste to substantially reduce or eliminate its potential for causing disease.

Appendix I: Interview Questions

Local Community Interview Questions

1. What is your understanding of the operations, history, and environmental issues at the Techtrix, Inc. site?
2. What are your concerns about the site and its cleanup? What is your biggest concern?
3. What is your opinion of EPA's commitment to cleaning up hazardous waste at the Techtrix, Inc. site?
4. Do you feel you have been kept adequately informed? If not, what can be done to change this?
5. How can we best provide information about site cleanup? Fact sheets? Internet? News media? Workshops? Public notices? Community meetings? Other? v How often?
6. How do you prefer to receive Site information (by email, postal mail, newspaper, website, etc)? If you are not currently on our mailing list, would you like to be? If yes, please provide physical mailing address, email address, or both)?
7. Has the information from EPA or the state clean been easy to understand?
8. Are you aware of EPA's webpage for Techtrix, Inc.?
9. What days and times would be best for public or community meetings?
10. Who do you consider to be leaders in the community leaders that I might contact to get their feedback regarding the Site?
11. Is there anything else you would like to share about the site?

Local Government Interview Questions

1. What is your understanding of the operations, history, and environmental issues at the Techtrix, Inc. site?
2. What are your concerns about the site and its cleanup?
3. Have you had any site-related experiences with EPA, the state, or other government agencies or officials?
4. How did you first become aware of contamination associated with the site?
5. How effective has EPA or the state's communication been since the remedial action started?
6. Is the information from EPA or the state clear and easy to understand?
7. What would enable you to feel fully engaged in the cleanup of the Techtrix, Inc.. site?
8. What is the best way to provide information to you (Newsletters, fact sheets, community meetings, other) and how often do you want to get Site information (weekly, monthly, quarterly, or only when something significant happens)?
9. Who do you consider to be leaders in the community leaders that should be contacted?
10. Are you aware of EPA's website to find information about Techtrix, Inc.?