



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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ADEQ Announces Trafalgar Site Preliminary Response Action Plan

NORTH LITTLE ROCK—The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has released its preliminary response action plan to address the underground fire on Trafalgar Road in Bella Vista, Arkansas. ADEQ evaluated multiple proposals submitted by fire response experts. Proposals were assessed based on viability, timeline to complete, cost, and further impact to residents. ADEQ's preferred course of action is the most environmentally sound method for solving this complex situation for the Bella Vista community that is uniquely affected by this ongoing environmental issue.

The preliminary plan will utilize air curtain technology with excavation, separating of hazardous substances, and wood waste management. The site must be excavated to ensure that the underground fire is extinguished and will not reignite. An estimated 175,000–225,000 cubic yards of waste will be excavated. The bulk of the waste is considered to be wood waste. To avoid an estimated expense of 11.3–15 million dollars to haul the wood waste to a permitted landfill, air curtain technology will consume a substantial amount of wood waste. Residual materials (soil and ash) will remain on-site, and other excavated wastes (metal, tires, construction material, and hazardous substances) will be transported to a permitted facility for proper disposal. After complete excavation, the site will be regraded and restored with native trees, grass, and other vegetative material in order to promote natural regrowth of the area. Once a complete scope of work is completed and accepted by ADEQ from the selected contractor, the scope of work will be made available to the public on ADEQ's Bella Vista Community Information page.

ADEQ is providing the Bella Vista community with an opportunity to submit comments on the preliminary response action plan. A copy of the plan can be found on ADEQ's Bella Vista Community Information page: <https://www.adeq.state.ar.us/bella-vista/>. ADEQ will accept comments until the close of business on April 5, 2019. To submit a comment, please visit: <http://info.adeq.commentinput.com/?id=a1r2k3>.

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