

ASARCO Globeville Plant Cleanup Project

October 20, 2011

Project History

The former ASARCO Globe Smelter, located on the northwest corner of E. 51st Ave and Washington St, was an active smelter for over 150 years. In 1974, samples taken by the Colorado Department of Health (CDH – the predecessor to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)) from the drainage ditch directly west of the site showed elevated levels of metals in sediment and groundwater. Further investigations found that the ASARCO Globe Smelter was not in compliance with the Colorado Solid Waste Disposal Site and Facilities Act and the property was listed on the Open Dump Inventory with the EPA in 1981. In 1983, CDPHE sued ASARCO for damages to natural resources

The result of that lawsuit was a settlement between the State of Colorado and ASARCO to resolve the claims. Negotiations for the terms of the settlement were conducted over 10 years and included a large scale community outreach initiative which began in the late 1980s. Monthly public meetings were held; regular fact sheets were distributed; and door-to-door outreach was conducted in order to receive input regarding the cleanup of the ASARCO Globe Smelter. Input was gathered from over 150 residents in the Globeville Neighborhood.

In 1993, the State of Colorado and ASARCO reached agreement resulting in two documents; a Record of Decision and a Consent Decree. These documents have been the guiding documents for the cleanup of the ASARCO Globe Smelter. As part of the settlement between the State and ASARCO, an environmental covenant was placed on the property prohibiting residential, agriculture, and day-care facilities on the site as well as requirements for physical material handling. This covenant is recorded against the property.

Between 1993 and 2005, limited remediation activities were completed, and ASARCO filed for bankruptcy in 2005 and all work halted. In 2009, the ASARCO Multi State Environmental Custodial Trust was created and title to the ASARCO Globe Smelter property was transferred to the Trust. Globeville I, LLC is a contractor to the Custodial Trust to manage the completion of the remediation, and ultimate sale of the ASARCO Globe Smelter property.

Remediation

There are two main concerns at the ASARCO Globe Smelter; soil contamination and groundwater contamination. Both of these issues will be effectively addressed and the property will be protective of human health and the environment once remediation is complete.

Soil Contamination

The goal of the soil remediation is to eliminate direct exposure to contamination and to eliminate contaminants from leaching into the groundwater. In order to achieve this, soil on the property that does not meet the cleanup standard for commercial/industrial use will be mixed and chemically stabilized on site. These stabilized soils will then be placed in a designated area on site and covered with clean soil. Future development will occur above the covered soil layer and the impacted soils will no longer pose a threat to the users of the property or the surrounding community.

Groundwater Contamination

The goal for groundwater remediation is to treat the water so that it meets the Safe Drinking Water Standard for the State of Colorado. This will be achieved by first addressing the soil contamination as mentioned above, as well as treating the groundwater with a non-hazardous natural solution to remove metals from the groundwater. Once the groundwater meets the cleanup standards, the existing water treatment facility will be shutdown and water will begin to flow naturally.

Remediation Assurance

The approach to the remediation was proven successful during a pilot study that was conducted at the site over a one year period. In order to further ensure effectiveness, the remediation will be implemented over two phases. Phase I will be conducted in a strategically selected area of the site in order to optimize the groundwater remediation system. The results of Phase I will be presented to CDPHE upon completion. Upon CDPHE approval of the Phase I remediation, the full scale remedy can begin. In addition, regular sampling and monitoring is required by CDPHE during and after the remediation is complete before the project is determined to be complete and the property can be sold.

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Site Activities

Globeville I, LLC will be managing the demolition and cleanup efforts at the site over the coming months.

Demolition

In order to fully implement the remediation, the buildings will be safely demolished and the debris will be disposed of properly. Community members will be adequately notified prior to and during the demolition process to minimize impact to the surrounding neighborhood. The demolition of larger structures will be done in a controlled fashion and monitored to ensure that dust and debris do not impact the surrounding properties and community members.

Remediation

Groundwater remediation efforts will begin shortly after start of demolition. Soil remediation will begin after demolition of the structures is complete. The estimated time to fully complete the site remediation is three to five years. Globeville I, LLC will continue to update community members of the remediation progress as key milestones are achieved.

Grading

As part of the soil remediation, site soils will be mixed and graded in various portions of the site. Site grading is also necessary in order to create two potential development pads suitable for future building. Although the future uses of the site have not been determined, these areas are adaptable to a wide variety of users.

Key Project Contacts

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Project Schedule

Activity	Schedule*
Asbestos Abatement	Oct - Jan 2012
External Building Demolition	Nov 2011 - Feb 2012
Demolition Complete	March 2012
Phase 1 Groundwater Remediation	Oct 2011 - Aug 2012
Phase 2 Groundwater	Sept 2012 - July 2014
Soil Remediation	Nov 2012-Feb 2013
Grading	Nov 2012-Feb 2013

*This schedule is current as of October 20, 2011. Activities and timeframes are likely to adjust as the project progresses.