

7th Avenue and Bethany Home Road

Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund ([WQARF](#)) Site

Boundaries:

The 7th Avenue and Bethany Home Road WQARF Site (Site) consists of a contaminated groundwater plume located in the vicinity of 7th Avenue near Bethany Home Road in Phoenix, Arizona. The plume is bounded to the north by W. Rose Lane, to the south by W. Bethany Home Road, to the east by N. 5th Avenue and to the west by N. 8th Avenue.

The plume boundaries depicted on the [site map](#) represents the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's (ADEQ) interpretation of data available at the time the map was constructed. The map is intended to provide the public with basic information as to the estimated extent of known contamination as of the date of map production. The actual extent of contamination may be different. Therefore, the plume may change in the future as new information becomes available.

Site Status Update:

ADEQ initiated the [remedial investigation](#) (RI) process in January 2009. The draft RI report was released for public comment in April 2010 and comments on the remedial objectives were solicited from the public in September 2010. Remedial objectives for the site are currently being developed. One round of groundwater sampling of the site monitor wells was completed in November 2010 and indicated the plume was continuing to move to the north.



Drilling of off-site monitor well

Community Involvement Activities:

A [community advisory board](#) (CAB) was formed and first met on May 25, 2010. Details of meeting [agendas](#) and minutes for meetings can be viewed at the ADEQ Web site. These meetings are open to the public. The most recent [fact sheet](#) can be found on the ADEQ Web site.

Site History:

1952-1960: The Site property was originally developed in 1952 into a small shopping center which included a market, a variety of commercial shops, and a dry cleaning facility. The dry cleaning facility began operation in 1953 at the shopping center. Between 1952 and 1960, the shopping center was connected to an on-site septic system. In 1960, the shopping center was connected to the Phoenix sewer system and discharge to the septic system is believed to have terminated.

1995-2001: Three previous site investigations by outside parties have taken place at the Site between 1995 and 2001, and the results of these investigations confirmed the presence of [tetrachloroethene](#) (PCE) contamination in soil and groundwater beneath the Site.

2004: The Site was placed on the [WQARF Registry](#) in August 2004 due to the detection of PCE in the soil and groundwater. Concentrations were found to be as high as 15,000 parts per billion (ppb) in groundwater beneath the northeast corner of the Site. The Arizona [Aquifer Water Quality Standard](#) (AWQS) for PCE is 5.0 ppb. The eligibility and evaluation score for placement on the WQARF Registry was 29 out of 120.

ADEQ initiated an [early response action](#) (ERA) evaluation on the Site October 2004 to collect data necessary to characterize the source area of PCE contamination below the Site. The ERA evaluation consisted of drilling ten soil [borings](#) and installation of five [soil vapor extraction](#) (SVE) wells and two groundwater [monitor wells](#) at the Site.

2005-2007: Three off-site groundwater monitor wells were installed in September 2005 to begin to define the extent of groundwater contamination. Based on the results of the ERA investigation, a SVE system was designed and constructed at the Site. Operation of the SVE system began in June 2005 and was discontinued in January 2006. During operation of the system, approximately 380 pounds of PCE were removed from the subsurface soils. To determine if the [volatile organic compounds](#) (VOCs) remaining in the soil warranted further operation of the system, a rebound test was conducted in April 2006. The results of this test indicated there were not enough extractable VOCs remaining in the soils to warrant further operation of the system. In October 2006, confirmation borings were drilled and sampled in the areas of the SVE system. These samples confirmed the concentrations of PCE remaining in the soils are below residential [soil remediation standards](#) and groundwater protection levels. The SVE system was decommissioned in April 2007.

2008: ADEQ initiated an investigation of an additional dry cleaner in the area of the Site. A dry cleaner operated at 6022 N. 7th Avenue from the 1960s to approximately 1990. Field investigations in the early 1990s indicated a release of PCE but the impact to the groundwater was not evaluated at that time. During March 2008, two monitor wells were installed on and near the property, and four additional borings were drilled and sampled adjacent to the building that housed the dry cleaner. Results of the investigation indicated PCE has been released to the groundwater beneath the Site. Concentrations of PCE range from 8.0 to 24 ppb. [Trichloroethene](#) (TCE) and [vinyl chloride](#) were also present above their respective AWQS.

2009: ADEQ initiated the RI process in January. The outline of the [community involvement plan](#) and the scope of work for the RI were completed. Due to budget constraints, ADEQ worked to complete the draft RI in-house.

Contaminants:

The current contaminants of concern in groundwater include [tetrachloroethene](#) (PCE), [trichloroethene](#) (TCE) and [vinyl chloride](#). Contaminants of concern at the Site may change as new data become available. Other contaminants from off-site underground storage tank releases include: 1,2-[dichloroethane](#) (1,2-DCA) and [methyl tertiary butyl ether](#) (MTBE).

Public Health Impact:

There is no known public health impact to drinking water because there are no known drinking water wells within Site boundaries.

Site Hydrogeology:

The Site is located within the West Salt River Valley sub-basin of the [Phoenix Active Management Area](#). The Salt River Valley is an [alluvial](#) filled basin located in the Basin and Range physiographic province. The Site is underlain by primarily sandy silts and silty sands with interbedded clay layers. The depth to groundwater in the area is approximately 85 feet below ground surface. Groundwater flow in the area of the Site is currently to the north-northeast.

Contacts:

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*In Arizona, but outside the Phoenix area, call toll-free at (800) 234-5677.

Information Repository:

Interested parties can review select Site information at the [Southeast Regional Library](#) located at 775 N. Greenfield Road in Gilbert, (602) 652-3000. Hours are Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The complete official Site file can be reviewed at the ADEQ Main Office located at 1110 W. Washington Street, Phoenix. Please contact (602) 771-4380 or (800) 234-5677 to schedule an appointment with 24-hour notice to review these documents. Once all documents requested have been collected, you will be contacted for a review Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the ADEQ Records Management Center, 1110 W. Washington Street in Phoenix, AZ.