

### COVID Community Update

May 2020

Public participation is essential to the success of EPA's community involvement program. If you have any questions, please contact:

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As we continue to adjust to the evolving COVID-19 situation, EPA is taking the necessary steps to ensure that decisions about ongoing cleanup activities at Superfund sites are made with the health and safety of communities, EPA staff, state and tribal partners, and contractors as the priority.

Because the work at the Diaz Chemical site involves approximately 25 team members, including EPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) personnel, plus contractors, we temporarily suspended bringing equipment and personnel to the site.

After updating the site health and safety plan to incorporate pertinent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, as well as reviewing the latest COVID-19-related orders from local and state health agencies, the contractors are prepared to move forward. In late May or the first week in June, under EPA and USACE oversight, the contractors will

mobilize to the site to begin work on the second phase of in-place or in-situ thermal treatment of both contaminated soil and groundwater. The decision to resume work was made in consultation with the Village of Holley. EPA will continue to work closely with state and local health officials, and all partners and stakeholders, to make determinations about site work based on guidance from the CDC.

It is important to know that under the current situation, EPA has maintained its ability to respond to human health or environmental emergencies at Superfund sites, or in any situation where we are called upon to address immediate risks from releases of chemical, oil, radiological, biological, and other hazardous materials.

For more information on Diaz Chemical, please visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/region02/superfund/npl/diazchemical/>

For more information on EPA's response to COVID-19, please visit:

<https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus>



In May 2017, EPA established a task force to restore the Superfund program to its rightful place at the center of the Agency's core mission to protect health and the environment.

[epa.gov/superfund/superfund-task-force](http://epa.gov/superfund/superfund-task-force)