



**Citizen Involvement Plan  
Gelman Sciences Inc. Site  
May 9, 2003**

**Community Involvement Activities**

The following community involvement actions/activities are proposed regarding the Gelman Sciences, Inc. site.<sup>1</sup>

- 1) Identify Audience(s):** Continue to identify audience(s), including: residents (urban, suburban, rural); businesses; local officials; legislators; community organizations, environmental groups, citizen groups; media representatives, etc. Consider what information is being requested, what information we need to provide, how best to inform; how often to inform; and how to empower community members to stay involved and participate throughout the investigation/cleanup process.
  
- 2) Information Repository(s):** Four information repositories have been established to contain information on this site. This information is also provided to two local citizens who participate in meetings with local officials and the DEQ. The location and number of these repositories will be reviewed annually to determine whether changes are warranted. Establish a specific web site location that can be updated frequently.
  
- 3) Public Meetings:** Plan periodic public meetings to update the community on proposed remedial actions for the Unit E aquifer. The next meeting is proposed for the summer of 2003 as part of the public comment process for a work plan expected to be submitted in July 2003. Identify a venue adequate to accommodate at least 200 people, with appropriate audio/video equipment. Clearly communicating environmental risks should be a key component at this and future public meetings. Meeting notices should be sent to the various newspaper, TV and radio media representatives and to select others (via phone/mail), including: petitioners; City of Ann Arbor; Scio Township; local health departments; local legislators and officials, as well as any other person specifically asking to receive such a notice. Additional public meetings should be held as needed, possibly twice a year.
  
- 4) Community Group Meetings:** Currently Jackson RRD staff meet quarterly with a group consisting of the Scio Township Supervisor, two members of the Scio Residents for Safe Water (SRSW), the City of Ann Arbor Environmental Coordinator, the county commissioner whose district the site is located in, a representative of the Washtenaw Environmental Health Department, and others. In addition, project managers and other staff may be asked to attend meetings held by other local or regional community groups to discuss site actions and DEQ investigation/cleanup policies. Staff's involvement with a community group can be limited to answering questions or providing updates on project status. A community group may also ask staff to attend meetings on a regular basis. In any case, community groups can be very helpful in maintaining the two-way communication process outside of more formal events like public meetings.
  
- 5) Information Bulletins:** The last information bulletin for this site was distributed in December 1999. An updated version was available on the DEQ's internet site in July 2000,

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<sup>1</sup> Pall Life Sciences bought Gelman Sciences, Inc. and is now responsible for performance of response actions at the site

but was removed in 2002 during an upgrade to the web site. It is suggested that more frequent DEQ Information Bulletins be published/distributed to the current mailing list of Gelman Sciences, Inc. citizens (look into a bulk postage mailing, however), and made available on the DEQ web site. The current mailing list should be expanded as needed (currently it includes 334 residents, mostly of Scio Township - City of Ann Arbor residents in the area where work is expected should now be included [get list from City of Jan. 29 attendees, solicit requests to be added to list]). Release of key findings/reports might be coordinated with the information bulletins and provided at corresponding public meetings, whenever possible.

- 6) **Press Releases:** To date, the DEQ has not used this tool at this site. Interviews with local officials will be conducted in the month of June 2003, to determine the utility of releasing DEQ-prepared statements in the future to local papers, radio and TV stations to announce discovery of any significant findings at the site during the site investigation/cleanup process or to notify the community of any public meetings. The DEQ has recently improved its efforts to notify local officials, citizens/media in advance of any field activities to be performed (arrival of field crews at scene, heavy equipment, protective clothing) - community interest and concern peaks at times when these types of activities occur or when a decision for remedial actions takes place.
- 7) **Fact Sheets, Brochures, Technical Summaries, Reports:** Fact sheets, brochures technical summaries and/or reports will be prepared on an as-needed basis and, where possible, coincide with public meetings or mailings. Other avenues to "get the word out" might include: tabletop displays, posters, FAQs, etc.
- 8) **Meet with Local Officials and Telephone Them Periodically:** In addition to activities covered in number 5 above, DEQ staff regularly informs local officials, media representatives, groups and citizens about significant findings, by e-mail, when they become available. We will also identify any additional notification requests by June 2003, and attempt to meet and or telephone these individuals periodically.
- 9) **Evaluation:** We will assess/evaluate our future communication efforts on an on-going basis. Questions that will need to be answered include: 1) Did we provide the message content necessary to inform the public?; 2) Did people express a need for additional information from the agency?; 3) Was the information provided well received? Were recommendations considered feasible by the public? 4) Were people providing additional information for the agency to consider?
- 10) **Naming of Information Contact(s):** We have already established a key information contact, address and phone/e-mail for DEQ, for the public to connect with. The key DEQ contact is Sybil Kolon, DEQ/Remediation and Redevelopment Division, 301 E. Louis Glick Highway, Jackson, Michigan 49201; 517-780-7937; kolons@michigan.gov.
- 11) **List of Key Contacts and Interested Parties** for the DEQ to contact: A list of key contacts and interested parties will be established and maintained by the DEQ , utilizing these headings: 1) Federal Elected Officials; 2) State Elected Officials; 3) Local Officials; 4) State and Local Agencies; 5) Community Organizations; 6) Environmental Groups; 7) Citizen Groups; 8) Media.

Prepared by DEQ Remediation and Redevelopment Division