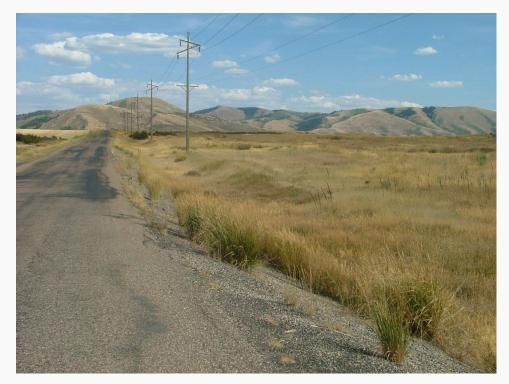


## Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp. (Soda Springs Plant) Superfund Site Proposed Plan



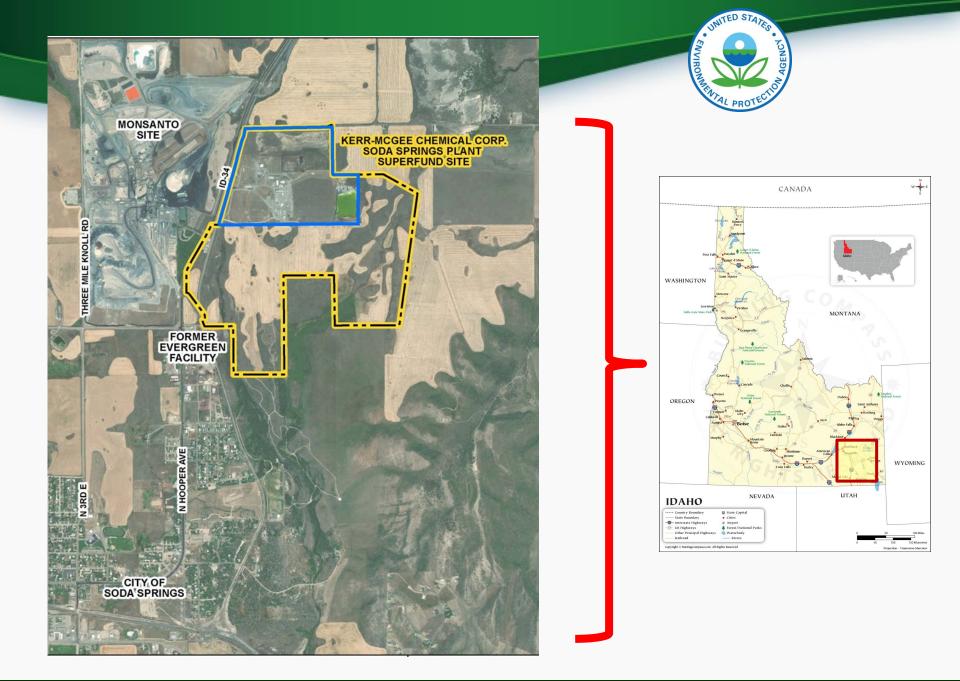
Soda Springs, Idaho Public Hearing March 29, 2023



## **Overview**

- ✓ Site Overview and History
- ✓ The Superfund Process
- ✓ EPA's Proposed Plan
- ✓ Public Comment Period
- ✓ Next Steps









- ✓ Site operated by Kerr-McGee from 1964 to 2002
  - Vanadium Plant
  - Fertilizer Plant
  - Lithium-Manganese Oxide Production
- Approximately 158 acres used for manufacturing
- Approximately 389 acres were not used for manufacturing; portions are leased for cropland



# **Site History**

- Listed on National Priority List in 1989
- ✓ 1995 ROD
  - Liquid source elimination and recycling calcine tailings
- ✓ 2000 ROD Amendment
  - Change recycling of calcine tailings to capping
- ✓ 2005-2015
  - Tronox bankruptcy, DOJ settlement, establishment of Multistate Trust





## Who is the Multistate Trust?

- ✓ Court-appointed, independent trust
- Private landowner with public purpose of protecting human health and environment
- ✓ The Multistate Trust
  - Owns the property
  - Uses Trust funds to investigate and clean up the Site
  - Ultimately will sell or transfer the property for reuse
- ✓ Trust funds can only be used for environmental actions
- ✓ Beneficiaries of the Trust:
  - United States (EPA as Lead Agency)
  - State of Idaho (IDEQ as non-Lead Agency)







#### 2015-2016 Waste Removal Project

✓ 1,100,000 pounds hazardous waste
 ✓ 350,000 pounds non-hazardous waste
 ✓ 650,000 pounds recycled





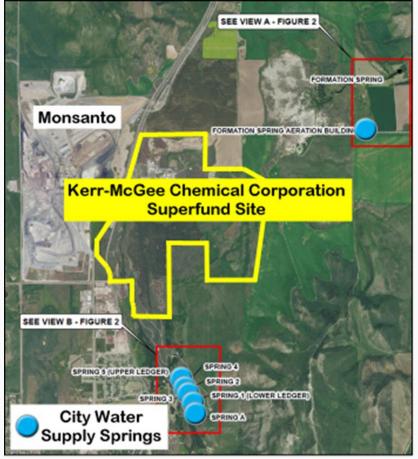
#### 2018 10-Acre Pond Time-Critical Removal Action





#### **Supplemental Remedial Investigation**

- ✓ Domestic Well Study
- ✓ City Water Supply Sampling
- Site Investigations
  - Surface and Subsurface Soil Samples
  - Leachability Samples
  - Background Soil Samples
  - Pore Water Samples
  - Spring Samples
  - Sediment Samples
  - Pond Samples
  - Groundwater Samples
- ✓ Human Health and Ecological Risk Evaluations
- Institutional Controls Evaluation





#### Why is EPA taking further action?

#### FIFTH FIVE-YEAR REVIEW REPORT FOR KERR-MCGEE CHEMICAL CORP. (SODA SPRINGS PLANT) SUPERFUND SITE CARIBOU COUNTY, IDAHO



SEPTEMBER 2022

Prepared by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 Seattle, Washington

- The remedy is short-term protective and currently protects human health and the environment because there is no exposure to contaminated groundwater or soil.
- Two significant groundwater plumes of molybdenum and vanadium originate on the property and migrate off-site
- Prevent exposure to contaminants in groundwater by people
- Restore groundwater to its highest beneficial use as a drinking water source within a timeframe that is reasonable



## **Focused Feasibility Study**

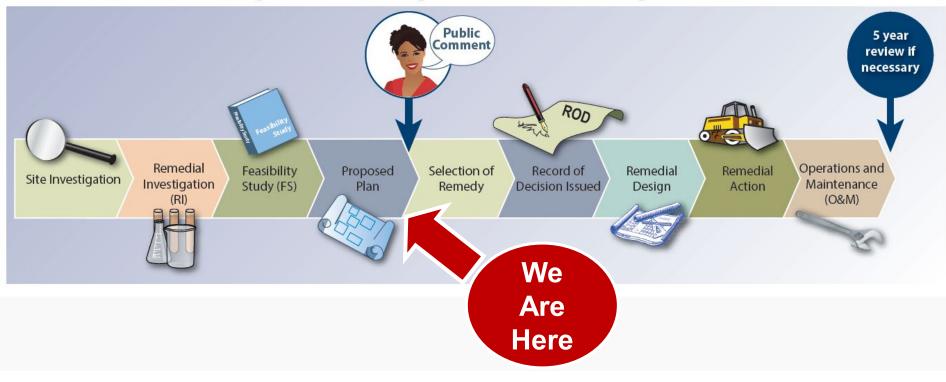
- Evaluation of Anticipated Impacts of 10-Acre Pond Time Critical Removal Action
- Monitored Natural Attenuation
   Evaluation
- Bench and Pilot-Scale Treatability Studies
- Remedial Action Alternatives Analysis
  - No Further Action
  - Monitored Natural Attenuation
  - In-Situ Active Groundwater Treatment



Monitored Natural Recovery (MNR)

Groundwater Capture and Ex-Situ
 Treatment

#### **Steps in the Superfund Cleanup Process**



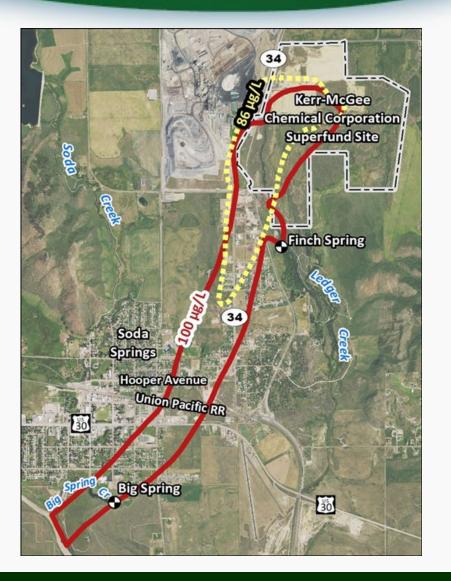




# How Does EPA Develop Cleanup Goals?

- Established standards (ARARs)
- Risk-based concentrations from risk assessment
- Background concentrations





#### How Does EPA Determine What to Do?

- ✓ Contaminants defining cleanup footprint include: Molybdenum and Vanadium
- ✓ Preliminary Remedial Goals (PRGs)
- ✓ Cleanup Levels (CULs)



#### **Summary of Alternatives**

Alternative	Description	Estimated Costs
(1) No Further Action	<ul> <li>Plugging and abandoning groundwater monitoring wells, while continuing to monitor groundwater quality in a small number of wells until cleanup goals are achieved throughout the plume.</li> </ul>	\$4,700,000
(2) Monitored Natural Attenuation	<ul> <li>MNA to address remaining subsurface COC sources and groundwater plumes until cleanup goals are achieved throughout the plume.</li> </ul>	\$10,200,000
(3) In-Situ Active Groundwater Treatment	<ul> <li>Includes all elements of Alternative 2</li> <li>Includes active groundwater extraction, pumping, mixing amendment and reinjection via a series of recovery and injection trenches and /or wells.</li> <li>Pilot testing of the in-situ treatment amendment mixture.</li> </ul>	\$22,000,000
(4) Groundwater Capture and Ex-Situ Treatment	<ul> <li>Includes all elements of Alternative 2</li> <li>Includes groundwater extraction, pumping, and treating in an on-Site water treatment plant via a series of recovery wells.</li> </ul>	\$37,500,000
(5) Hybrid In-situ and contingent Ex-situ groundwater treatment	<ul> <li>Includes all elements of Alternatives 3 and 4</li> <li>Ability to add additional elements as contingencies.</li> </ul>	\$45,200,000



#### **EPA's Nine Evaluation Criteria**

#### The Proposed Cleanup Plan must:

- 1) Protect People's Health and the Environment
- 2) Comply with Federal and State Environmental Laws

#### It must achieve the best balance of:

- 3) Long-term Effectiveness and Permanence
- 4) Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility, and Volume through Treatment
- 5) Short-term Effectiveness
- 6) Implementability
- 7) Cost

#### **Criteria considered after public comment period:**

- 8) State/Tribal Acceptance
- 9) Community Acceptance



#### LEGEND

- Pilot In-Situ Wells Potential Future In-Situ Wells
- Potential Future Ex-Situ Extraction Wells
- Extraction Wells
- Injection Wells
- Type 1 CMT Multilevel Well
- Type 2 CMT Multilevel Well
  - Groundwater Well é,
  - Groundwater Well with Transducer × As-Built Fence +
- Extraction Piping
- ---- Injection Piping
  - ---- Potential Future Extraction Piping Area of Concern (AOC) Boundary
- Direction of Mobilization CMT Multilevel Well Transect
- Ex-Situ Treatment Plant Building Industrial Boundary
- Property Boundary
- Groundwater Plume Core Mobilizing Off-site
- Vanadium Groundwater Plume >86 µg/L RSL Molybdenum Groundwater Plume >100 µg/L RSL
- MNA Downgradient of Active Treatment Area

Figure 8-1 Preferred Alternative Conceptual Hybrid Layout Proposed Plan for the Kerr-McGee Chemical Corporation Soda Springs Plant Superfund Site Soda Springs, Idaho

# **Preferred Alternative**



# **3 Ways to Submit Comments** Deadline: April 14, 2023



Email

Lipowski.zoe@epa.gov





#### **Mail-in Comments**

Zoë Lipowski, RPM U.S. EPA Region 10 1200 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 155 Mail Stop 12-D12-12 Seattle, WA 98101



# **Next Steps**

- Send us your comments.
- EPA will respond to comments.
- EPA writes the final decision document.
- The cleanup is designed.
- The cleanup gets implemented.



# For more information about the Kerr-McGee Site Proposed Plan:

- <u>www.epa.gov/superfund/kerr-mcgee-soda-</u> <u>springs</u>
- <u>https://sodasprings.greenfieldenvironmental.c</u> <u>om/</u>
- Zoë Lipowski, Remedial Project Manager Lipowski.zoe@epa.gov (206) 553-0526

# Thank you!

disciplination (State)