

Companies and DOI the opportunity to conduct or finance the removal activities in progress. The Companies and DOI did not offer to take over the removal actions.

III. HIGHLIGHTS OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

This decision document or ROD presents the EPA-selected remedial action for the residential areas of the Tar Creek Superfund Site, Ottawa County, Oklahoma chosen in accordance with CERCLA, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) and, to the extent practicable, the National Contingency Plan (NCP). The decision for the Site is based on the Administrative Record. An index to the Administrative Record is included as Appendix F to this ROD.

The public participation requirements of CERCLA Subsection 113(k)(2)(B)(i-v) and 117, 42 U.S.C. Subsection 9613(k)(2)(B)(i-v) and Section 9617, were met during the remedy selection process, as illustrated in the following discussion.

Beginning in Spring 1994, and continuing to the present, EPA has conducted a series of community meetings and discussions near the Site. In these meetings, the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) and EPA officials met with citizens, local officials, Tribal leaders, Tribal members, and State and Federal agencies regarding Site issues. The EPA completed a Community Relations Plan (CRP) for the Site residential remedial action in June 1995, and released the CRP to the public. The CRP was prepared in order to identify and address community concerns. Copies of the CRP are located in the information repository maintained at the Site at the Miami Public Library in Miami, Oklahoma and at the EPA Region 6 Office in Dallas, Texas. A series of seven community meetings have been conducted over the course of the project at the Site. During these meetings, EPA informed the public of the progress of the removal activities and the RI/FS. The EPA distributed fact sheets at these meetings. The fact sheets summarized the progress of the project up to the date of the meeting in question and also explained the data that had been gathered. At the community meetings, EPA discussed field work and asked community members for information about the Site. The EPA mailed a fact sheet, which summarized EPA's Proposed Plan of Action to address contamination in the residential areas, to all individuals on the Site mailing list. The Site mailing list contains names of those who have submitted comments to EPA, the Companies and DOI, State and local officials, natural resource trustees, Tribal officials, and those community members who have attended meetings regarding the Site.

The Site mailing list has been continuously updated as Site activities progress. On May 1, 1995, EPA published a notice in the Miami News-Record, a major local newspaper of general circulation, which announced to the public that Technical Assistance Grants were available. The EPA may provide Technical Assistance Grants, under Section 117 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. Section 9617, to any group of individuals that may be affected by a release of hazardous substances in order for such a group to obtain technical assistance in interpreting information with regard to the nature of the hazard and the CERCLA remediation process.

In January 1987, EPA released the Remedial Investigation (RI) Report for the Site. In February 1997, EPA released the Feasibility Study (FS) Report for the Site. On March 12, 1997, EPA released its Proposed Plan for the remediation of the residential areas of the Site. The EPA made the RI Report, the FS Report and the Proposed Plan, along with the administrative record file, available to the public at information repositories maintained at the Miami Public Library, Miami, Oklahoma, and at the EPA Region 6 Office in Dallas, Texas. The notice of availability for these documents was published in the newspaper of record, the Miami March 16, 1997, and was also published in the Tri-State Tribune on March 13, 1997, through March 20, 1997.

On February 27, 1997, the ODEQ and EPA held an open house in Picher, Oklahoma to inform