

GRATIOT COUNTY

Seven recent developments for Velsicol plant cleanup

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Here are seven recent developments on the cleanup of Gratiot County's former Velsicol plant site near St. Louis:

- EPA Region 5 is expecting to hear on a decision on funding the in-place thermal treatment for Area 1 in March.
- Crews will mobilize in March to prepare for site work including on-site roads, installation of a new gate onto M-46, and concrete pads for the in-place thermal treatment equipment. This work is expected to be completed this summer.
- Construction of the new electrical circuit to power the in-place thermal treatment system is expected to begin in mid-March and be completed in early May.
- The Final Basis of Design Report for the excavation of 100,000 tons of contaminated

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material from Potential Source Areas 1 and 2 is complete and is available on the Velsicol web page. It can also be found at the T.A. Cutler Memorial Library. <https://semspub.epa.gov/work/05/932093.pdf>

▪ EPA and MDEQ have received and are reviewing the first draft of the groundwater modeling report. This report will be used to help design the

groundwater treatment system.

▪ EPA and MDEQ are expecting to meet with Matt Zwiernik to discuss his results from his investigation and plan upcoming work for this summer. Information will be presented to the Pine River CAG in the near future.

▪ After winter shutdown, the operation of the groundwater collection system will likely restart in March. (Please note, it was incorrectly reported in the January 2017 update that the system was collecting groundwater.)



PHOTO COURTESY OF SCOTT PRATT

Pine River Superfund Task Force Chair Jane Keon stands next to a tombstone, warning passersby of the contamination at the old Velsicol Chemical plant site in St. Louis.