



Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp – Columbus Superfund Site, Columbus, Mississippi

December 2018

Greenfield Environmental Multistate Trust LLC, Trustee of the Multistate Environmental Response Trust (Multistate Trust), in collaboration with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), prepared this fact sheet to inform the community about air monitoring that we are performing during soil removal activities at the Pine Yard of the Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp – Columbus Superfund Site in Columbus, Mississippi (the Site).

Keeping Neighbors Safe During the Cleanup

The safety of the community is the Multistate Trust's highest priority. As our team excavates and safely disposes of creosote and contaminated soil from portions of the Pine Yard area of the Site, our construction plans have included provisions for preventing potentially contaminated soil from leaving the Site. Our activities have involved air monitoring, dust control, and wheel-wash stations that keep vehicles from tracking soil off-Site and onto neighborhood roads.

Monitoring Air and Dust

During excavation activities, air quality is being monitored continuously. Our air monitoring program consists of:

1. A weather station to determine the wind direction.
2. Air cartridge samples collected twice weekly and checked for the presence of chemicals in coal tar pitch (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons typically found in creosote are anthracene, benzo[a]pyrene, chrysene, phenanthrene, and pyrene) and for respirable dust.
3. An air monitoring station (see photo at left) :
 - Equipped with a dust monitor and photoionization detector (PID) to detect dust particles and vapors.
 - Located approximately 50 feet downwind of the work zone in a position to detect air contamination before it leaves the Site.
 - Operating continuously during active excavation, with the Multistate Trust construction team manually recording results throughout the day.
4. Our team visually monitoring for fugitive dust and odors.
5. Our team taking measurements at the edge of the active excavation area and near the Site perimeter using a handheld PID and a handheld dust monitor.



This photo shows an air monitoring station (foreground) operating at the Pine Yard.

Monitoring Steps and Results

The following graphs and steps explain how the Multistate Trust team measures dust and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the air each work day at the Pine Yard. The graphs show that no action levels have been exceeded as of Day 54 (November 7, 2018).

Monitoring Steps

Step 1

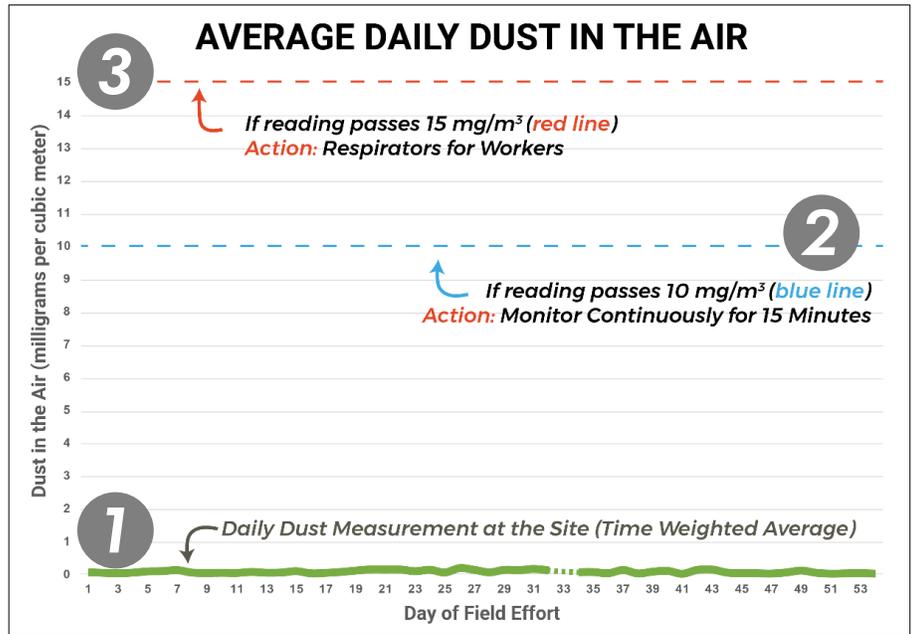
We monitor dust and VOCs in 30-minute increments throughout the workday. These results are combined to produce the Time-Weighted Average shown in these graphs.

Step 2

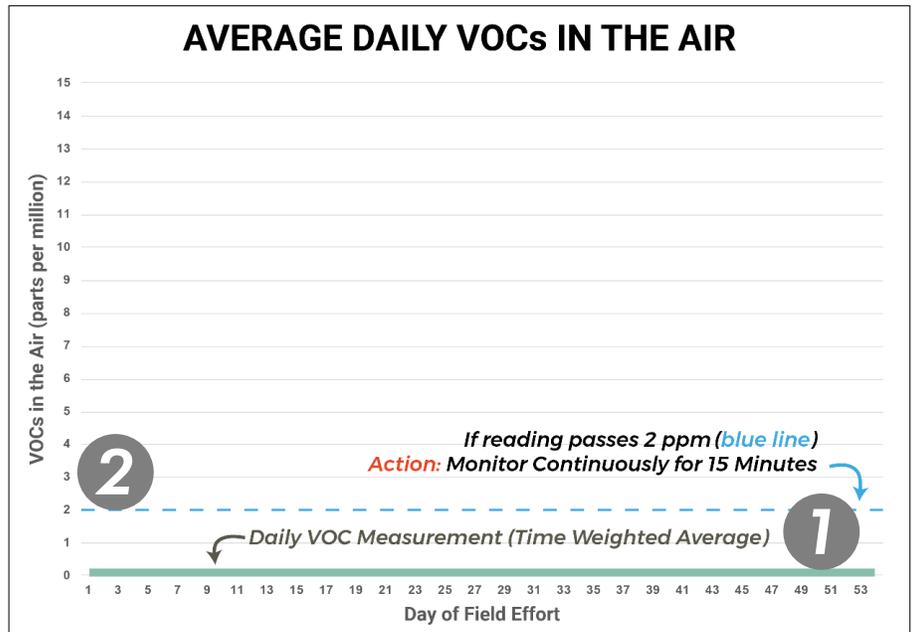
For dust, if any reading exceeds the action level (blue line) threshold (10 milligrams per cubic meter [mg/m^3]), the air will be monitored continuously for 15 minutes. If readings continue to exceed the blue line action levels, personal respiratory protection will be worn by all on-Site workers. For VOCs, if the reading passes 2 parts per million (ppm) and remains above the blue line action level for more than 10 minutes, work will be suspended until readings return to normal levels.

Step 3

For dust, if any reading exceeds the red line action level threshold (15 mg/m^3 for dust), air respirators may be used.



Note: on day 33, there were not enough samples to calculate a time-weighted average. The maximum value that day was 0.022 milligrams per cubic meter.



We Respect Your Needs and Concerns

The Multistate Trust, EPA, and MDEQ recognize the needs and concerns of the community. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we perform this limited investigation.

The Multistate Trust has set up this 24-hour hotline for you to report odors, dust, other concerns, complaints, or questions:

Call 662-288-4412

For more information and answers to your questions, please contact:

Multistate Trust

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