

Getting to Know the Five-Year Review

A Guide for Communities Near Federal Facilities

Rob Pope, EPA

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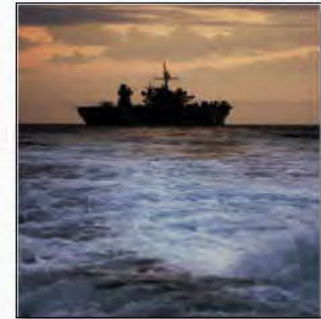


What We'll Cover

- Basics about federal facilities cleanup
- Purpose of a five-year review
- Steps in a five-year review
- Finding & interpreting key information
- Opportunities for community engagement



Basics about Federal Facilities Cleanup



Images courtesy Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Langley Air Force Base, National Nuclear Security Administration, and U.S. Navy.

CERCLA (a.k.a. Superfund)

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act



Purpose of a Five-Year Review

“The purpose of a five-year review is to evaluate the implementation and performance of the remedy in order to determine if the remedy is or will be protective of human health and the environment.”

– U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



It's also an important resource for...

- Other federal agencies
- States and Tribal authorities
- Local governments and community groups
- The public



Steps in a Five-Year Review

Notify the public

- Public notices are issued when review process begins and when the final report is released

Review key documents

- Decision documents & Remedial Action Objectives, monitoring & maintenance reports, new investigations, technical memos

Assess contaminant levels

- Review remedy and analyze data on each contaminant

Conduct interviews and site inspection

- May involve site workers and community members

Write report

- Assess whether remedies are protective

Roles and Responsibilities



Federal Owner
• Prepares report



State/Tribal Authorities
• Review/comment



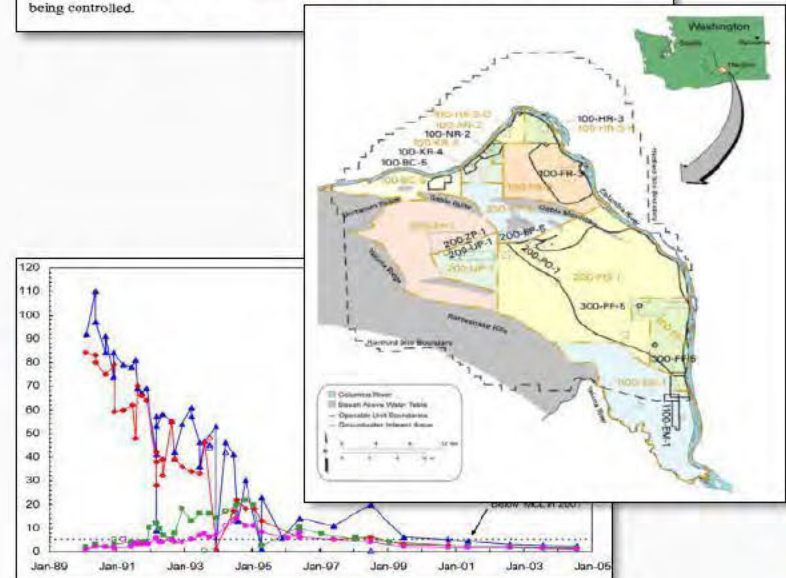
EPA
• Review/comment
• Confirms lead agency's assessment or issues independent assessment

Finding & Interpreting Key Information

- Protectiveness statements
- Issues & recommendations
- Technical assessment
- Maps & graphs

2.9 FT-04 PROTECTIVENESS STATEMENT

The selected remedy for FT-04 is **expected to be protective** of human health and the environment upon completion, and, in the interim, exposure pathways that could result in unacceptable risks are being controlled.



Is the remedy protective?

Protective

Protective in the short term

Will be protective

Protectiveness deferred

Not protective

More about protectiveness statements...

- May be several per site (one for each “operable unit, or OU”)
- May include one site-wide statement
- Reflect current health standards



Soil removal



Groundwater extraction well

Images courtesy U.S.
Department of
Energy.

Example: Protective

“The remedy at OU-X is protective of human health and the environment because encapsulation has taken place, and land use controls that protect the cap are working as needed to prevent exposures.”



Example: Protective in the Short Term

“The remedy at OU-Y currently protects human health and the environment because land use controls to prevent groundwater use are in place, and groundwater treatment will continue until concentrations throughout the plume are below the standard/MCL. To be protective in the long term, removal of a remaining hot spot soil source is underway.”



Example: Not Protective

“The remedy at OU-Z is not protective because contaminants in surface water remain above levels required to support a cutthroat trout fishery. In order to be protective in the long term, continuing releases to surface water need additional control. Human health is not affected at this OU because contaminants are below all human health standards.”



Other Key Information: Issues & Recommendations

Summary of Issues
and Recommendations



Protectiveness
Affected Now or
in the Future?



Responsible
Parties

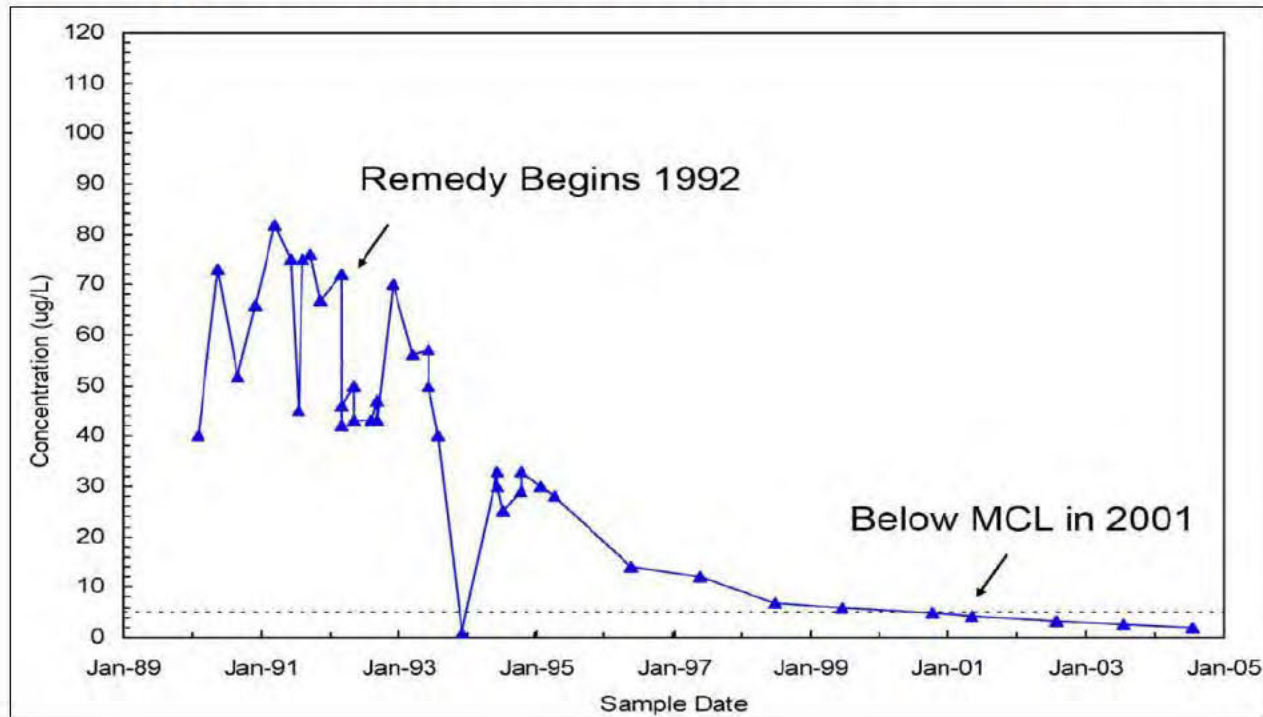


Timeline
for Actions

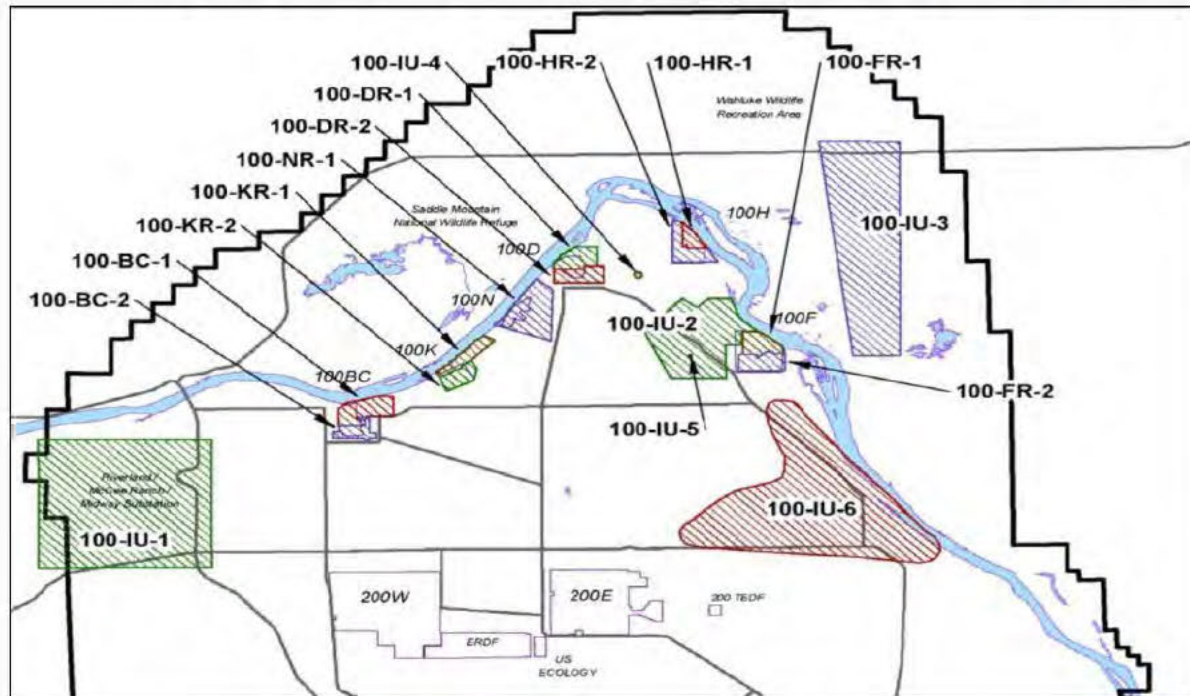


Issues and Actions		Affects Current Protectiveness	May Affect Future Protectiveness	Responsible Organization within DOE	TPA Lead Regulator	Action Due Date
		(Yes / No)	(Yes / No)			
100/300 Crosscutting						
Issue 1. Additional risk assessment information is needed to evaluate the interim actions prescribed within the records of decisions and to develop final cleanup decisions.		No	Yes			
	Action 1-1. Submit Draft A of the River Corridor Baseline Risk Assessment Report.	No	Yes	RCP	EPA/WDOE	06/2007
	Action 1-2. Submit draft sampling and analysis plan for Inter-Areas Shoreline Assessment.	No	Yes	RCP	EPA/WDOE	08/2006

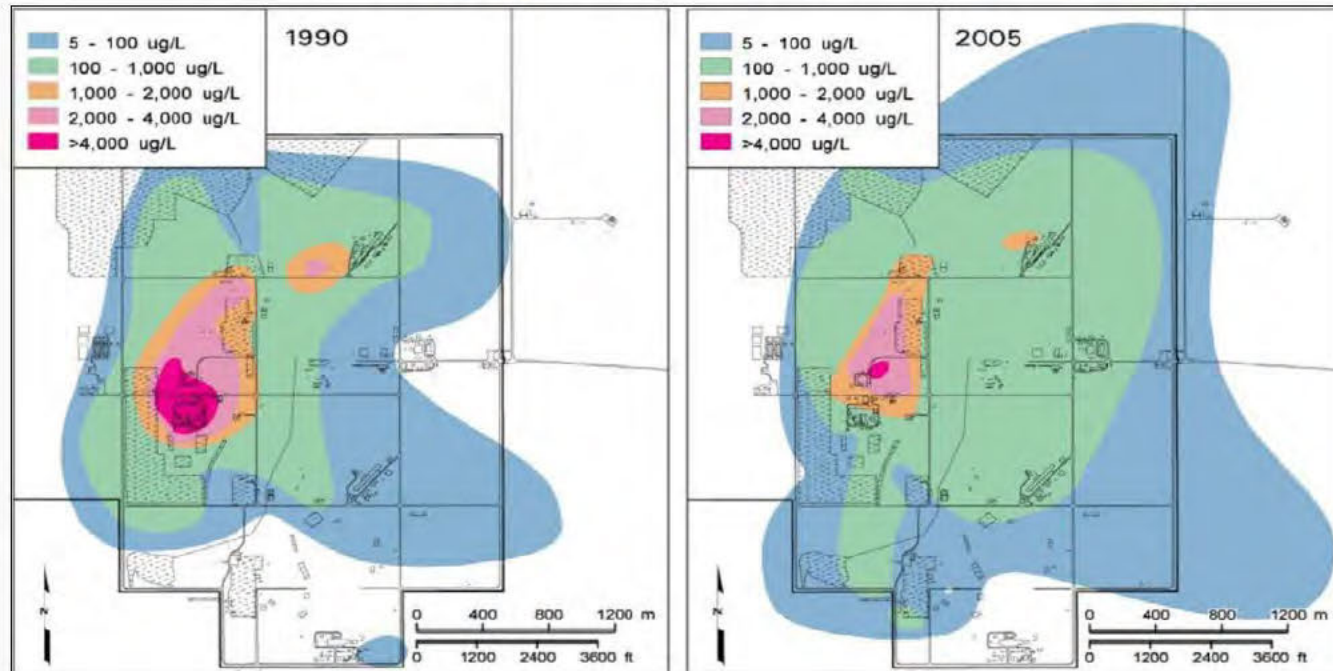
Other Key Information: Technical Assessment



Other Key Information: Maps



Other Key Information: Maps



Executive Summary

- Brief synopsis of findings
- Highlights key issues and recommendations

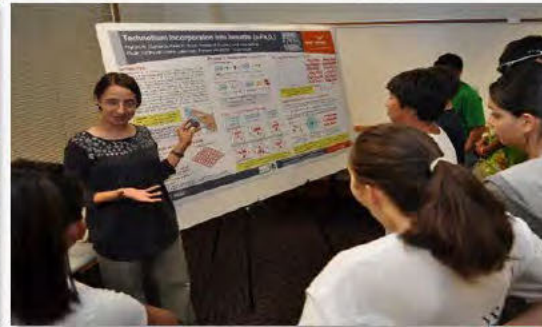


A note about scope...

- Provides some background and progress since last five-year review
- But, focus is on current situation—like a snapshot



Community Engagement



Images courtesy U.S. Department of Energy.

Opportunities for Engagement

- Public notices
- Interviews
- Meetings, if applicable
- Opportunities between five-year reviews

Points of Contact

- Site Project Manager(s)
- Lead agency public affairs representative
- EPA Community Involvement Coordinators



For More Information

- EPA maintains several websites with information about five-year reviews:
 - All about five-year reviews:
www.epa.gov/superfund/fiveyearreview
 - All about clean-up at federal facilities:
<http://www.epa.gov/fedfac/>
 - Superfund community involvement site:
<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/community/index.htm>

Thank You!

This presentation was developed by the Five-Year Review Workgroup as part of an interagency collaboration between the Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Department of Energy, and U.S. Department of the Interior.

