

Bulk Fuels Facility Project Update

Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

Keeping the Public Informed



This newsletter is produced regularly to share project progress and information with neighbors of Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB). If you do not wish to continue receiving these updates, please let us know via email at afcec.pa@us.af.mil

PROJECT BOTTOM LINE

- No fuel from Kirtland AFB Bulk Fuels Facility leaked into surface soil off-base. The fuel traveled down 480-500 feet below the surface, roughly the size of a 45-story building, to the groundwater. Moving with the groundwater, fuel traveled about 6,000 feet off-base north of Gibson.
- Groundwater sampling continues to show no detections of fuel contaminants in drinking water or sentinel wells.
- Drinking water for neighborhoods near the project area and Kirtland AFB comes from City and Base water systems that are monitored monthly to ensure contamination is not present.

CURRENT PROJECT STATUS

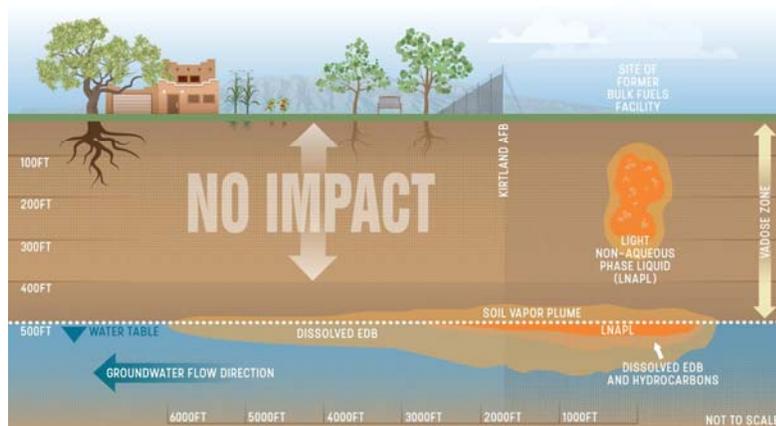
- In response to questions about possible impacts from the plume on gardening, an information sheet was prepared and can be found on the project and New Mexico Environment Department's websites (see below and on back). Gardening highlights are:
 - There is not nor has there ever been fuel contamination at the ground surface in residential areas (see figure to the right).
 - Contamination amounts in the groundwater are too low and too far below ground to travel to the ground surface.
- The first ever "technical deep dive" was held before the July public meeting and focused on groundwater modeling. These sessions will be held periodically to share in-depth information about a specific aspect of the project and provide access to project technical experts. Sessions are open to interested members of the community.
- Additionally, the first line of evidence that the extraction well locations are drawing down the distal, or northern, end area of the EDB plume was presented.
- Pilot tests will be conducted in fall 2016 to determine if additional cleanup methods can successfully address contamination remaining in the source area after 12 years of SVE operation on Base.
- The RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) report is in progress for submittal in winter of 2016 to NMED for review.

Calendar of Events

August 13, 2016 – Community Conversation. 12:30pm-2:30pm. Cesar Chavez Community Center, 7505 Kathryn Ave SW, Albuquerque

November 10, 2016 – Public meeting at the African American Performing Arts Center, 310 San Pedro NE, Albuquerque, 5:30pm-8:30pm

November 12, 2016 – Public Workshop, Christ United Methodist Church, 2600 Gibson SE Church, 9:00am-1:00pm



Gardening graphic illustrating how fuel contaminants entered the environment and moved off-Base. For more information, see "Current Project Status".

INTERIM CLEANUP MEASURES UPDATE

- Contaminated soil (4,822 tons) above screening levels was removed in phases beginning in 1999 with the last removal in 2014.
- In 2003, the Air Force installed the first soil vapor extraction (SVE) system on-base; SVE has removed 550,000 gallons of fuel over 12 years.
- An additional 200,000 gallons of fuel and associated components were removed through biodegradation (a process where naturally occurring bacteria breakdown contaminants into non-toxic products such as carbon dioxide, water, and ammonia).
- As of August 1, 2016, 85.2 million gallons of groundwater was pumped from the off-base contaminant plume and treated to remove 28,000 milligrams (mg) of EDB.
- The next step for the EDB plume collapse is to install a fourth extraction well south of Ridgecrest in Winter 2016.
- A sentinel well cluster was installed on VA Hospital property in May 2016.

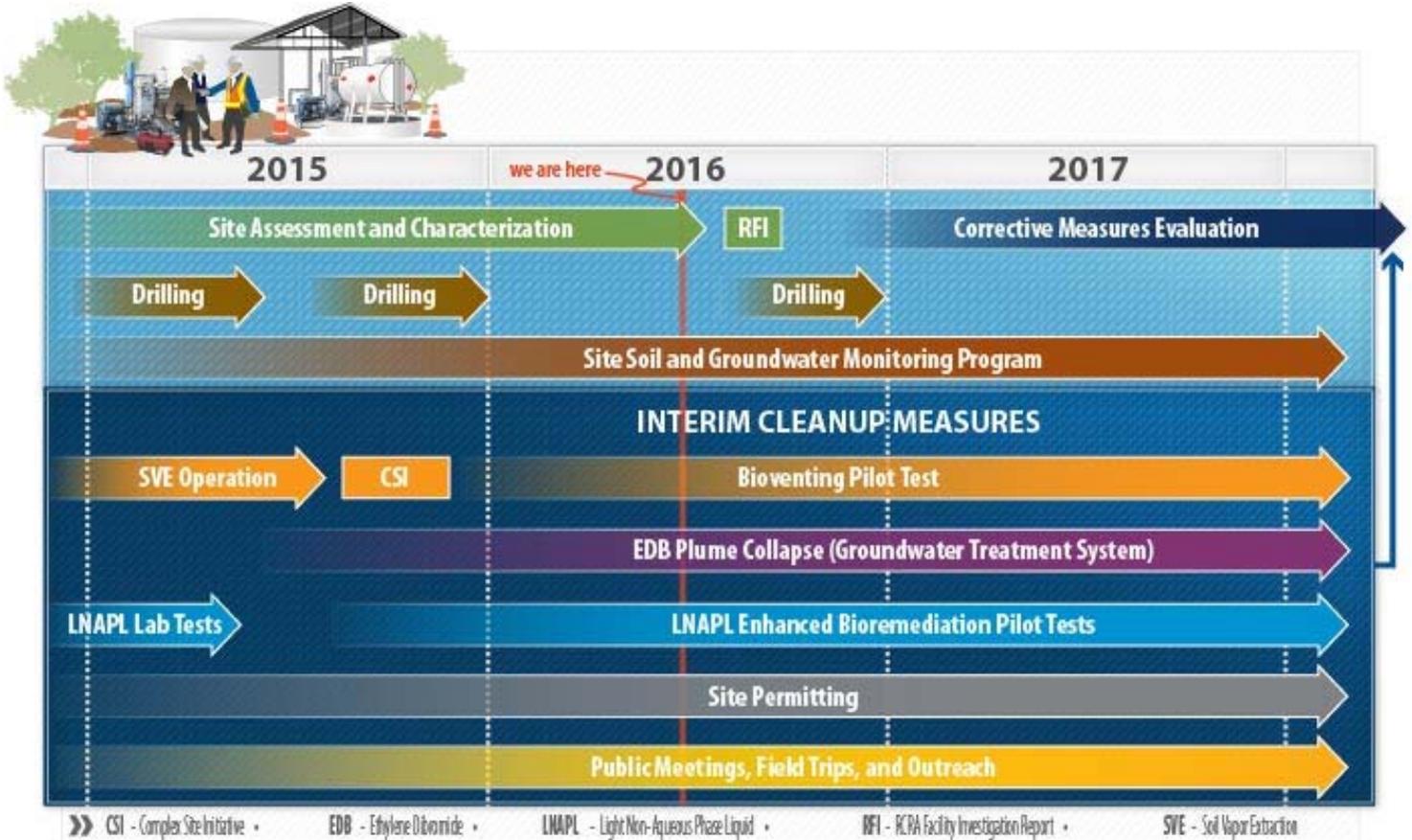
FOR MORE INFORMATION

- www.kirtlandjetfuelremediation.com is a project-specific website available to provide information related to the fuel spill investigation to the public.
- Information specific to the fuel plume investigation is provided at the regular public meetings. The November meeting will be at the African-American Performing Arts Center, 310 San Pedro Dr NE, Albuquerque.
- These meetings are open to the public. Interested community members are encouraged to attend, no RSVP required.

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REGULATORY CORNER

- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) is the public law that creates the framework for the proper management of hazardous and non-hazardous solid waste. The law describes the waste management program mandated by Congress that gave EPA authority to develop the RCRA program.
- RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) results and quarterly monitoring data, will be used to inform a Corrective Measures Evaluation (CME)
- Interim measures (IM) for early treatment/remediation are in action at Kirtland AFB; the results of IM operations are used in the CME evaluation and determination of final remedy, and are not end points of remediation
- Permits and other regulatory permissions are obtained from local and state agencies to ensure project work is done per regulations.

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<http://www.kirtland.af.mil> (Public records in Environmental Issues section)

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www.env.nm.gov/NMED/Issues/KirtlandFuelPlume