

Hello Gentlemen,

Rules Committee:

What is the process for submitting questions and receiving answers via the Chairs?

Is there a time frame and or day of the week for responses?

**These questions should be sent to Joanne Walker for comment.**

Removal Committee:

1. Is Whitpain Township paying for or contributing to any part of what has already happened, or is currently happening, or will be happening in the next year? Is there any other source of money, other than Superfund?

**This is an EPA Fund Lead Project. Therefore, Whitpain is not paying for the work. However, they are contributing by allowing us to be on-site and by providing us with important information necessary to do our job right (e.g., sewer lines drawings, Rose Valley Creek flooding information upstream of Chestnut Avenue).**

2. Is the exposed dirt going to be hydro-seeded or temporarily grassed like every construction site is required to do?

**If the question refers to soil where asbestos is exposed on the surface either due to erosion or as a result of our activities (e.g. vegetation removal), EPA has been covering exposed areas with imported soil and wood chips (from tree cutting). Having said that, although this is an active construction site, we do not plan to hydro-seed or temporarily grass the areas we have covered with dirt. We are getting ready to start the actual construction and even if we were to hydro-seeded or temporarily grassed those areas the vegetation would probably not take before we start.**

3. Decontamination Facility: Where is the decon site? What size objects are expected to need decontamination? What is going to be done with the waste products generated in the decontamination process?

**The decontamination pad was constructed near the existing tennis court. It will primarily be used to wash off gravel dust from truck tires carrying equipment into or out of the site, as necessary. The water will not be collected as these trucks will be driving on the access roads and there is little to no possibility the tires will pick up asbestos fibers. When heavy equipment (e.g. excavators, cranes) that routinely goes over site surface soils will be taken off-site, the tires and equipment will be washed off and a decision then made about water**

**collection. Personal protective equipment (“PPE”) worn by the site workers may be contaminated with fibers and is bagged at the end of the day for disposal.**

4. Tree Removal: When 70 big trees are removed from along the Wissahickon, will this be done with a crane to prevent falls that could disturb dust? Is a wetting process of the tree trunk and leaves being considered to minimize asbestos fibers becoming airborne? What will be done with the trees after they are felled?

**Most of the large trees will be cut by hand using chainsaws. Prior to final cuts the tree will most likely be secured by a claw attachment on the excavator which lowers the tree to the ground and transports it to a staging area where the trees are prepared to be fed into the chipper. The tree chippings will likely be spread on the site surface. We have and will continue to use dust suppression while cutting trees.**

5. Wind Direction: what are the prevailing wind directions over the site?

**We have a weather station on-site running 24/7. It gives us precipitation, relative humidity, wind direction and wind velocity. All the wind roses are posted in the “documents” section of the website. Most of the times the wind comes from either the SW or the NW, sometimes out of the SE.**

6. Fire Prevention Plan: what plans do they have for putting out a fire on site after work begins (Ambler fire trucks should not come in and become possibly contaminated)

**Based on the site activities, the possibility of a fire is minimal. Nonetheless, we do have various fire extinguishers and a water truck on-site. However, if there is a fire and we cannot control it, we would call 911. We would expect municipal fire trucks to come on-site, if needed, and we would decontaminate them.**

#### Future Development Committee

7. Was the fact that West Ambler is an Environmental Justice community included as one factor in the NPL decision?

**The NPL scoring process simply takes into consideration the kind of contamination at the site, the data collected during the sampling events and the possible receptors. No other factors (e.g., environmental justice, petitions) are considered when evaluating a site for NPL listing.**