



# Tar Creek Superfund Site INFORMATION BULLETIN ON CHAT SALES

Ottawa County, Oklahoma

June 2008

## This Information Bulletin Will Tell You About:

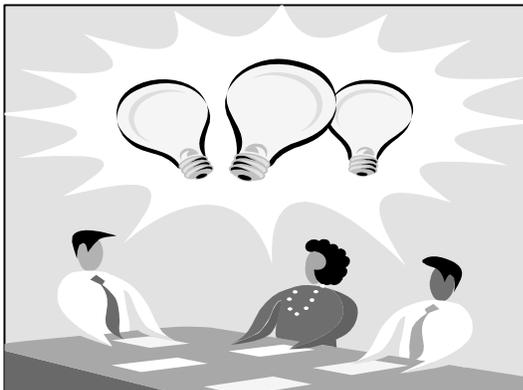
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## Introduction

In February 2008, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Tar Creek Superfund Site, Operable Unit 4 – Chat Piles, other mine and mill wastes and smelter wastes. Chat sales are a major part of the Tar Creek Superfund Site, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) remedy.

## Information Exchange Meetings/Workshops

To ensure that Site chat sales continue and that chat is used in a manner that is protective of human health and the environment and managed according to the criteria provided in the Operable Unit 4 Record of Decision and the Chat Rule, 40 CFR Part 278, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will present a series of workshops to assist chat/land owners and sellers with chat sales.



Before conducting the workshops, EPA plans to host a series of information exchange meetings in order to gain additional insight and information on the best approaches to encourage chat sales and compliance with the Chat Rule. This information will then be utilized to enhance plans for upcoming workshops for parties interested in buying and selling chat. EPA's envisioned plan is to meet initially with the companies that sell chat, follow on with meetings with Tribes, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and our State counterparts, all of whom have a contributing role that will make this effort a success.

## Chat Sales

Continued chat sales will contribute to a more cost effective CERCLA remedy because there will be less chat remaining on-site that must be addressed with more expensive remedial alternatives and less chat will be disposed of on-site. The removal of chat through chat sales will reduce exposure risks. In addition, continued chat sales are important to the Quapaw Tribe, the State, and the community.

While EPA does not own any chat and will not purchase any chat, it will assist chat sales participants as part of EPA's CERCLA remedy.

## Site Background

The Site is a former lead and zinc mining area located in northeastern Oklahoma that covers approximately 40-square-miles. The mining and milling of lead and zinc ores since the late 1800s resulted in the disposal of mining and milling wastes that contain elevated concentrations of lead, cadmium, and zinc.

**EPA is looking for input,  
ideas and suggestions on how to  
enhance chat sales.  
We want to hear from you!**



### **For More Information**

If you would like additional information about this informational bulletin or Superfund mining sites in Oklahoma, please contact EPA Region 6's toll free number 1-800-533-3508.

For information about the final rule entitled, Criteria for the Safe and Environmentally Protective Use of Granular Mine Tailings known as "Chat" please

contact Stephen Hoffman at (703)308-8413 or [hoffman.stephen@epa.gov](mailto:hoffman.stephen@epa.gov).

If you have any questions or would like to obtain more information about the Tar Creek Superfund Site, please contact:

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News media inquiries should be directed to Dave Bary, U.S. EPA Region 6 Press Office, (214) 665-2208.



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