

Site Review And Update

ROSE PARK SLUDGE PIT
SALT LAKE CITY, SALT LAKE COUNTY, UTAH
CERCLIS NO. UTD980635452
AUGUST 12, 1993

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Public Health Service
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
Division of Health Assessment and Consultation
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

SITE REVIEW AND UPDATE

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Prepared by

**Remedial Programs Branch
Division of Health Assessment and Consultation
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry**

SUMMARY OF BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

The Rose Park Sludge Pit is located in North Salt Lake City, Utah, in an area with oil refineries, industrial facilities and residential housing (Figure 1). The sludge pit was used as a disposal site for acidic sludge wastes from petroleum refinery operations at the Utah Oil and Refining Company facility located east of the site. Waste was placed in an unlined pit from the 1930's until 1957. Salt Lake City purchased the property in 1957 in response to citizens' complaints against dumping. After removing 40 to 100 truck loads of sludge, the remaining waste sludge was covered with a soil cap in 1960, and the area was incorporated into Rosewood Park.

In July 1976, a bulldozer broke through soil covering the sludge and exposed the acid sludge waste. The community voiced concerns regarding physical contact with sludge, the release of acidic vapors from the site, and, to a lesser extent, groundwater contamination (1). Nearby residents are on city water (1). There are no known uses of the shallow groundwater in the proximity of the sludge pit.

In response to a request from the State of Utah, a series of field investigations were conducted by EPA contractors between 1979 and 1981. These investigations found waste sludge as deep as 20 feet, covering an area of approximately 5.5 acres. Shallow, unconfined groundwater was found at a depth of 8 to 10 feet (2). Based on this and additional information, the Rose Park Sludge Pit was ranked for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Priorities List in August 1982. The site was listed on December 30, 1982.

An Intergovernmental/Corporate Cooperation Agreement (ICAA) was entered into by Salt Lake City Corporations, Salt Lake City/County Health Department, the Utah State Department of Health, Amoco Oil Company, and EPA on October 29, 1982. The ICAA required the following remedial actions at the site: installing additional monitoring wells, constructing a bentonite slurry wall around the pit, and capping the pit with a sand layer, fabric membrane, clay layer and a vegetated soil cover. This work was completed in the spring of 1984 (2). Institutional controls provide additional protection through property use restrictions, and physical barriers were constructed to prevent damage to the containment structures. Finally, the ICAA included a 30 year groundwater monitoring program to ensure the continued protection of the groundwater (2).

On May 1, 1988, ATSDR released a Preliminary Health Assessment (PHA) for the Rose Park Sludge Pit (3). The PHA identified future migration of contaminants into groundwater and subsequent human ingestion, inhalation and direct contact as the potential exposure pathway. The PHA concluded that the site did not

represent a present public health concern, and that the 30 year groundwater monitoring program would warn of any possible future changes in site-related groundwater contamination.

CURRENT SITE CONDITIONS

ATSDR representatives Susan Muza and Stephanie Prausnitz visited the Rose Park Sludge Pit site on June 23, 1993. The barriers erected to protect the containment were in place. Signs identifying the waste containment structure were present. The soil cover was thickly vegetated with grasses and weeds. There were no indications of erosion of the cover or evidence of digging or trenching which would compromise the containment system. Monitoring wells were present and secure.

Since the May 1988 issue of the ATSDR PHA, a five year report evaluating whether the response action remains protective of public health and the environment has been issued by Region VIII EPA (2). That report describes recent monitoring activity. New monitoring wells have been installed and used to characterize groundwater flow and to analyze for possible leakage of contaminants into the groundwater. Sample analysis indicates that very low to undetectable levels of organics are in the groundwater directly around the slurry wall. All contaminants found were below the EPA's Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) with one exception. In one well, 6 micrograms per liter benzene was detected, as well as some free product. EPA analyzed the free product and concluded that both it and the benzene had not originated from the sludge pit, but had come from nearby drainage canals (2). Those canals are currently being evaluated under the EPA Superfund Site Assessment Program. A Preliminary Assessment and a Site Investigation have been conducted, and a Hazard Ranking System scoring activity is underway.

The EPA concluded that the slurry wall at Rose Park Sludge Pit remains intact; there is no leakage. The five year report concludes that the response actions taken at the Rose Park Sludge Pit site remain protective of human health because the acid waste is isolated from human contact, the cap is intact and maintained, and the groundwater is protected from sludge contamination (2).

CURRENT ISSUES

Future migration of contaminants into groundwater and subsequent human ingestion, inhalation and direct contact remains a potential exposure pathway, but because the contamination has remained contained, that exposure pathway does not appear likely. Furthermore, groundwater around the site will be monitored for 30 years. ATSDR is not aware of any community health concerns.

CONCLUSIONS

The original PHA conclusion, that the site does not represent a present public health concern, and that the 30 year groundwater monitoring program will warn of any possible future changes in site-related groundwater contamination, remains valid. ATSDR has determined that this site is of no apparent public health concern.

RECOMMENDATIONS

If agencies monitoring Rose Park site data find elevated levels of contamination in the groundwater, or other evidence that the containment system is leaking, they should make the data available to ATSDR for evaluation of potential health effects otherwise no follow-up is needed.

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

Documents reviewed by ATSDR during the development of this summary are as follows:

1. Rose Park Sludge Pit Superfund Site, Fact Sheet, June, 1992.
2. EPA Region VIII Rose Park Sludge Pit Superfund Site Five Year Review Report, Salt Lake City, Utah, June 1, 1992.
3. ATSDR Preliminary Health Assessment for Rose Park Sludge Pit, Salt Lake City, Utah, CERCLIS # UT980635452, May 1, 1988.

Preparer of Site Review and Update:

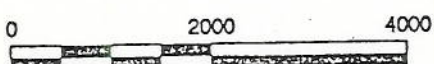
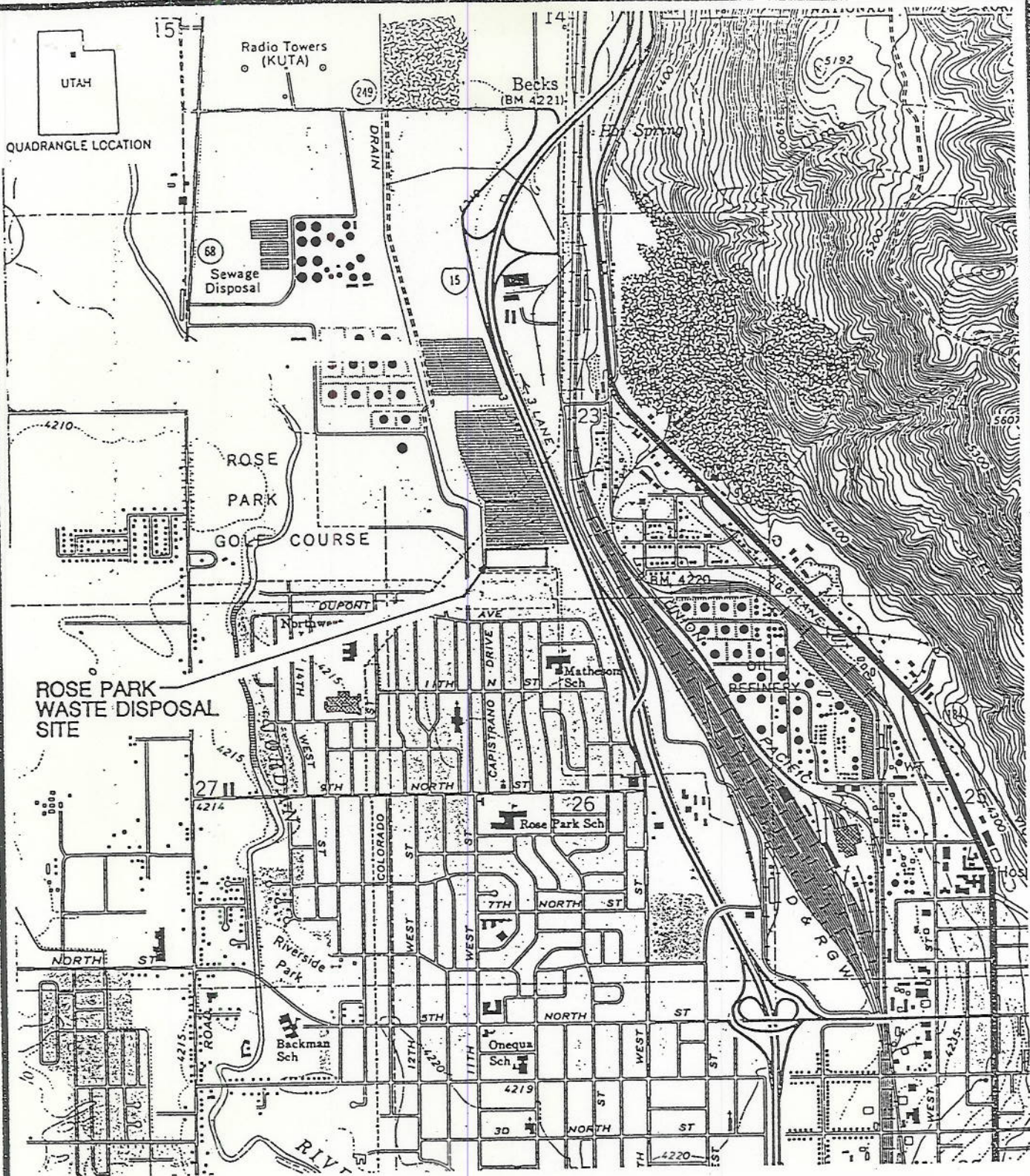
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Scale in feet



North

Investigation Report	
North Salt Lake City VICINITY MAP	
Rose Park, UT	FIGURE 1

