

## **EPA Announces Proposed Plan to Clean Up the Olin Chemical Superfund Site in Wilmington, Massachusetts**

Boston — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released a proposed cleanup plan for the Olin Chemical Superfund Site in Wilmington, Massachusetts. The purpose of the plan is to provide interim cleanup options to remove ongoing sources of contamination in groundwater and final cleanup options for addressing contaminated soil, sediments, and surface water at the site, and to solicit public comment on EPA's preferred alternatives for addressing the contamination.

Highlights of the cleanup proposal are as follows:

- Begin cleanup of the aquifer by constructing and operating new groundwater extraction and treatment systems;
- Capture and treat oily waste and contaminated groundwater that flows into surface water by constructing and operating new multi-phase extraction and treatment systems;
- Construct and maintain caps and cover systems on areas of soil contamination that pose an unacceptable risk, including an impermeable cap over the feature on the Olin property known as the "Containment Area";
- Excavate contaminated wetland soil and sediment, dispose excavated materials off-site at an appropriate approved facility, and restore impacted wetlands and floodplains;
- Prevent potential exposure to contaminants that pose inhalation risks in future buildings by requiring additional evaluations and/or engineering controls such as vapor barriers or venting systems;
- Continue studies to further characterize bedrock and the full extent of groundwater contamination;
- Implement land use controls to protect the remedy and public health; and
- Conduct long-term groundwater and surface water monitoring and periodic five-year reviews to ensure protectiveness of the remedy.

EPA estimates that the proposed cleanup plan will cost approximately \$48 million.

### **Opportunity to learn more and provide comment on EPA's proposed cleanup plan**

The public is invited to submit written input on EPA's cleanup proposal during a 30-day comment period from August 26, 2020 through September 25, 2020. EPA has also established a dedicated voice mailbox at (617) 918-1880 to receive oral comments during the comment period.

Written comments may be mailed or e-mailed by Friday, September 25, 2020 to:

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To review the proposed cleanup plan and learn more about the Olin Chemical Superfund Site, visit: [www.epa.gov/superfund/olin](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/olin). The cleanup plan can also be requested by contacting Sarah White, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, at [white.sarah@epa.gov](mailto:white.sarah@epa.gov) or (617) 918-1026.

### **Upcoming virtual public events**

EPA will hold a virtual public informational meeting and question-and-answer session on Tuesday, August 25, 2020 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Representatives from EPA will present the various cleanup options considered and answer any questions community members may have concerning EPA's cleanup proposal.

EPA will hold a virtual public hearing on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. The purpose of the public hearing is to provide a forum for community members to submit oral comments on EPA's proposed cleanup plan. All comments received during the hearing will be recorded and included as part of the public record. The public hearing will not include any presentations and EPA will not respond at the event to feedback received. However, EPA will consider and respond in writing to all oral and written comments received during the public hearing and public comment period, prior to selecting a final cleanup plan for the site in a Record of Decision (ROD). EPA expects to issue the ROD in late 2020 or early 2021.

### **How to participate in EPA's virtual community events**

Visit EPA's website: [www.epa.gov/superfund/olin](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/olin) for information on how to participate in EPA's virtual events. A copy of EPA's presentation will be available on the site webpage prior to the informational meeting. For those without computer access, you may visit EPA's website (above) before the informational meeting begins to download and print a copy of the presentation materials to view while participating by telephone (call-in number to be listed on EPA's website prior to the meeting). Closed captioning will be available during the virtual informational meeting and formal hearing. Questions about how to participate in EPA's virtual events may be directed to Sarah White, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, at [white.sarah@epa.gov](mailto:white.sarah@epa.gov) or (617) 918-1026.