



Interim Record of Decision (ROD) Fact Sheet for the Groundwater Remedial Action at the Nemo Work Center, Nemo, South Dakota

The chemical ethylene dibromide (EDB) is present in groundwater in the vicinity of Nemo, SD. Since the 1990's, the USFS has provided a temporary alternative water supply system to supply affected residents. However, this system was not designed to be a permanent solution. The existing USFS temporary alternative water supply system consists of four supply wells that are unaffected by EDB-contamination.

In 2015, the USFS presented a preferred alternative to the Nemo community in a Proposed Plan public meeting. The preferred alternative included point-of entry treatment systems at each private supply well within the plume to provide potable water to the well-owner. The Nemo community, in general, did not support the preferred alternative presented in the Proposed Plan. Instead, the Nemo community favored the existing temporary system, in which their potable water originates from wells with groundwater unaffected by EDB.

The USFS acknowledges the community concerns and has developed an Interim Record of Decision (ROD). The major elements of the selected remedy include:

- Upgrading the current USFS water supply system to make permanent;
- the implementation of Land Use Controls/Institutional Controls (LUCs/ICs) on USFS lands; and
- Long-term groundwater monitoring and reporting.

As part of this remedy, the existing temporary water supply system will be upgraded to a permanent system that complies with standards of the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resource (DENR). The USFS will provide water to the affected

Agenda
2017 Remedial Action Public Meeting Schedule
<p>Based on the Record of Decision (ROD), the USFS anticipates the remedial design and construction phase of the project in 2017.</p> <p>The Remedial Design completion is expected by the middle of July 2017, and the Remedial Construction completion is expected by the end of 2017.</p>
Public Meeting
<p>The first Public Meeting of 2017 will be held on Thursday July 13, 6:30 pm at the Nemo Community Center. The purpose of this meeting will be to present the components of the Interim ROD, and the design for upgrades to the water supply system planned for completion in 2017.</p>
<p>The USFS will hold a second public meeting upon completion of the remedial construction.</p>
<p>For questions and concerns regarding the Nemo water supply system upgrade and certification, please contact:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Black Hills National Forest Office: 1019 N. 5th Street Custer, SD 57730</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ralph Adam Physical Resources Staff Officer radam@fs.fed.us / 605-673-9204</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Brian Beam Civil Engineer bbeam@fs.fed.us / 605-673-9224</p>

residents through this upgraded, newly-compliant permanent water supply system.

The Risks

EDB is classified as a probable human carcinogen. EDB was used in Nemo in the 1960s and 70s and its behavior and migration have been studied extensively over many years.

While the chance of exposure to the contaminant in the groundwater is minimal, it is serious enough to require that actions be taken to provide the community with drinking water unaffected by EDB, and to continue to monitor the EDB that is in the groundwater.

Our Remedial Action

Remedial Design – The Remedial Design will address specific requirements in the 2012 Edition of Recommended Standards for Waterworks (Ten State Standards). The design will include development of technical drawings and specifications for the water system upgrades. Remedial Design activities will include a detailed field inspection and survey of the existing water system infrastructure, and the preparation of engineering cost estimates for construction and long-term operation and maintenance of the water supply system.

Remedial Construction – The Remedial Construction will include construction build-out of the planned upgrades to the water supply system, with full-time construction oversight to ensure the engineering quality objectives are met. Upon completion of remedial construction, a Construction Completion Report with design drawings and complete photo-documentation will be prepared, along with an Operations and Maintenance Manual for the system.

Land Use Controls/Institutional Controls – LUCs/ICs include a combination of governmental land controls with informational measures to minimize the potential for exposure to contamination. The USFS will implement governmental LUCs on USFS-managed lands to impose restrictions on Federal land or resource use to protect public health and the environment.

The IC's will include information provided to the community to keep them informed on how to avoid contact with EDB in groundwater, including voluntary groundwater-use restrictions on affected wells. ICs will also include quality and maintenance information associated with the proposed permanent water supply system during the construction and operational stages. As an example, the USFS will provide stakeholders with annual drinking water quality reports (Consumer Confidence Reports) from assessments conducted by the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (SD DENR).

Long Term Monitoring and Reporting – The USFS will prepare and implement a Groundwater Monitoring and Evaluation Plan.

Community Involvement – The USFS will continue to involve the Nemo community in the decision process to keep the community informed about the status of the response action. Two public meetings will be conducted: when the remedial design is approximately 90% complete; and upon completion of the remedial construction. Notices in the local paper, updates to the administrative record website, mailings, and email distribution will be prepared through the response action process.

Our Goal

Prevent human exposure to EDB-contaminated groundwater where levels exceed regulatory standards.

More Information

We encourage you to find out more about the work that has been done, the alternatives that have been considered, and the selected approach to remedy the problem. The plan that was chosen is described in the Interim ROD document that includes a summary of the comments received along with how those comments affected the decision that was reached. The Interim ROD and other important documents associated with this decision are available at the **US Forest Service, Black Hills National Forest** 1019 N. 5th Street, Custer, SD 57730.