Columbia Falls Aluminum Company Superfund Site, Montana

With the support of the local community and the Montana Governor, EPA proposed adding the Columbia Falls Aluminum Site to the National Priorities List on March 26, 2015. EPA received 77 public comments in response and believes the site still qualifies for listing. On November 30, 2015, EPA entered into an administrative order on consent with the current owner of the site, Columbia Falls Aluminum Company (CFAC), whereby the company has agreed to perform the remedial investigation/feasibility study for the site subject to EPA oversight and has provided financial assurance in the form of a $4M letter of credit. Some community members are now questioning the need to finalize the site on the NPL and are advocating that EPA address the site using the Superfund Alternative Approach. CFAC and its parent corporation, Glencore PLC, a multinational Anglo-Swiss commodities trading and mining company headquartered in Switzerland, are also requesting that EPA take this approach.

EPA is evaluating whether the Superfund Alternative Approach is a viable alternative given the financial condition of CFAC and Glencore. EPA will not finalize the listing before the fall of 2016 to explore this option and engage in additional community outreach.