

**Draft Meeting Summary
Colorado Smelter Community Advisory Group
January 12, 2015**

On January 12, 2015, the Colorado Smelter Community Advisory Group (CAG) and members of the public met at the Steelworkers Center of the West. The key topics covered during the meeting included:

- Updates on EPA soil sampling efforts;
- Independent review of soil sampling process;
- General EPA updates;
- Organizational and Workgroup updates; and
- Future CAG meetings.

This summary is not a detailed transcript of the meeting, but rather includes highlights of the discussions and decisions that occurred. It is a summary of the facilitator’s notes and is not intended to state formal EPA policy. Action items in this summary are tracked in the Facilitator’s Tracking Sheet attached to the end of this document.

Key links and documents discussed during the meeting:

Attachment A	CAG Agenda for January 12 meeting (attached) Links: Skeo PowerPoint of Sampling Process.pdf Skeo Fact Sheets on Samplig.pdf Vitalization Work Group: January 2016 Notes
Attachment B	Attendance list for January 12 (attached)
Link	CAG Tracking List Update as of 1 26 16.docx
Important Colorado Smelter Links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colorado Smelter Health pamphlet in English and Spanish: http://county.pueblo.org/sites/default/files/documents/Lead_pamphlet_jul2014.pdf • Colorado Smelter: Dirt Alert Video by the PCCHD. • Residential Soil Sampling Demo: http://youtu.be/8Zct3h9ehhQ • Incremental Residential Soil Sampling Demo: http://youtu.be/PFbN9nEfrv4 • Top Ten Questions to Ask When Buying a Superfund Site http://www2.epa.gov/enforcement/report-top-10-questions-ask-when-buying-superfund-site • Key information to know about gardening near the Colorado Smelter site: http://www2.epa.gov/region8/colorado-smelter-gardening-and-homegrown-vegetables • Information about being exposed to lead on EPA’s website: http://www2.epa.gov/lead • ATSDR blood and urine testing: Factsheet English – http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/HAC/pha/ColoradoSmelter/Smelter_Factsheet%20508.pdf • ATSDR blood and urine testing: Factsheet Spanish - http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/HAC/pha/ColoradoSmelter/Smelter_Factsheet%20Spanish508.pdf

Update on Soil Sampling

Sabrina Forrest, the EPA Regional Project Manager (RPM) for the Colorado Smelter Superfund site, reported that EPA had begun soil sampling in the area. In 2015, EPA had sampled 12 houses as part of a pilot project to refine their sampling approach. In December of 2015, EPA began its full sampling effort. As of the January 2016 CAG meeting, EPA had gathered 745 dirt samples at 35 houses and 44 dust samples at 16 houses. So far, one gas line has been hit due to a mislocated utility marking and a few irrigation pipes have been punctured. Xcel was contacted immediately regarding the gas line and fixed the problem. Locally subcontracted staff repaired the irrigation pipes. A member of the public noted that her property had been sampled. She stated it went well and that EPA had staff repair her irrigation line within a day. EPA anticipates that homeowners will receive sampling results within 2 months. EPA aims to provide the CAG with a summary of sampling to date at the March meeting. Those wishing additional information about getting their property sampled or with questions regarding sampling, should contact Chris Wardell of EPA at 303-312-6062 or Wardell.Christopher@epa.gov.

Initially, EPA plans to sample approximately 100 houses within a ½ mile radius of the Colorado Smelter Superfund site. This circle and overall number will likely change as early sampling results are confirmed. Sometimes wind or other factors will carry contaminants in one direction and not in another. EPA anticipates its sampling efforts will continue throughout most of 2016. The Agency is adding both sampling and analytical staff to expedite the process. Currently, the field staff can sample 2 to 3 properties a day, but hope to increase this to 4 properties a day. Snow cover is creating a bit of a challenge in that it is hard to see utility locator flags. Once EPA has gathered sufficient sampling information it will be able to determine the extent and type of the contamination. Based on this information, EPA will be able to complete a risk assessment and determine site-specific cleanup numbers. All of this information will be used to then design a cleanup plan.

Independent Review of Soil Sampling Process

Skeo Solutions serves as a technical expert to the community and CAG for this site. Terrie Boguski of Skeo attended the meeting and shared a presentation regarding the sampling pilot study (Demonstration of Methods of Applicability, DMA) and the sampling plan for the complete sampling effort in Operable Unit 1 (Community Properties) (Quality Assurance Project Plans, QAPPs). The presentation can be found here: [Skeo Powerpoint of Sampling Process.pdf](#). She also provided Fact Sheets on the same topics: [Skeo Fact Sheets on Sampling.pdf](#). Meeting participants asked for clarity regarding the sampling results from the 12 houses in the pilot study. Terrie responded that all 12 properties had arsenic concentrations above 11 parts per million (ppm), which is the typical Colorado background for all land uses. Samples from three yards had arsenic concentrations over 100 ppm. Eleven out of the 12 houses sampled had levels of lead greater than the national residential screening level of 400 ppm. One sample from one yard had a lead concentration of 2,500 ppm. Typically, soil is not cleaned up if a contaminant concentration is below EPA's soil screening level or the background level. One important factor, however, is how exposed people and animals are to contaminants. For example, humans and animals are less likely to end up with lead or arsenic in their bloodstream if soil is covered in grass or other ground cover. The one yard with the "hot spot" noted above is well landscaped.

One CAG member noted that the DMA report was poorly edited and that this could be an indication of the quality of work. He and another CAG member had detailed questions about how the individual samples were formed into composite samples. One thought this may make the contamination look higher than reality while the other CAG member expressed concern that this approach might obfuscate a "hot spot." It was agreed that the Sampling Workgroup would meet with EPA on February 3 to discuss the composite approach in more detail.

General EPA Updates

Chris Wardell of EPA noted that their team had placed approximately 1,800 flyers on home and business doors in the neighborhood in early January regarding the Colorado Smelter process. The flyer can be found here: [CO Smelter door knocker .pdf](#)

Sabrina also noted that EPA had installed caution and no trespassing signs around the slag area and the private parcel west of Benedict Park. The Health Department has placed one billboard in the area and has plans to place others.

Workgroup Meetings

Meeting notes from the January 2016 Vitalization Workgroup meeting can be found at: [January 2016 Vitalization Workgroup Summary](#). Their next meeting will occur on February 3 at the Eiler's Place, located at 326 East Mesa Avenue from 2:00-3:30

The Public involvement Workgroup will meet on February 9 at the Steelworkers Center of the West from 5:30 to 9. This meeting will occur instead of the regular February full CAG meeting.

As noted above, the Sampling Workgroup will meet on February 3 at 10 a.m. at the Steelworkers Center.

Future CAG Meetings

During the sampling process, the CAG will often met every other month instead of every month. To ensure that things are moving forward, the CAG asked that EPA develop a simple tracking form for tasks. An outline was shared with the group at the meeting and agency staff agreed to update the form on a regular basis.

An updated Facilitator Tracking List for the CAG can be found at: [Tracking List Update as of 1 26 16.docx](#)

A member of the group suggested that the Department of Transportation be invited to address the CAG. and speak to the group about plans for I-25. CAG members expressed interest.

The next full CAG meeting is scheduled for March 8 at 5:30 to 7:30 at the Steelworkers Center of the West.

Attachment A

Community Advisory Group for the Colorado Smelter



AGENDA

Tuesday, January 12, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Steelworks Center of the West
215 Canal Street, Pueblo

- 5:30 p.m. Introductions, Agenda Review, and Logistics**
Kristi Parker Celico, Rocky Mountain Collaborative Solutions
- 5:35 p.m. Soil Sampling at Site**
- EPA Overview of Sampling Schedule and Activities, Sabrina Forrest, EPA
 - Independent Review of Sampling Plan (Quality Assurance Project Plan--QAPP), Terrie Boguski, Skeo Solutions (Links: [Skeo Powerpoint Slides on Sampling](#) and [Skeo Fact Sheets on Sampling.pdf](#))
- 6:30 p.m. Organization Ourselves for 2016**
- Closing out 2015. Review outstanding items on Tracking Sheet (Link: [Tracking List as of 1/12/16](#))
 - Framework for tracking Next Steps, Chris Wardell, EPA
 - Workgroup Plans
 - Public Involvement Workgroup
 - Vitalization Workgroup (Link: [January Work Group Summary](#))
 - Sampling Workgroup
 - Planning for Public Health Forum
- 7:15 p.m. Public Comment and Q and A***
- 7:25 p.m. Summary of Next Steps**
- January/February:
 - Public Health meeting
 - Workgroup meetings
 - March 8 CAG meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Adjourn**
***If you are a member of the public and need to leave early, please inform the facilitator if you would like to make public comment.**

Attachment B

January 12, 2016 CAG Attendance

CAG Attendance		
First Name	Last Name	12-Jan-16
Cis	Ashenafi	x
Andrew	Baca	
Barton	Demetri	
Bob	Blazich	x
Terrie	Boguski	x
Roman	Castro	
Kristi	Celico	x
Merril	Coomes	x
John	Cordova	
Fran	Costanzi	
David	Dorian	
Libby	Faullk	
Sabrina	Forrest	x
Karen	Fortner	
Kelly	Gehlhoff	x
Raj	Goyal	
Jasmin	Guerra	
Terry	Hart	x
Kiera	Hatton	
Tim	Hawkins	x
Tori	Johnson	

Constance	Jones	
Joe and Pam	Kocman	x
Aaron	Martinez	x
Jeannine	Natterman	x
Maureen	O'Reilly	
Charlie	Partridge	
Charlotte	Plutt	
Romero	Richard	x
Krissy	Russell-Hedstrom	
Alissa	Schultz	x
Julie	Shue	
Steve	Singer	
Alicia	Solis	
Nadine	Triste	
Harric	Vander Valk	x
Ross	Vincent	x
Christopher	Wardell	x
David	Webb	x
Michael	Wenstrom	
Steve	Wharton	
Ken	Williams	
Julianne and James	Williamson	
Robin	Witt	
Chad	Wolgram	

Guests:

Doug Fitzgerald, Cathy Garcia, Steven Meier, Phyllis Sowell, Estelle Belanger, Marc Trahan, Mark Boguski, Ruth Von Stein, Stephen Brackens, Victoria Thierens, Jason Lopez