

West Central Phoenix (WCP) East Grand Avenue Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund ([WQARF](#)) Site

Boundaries:

The WCP East Grand Avenue WQARF Site (Site) plume is bounded approximately by the Grand Canal to the north, 27th Avenue to the east, Thomas Road to the south, and 35th Avenue to the west in Phoenix, Arizona.

The plume boundaries depicted on the [site map](#) represent 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:

Univar continues to operate the [soil vapor extraction](#) (SVE) system at the former [Van Waters and Rogers](#) (VW&R) facility. [Univar](#) (parent company of VW&R) expanded the system by connecting it to former ADEQ [monitor wells](#) that had become dry due to a decline in regional water levels. Expansion of the SVE extraction well network has resulted in an increase in [volatile organic compounds](#) (VOC) capture. Groundwater monitoring is conducted by Univar every six months. Monitoring of the contamination plume has shown a decrease in contaminant concentration.



Soil Vapor Extraction System at
VW&R facility

Univar is conducting the [feasibility study](#) (FS) to evaluate specific remedial measures and strategies required to meet the [remedial objectives](#) (ROs).

Community Involvement Activities:

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

Site History:

1957-1970: The former VW&R facility is the primary source of contamination at the site. VW&R operated near 27th Avenue and Osborn Road from 1957 to 1970. Operations included warehousing and distribution of industrial and agricultural chemical products, upholstery supplies, and laundry and dry cleaning supplies.

1982: VOCs were first detected in groundwater in the WCP area in July. The [City of Phoenix](#) (COP) detected [trichloroethene](#) (TCE) in four municipal public supply wells, COP #70, #71, #151, and #152.

1982-1989: The [Arizona Department of Health Services](#), [Salt River Project](#), and the COP confirmed the presence of VOCs in the groundwater with sampling in 1983, 1985, and 1986. Groundwater from COP wells #70 and #71 contained the highest concentrations of TCE and, therefore, were immediately shut down. Wells #151 and #152 were monitored for VOC concentrations from 1982 until 1989. As a result of sampling conducted during February of 1989, COP elected to take both wells #151 and #152 off-line on March 7, 1989.

1987-2000: In 1987, the WCP area was designated a WQARF Priority List site. In 1997, ADEQ established the WQARF Registry which replaced the Priority List. The Site was placed on the [WQARF Registry](#) in April 1998 with a score of 26 out of a possible 120. The Site score was re-evaluated in 2000 with a revised score of 31.

1993-2002: The [remedial investigation](#) (RI) field activities at this Site were conducted between 1993 and 2002. In January 2002, ADEQ entered into an agreement with Univar (parent company of VW&R) to conduct the monitoring groundwater quality and to conduct the FS.

2003: Since March, groundwater monitoring has been conducted by Univar. Also, Univar installed an SVE system at the former VW&R facility to clean up the soils.

2004: The SVE system became operational in January. ADEQ issued the draft Remedial Investigation (RI) report in May. Comments were received from Univar USA. The RI was centered on the former VW&R facility.

2006: In January, ADEQ issued the Proposed RO report for public comment to meet the requirements established under [Arizona Administrative Code](#) (A.A.C.) R18-16-406. Comments were received from the public and ADEQ issued the final RO Report in June. In addition, since comments were received on the draft RI report, a responsiveness summary was prepared and the final RI report for the Site was also issued in July.

2007: The total quantity of VOCs removed from the soil by the end of the year by the SVE system operated by Univar was approximately 990 pounds. This equates to approximately 80 gallons of VOCs that were removed from the soil.

2008: Two ADEQ monitor wells that were located in the COP right-of-way were added to the SVE extraction system. These wells had become dry due to the regional drop in groundwater levels. Adding these wells increased the capture of VOCs by two to three times.

2009: The SVE system operated by Univar continues to extract VOCs from the soils below the former facility. The system removed on average over four pounds of VOCs for the first nine months of this year. Groundwater samples were collected every six months.

2010: Univar continues to extract VOCs from the soils below the former facility through the

operation of the SVE system. The system removed an average of approximately 2.5 pounds of VOCs. Groundwater samples were collected semi-annually.

Contaminants:

The current contaminants of concern in groundwater include the [chlorinated solvents tetrachloroethene](#) (PCE), [trichloroethene](#) (TCE) and 1,1-[dichloroethene](#) (1,1-DCE). Contaminants of concern at the Site may change as new data become available. Other contaminants at the Site include [benzene](#), [toluene](#), and [ethylbenzene](#), and [nitrates](#).

Public Health Impact:

To date, testing in the WCP area indicates no exposure to the contamination. Sampling shows that the contaminated soils are under asphalt parking lots or asphalt-surfaced storage areas, or under the concrete floors of buildings. Contaminated drinking water wells in the area have been shut down. In addition, notices have been sent out to all known residences within the WCP area for the testing of domestic wells for contamination.

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 and gravelly sand zones.

Due principally to the ongoing drought, depth to groundwater has declined considerably in the past several years. In 1997, the depth to groundwater was approximately 105 feet below ground surface (bgs), and by 2002 it was approximately 123 feet bgs. Depth to groundwater as of March 2004 was 130 feet to 139 feet bgs. Depths to groundwater currently range from approximately 120 feet to 143 feet bgs. Groundwater flowed to the south-southwest beneath the Site at a gradient of approximately 0.002.

The Grand Canal is located along the northern edge of the Site. The Grand Canal is generally lined on the bottom and both sides in the vicinity of the Site. However, some recharge to the [aquifer](#) occurs due to infiltration from the canal.

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 documents at the [Burton Barr Central Library](#) (Arizona Room) located at 1221 N. Central Avenue in Phoenix, (602) 262-4636.

The complete official Site file can be reviewed at the ADEQ Main Office located at 1110 W. Washington Street, in 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.