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SF FILE NUMBER
KY-8.06

Environmental Protection Agency
Hazardous Waste Management Division
999 18th Street, Suite 500
Denver, Colorado 80202-2405

Date: January 198

FILE PLAN
8.06

EPA REGION VIII FACT SHEET

SUBJECT: Richardson Flat Tailings

LOCATION: Summit County, Utah

SUMMARY: The Richardson Flat Tailings Site contains approximately two million tons of mill tailings, which have been generated by nearby metal mining operations. The site is currently owned and operated by United Park City Mines (UPCM) and was most recently used for tailings disposal during the period of 197 to 1981. The site covers approximately 160 acres and lies within a topographic depression. Analytical data indicate elevated concentrations of arsenic, cadmium, calcium, copper, lead, magnesium, mercury, silver, sodium and zinc in the surface and subsurface tailings. Elevated concentrations of arsenic, copper and lead were found in surface water samples from Silver Creek, which is used to irrigate pastureland and hay production fields within three miles of the site. High-volume air sampling at the site was used to document air releases of arsenic, cadmium, lead and zinc. High winds during the spring and summer months create clouds of airborne tailings material which are visible within the town of Park City (population 4500).

DESCRIPTION: The Preliminary Assessment and Site Investigation (PA/SI) began in June 1985. The site was evaluated using the Hazard Ranking System which resulted in an overall migration route score of 39.13. The Richardson Flat Tailings site was recommended for inclusion on the National Priorities List in June, 1988. A cooperative agreement has been provided to the State of Utah to negotiate the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) with the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs).

STATUS AS OF 12/31/88: An expanded PRP search has been performed and Special Notice Letters (122e) will be sent in FY'89/2.

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