



**NOTICE OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE TOWN OF CLARKDALE
Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 6:00 P.M.
Clark Memorial Clubhouse, Auditorium**

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. §38-431.02, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the members of the Common Council of the Town of Clarkdale and to the general public that the Town of Clarkdale Common Council will hold a Special Meeting open to the public on **Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.** in the **Clark Memorial Clubhouse, Auditorium, 19 N. Ninth Street, Clarkdale, Arizona.** Members of the Clarkdale Common Council will attend either in person or by telephone, video or internet conferencing. Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03, the Council may vote to recess the meeting and move into Executive Session on any item, which will be held immediately after the vote and will not be open to the public. Upon completion of Executive Session, the Council may resume the meeting, open to the public, to address the remaining items on the agenda.

Supporting documentation and staff reports furnished to the Council with this agenda are available for review on the Town website at www.clarkdale.az.gov and the Town Clerk's Office.

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of this notice was duly posted on the Community Development Building bulletin board, located at 890 Main Street, Clarkdale, Arizona on May 14, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.

Kathy Bainbridge
KATHY BAINBRIDGE
CLERK/FINANCE DIRECTOR

As a reminder, if you are carrying a cell phone, electronic pager, computer, two-way radio, or other sound device, we ask that you turn it off at this time to minimize disruption to this meeting.

ALL ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA ARE SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT** – The Town Council invites the public to provide comments at this time. Members of the Council may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.01(G), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date. Persons interested in making a comment on a specific agenda item are asked to complete a brief form and submit it to the Town Clerk during the meeting. Each speaker is asked to limit their comments to five minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

- 3. UNITED VERDE SOIL PROGRAM BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW** – A presentation from Clarkdale Town Staff relating to the Town of Clarkdale's planning and response related to the United Verde Soil Program. (15 minutes*)
- 4. PRESENTATION BY ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

(ADEQ) – A presentation on ADEQ’s Voluntary Remediation Program for investigation and clean-up of contaminated sites and ADEQ’s role with regard to the United Verde Soil Program, and questions from Clarkdale Town Council. (30 minutes)

- 5. PRESENTATION BY FREEPORT MINERALS CORPORATION (FMC)** – A presentation on FMC’s United Verde Soil Program, which is a soil testing and remediation program associated with historical air emissions from the United Verde Smelter that may have resulted in deposits of metal-bearing particles (arsenic, copper and lead) on nearby soil; includes time for questions from the Clarkdale Town Council. (60 minutes)
- 6. PRESENTATION BY ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES (ADHS)** – A presentation by staff from ADHS relating to the health risks associated with arsenic, copper and lead and providing information on known disease rates in the State’s Primary Care Area for Clarkdale; includes time for questions from the Clarkdale Town Council. (30 minutes)
- 7. COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC** – The Town Council invites the public to provide comments and/or questions relating to agenda items 3 through 6 at this time. (60 minutes)
- 8. CLOSING COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL** - The Town Council will provide closing comments and/or questions relating to agenda items 3 through 7 at this time. (15 minutes)
- 9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** - Listing of items to be placed on a future council agenda
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**

*All times listed for individual agenda items are approximate and may be shortened or extended during the course of the meeting.

Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodations by contacting the Town Hall at 639-2400 (TTY: 1-800-367-8939) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.



Staff Report

Agenda Item: **UNITED VERDE SOIL PROGRAM BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW –**
A presentation from Clarkdale Town Staff relating to the Town of Clarkdale's planning and response related to the United Verde Soil Program (UVSP).

Staff Contact: Gayle Mabery, Town Manager

Meeting Date: May 19, 2015

Background: The Town of Clarkdale was informed during an April 14, 2015 meeting between Mayor Von Gausig, Town Manager Mabery and representatives from Freeport Minerals Corporation (Freeport) that Freeport had submitted an application with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's (ADEQ) Voluntary Remediation Program to undertake the UVSP.

According to a Fact Sheet developed by Freeport and provided to the Town after the April 14th meeting, the United Verde Copper Company operated a copper smelter northwest of Clarkdale from 1915 to 1932. The smelter was reopened in 1935 when Phelps Dodge purchased United Verde and continued to operate until 1953. Freeport is the successor to Phelps Dodge Corporation.

According to the Fact Sheet, because the United Verde smelter operated in an era before emissions control equipment was commonly used, historical air emissions from the smelter may have deposited metal-bearing particles (including arsenic, copper and lead) on nearby soil. Freeport plans to move forward with a soil testing program to investigate potential smelter-related impacts to soil in the area of Clarkdale near the former smelter. This area generally includes the properties located in the residential portion of the historic Clarkdale townsite and the Yavapai-Apache Nation reservation. If test results determine that metal concentrations in soil exceed the target cleanup levels for the program, then Freeport will offer soil replacement and landscaping restoration at no cost to the property owner.

Given the potential for the UVSP to impact our community in a variety of ways, the Town of Clarkdale has undertaken extensive investigation and resource identification activities since learning of the issue in mid-April. In addition to an internal team working on the project on the Town's behalf, we recognized early on that we would need some specialized advice on this project. During their April 28th Council meeting, the Town Council directed the staff to initiate an amendment to the Town of Clarkdale's contract with Squire Patton Boggs (SPB) to include legal advice and consulting on issues relating to the UVSP. As a result, Christopher Thomas from SPB is providing legal advice on this issue, and environmental consulting services are being provided through SPB by Gary Boettcher and Associates, LLC.

After requesting the public records associated with the UVSP from the ADEQ, the Town received copies of the two documents on file at the State, including:



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- Freeport's Voluntary Remediation Program Application for the UVSP, dated July 24, 2014
- A Human Health Risk Assessment to Support Site-Specific Soil Remediation Levels for Arsenic, Copper and Lead at the United Verde Soil Program (Prepared for Freeport by Damian Applied Toxicology, LLC), dated January 22, 2015

Clarkdale's environmental consultants and legal team will provide initial review of the above mentioned documents, and on-going consultation for other technical and legal issues relating to this project.

Clarkdale's internal team has interviewed representatives from several communities where similar programs have been undertaken, both within and outside Arizona, including Bisbee (AZ), Douglas (AZ) and Blackwell (OK) to better understand the lessons learned by those communities, and the impacts that could be anticipated by residents. Clarkdale representatives also attended the State's Brownfields Conference in Phoenix in late April, which provided additional state and federal resources to research with regard to future project funding that might be applicable depending on the soil testing results in the UVSP.

In order to provide information to our community in a timely manner, Clarkdale asked FMC to attend the May 19th Council meeting to provide information about the UVSP. In addition, Clarkdale asked the ADEQ and the ADHS to attend the same meeting to provide pertinent information. To make sure the public had access to information about the issue, Clarkdale posted its first information relating to the UVSP on the Town's website on May 1st and issued a Press Release on that same day.

Additionally, staff is interested in exploring the formation of the Citizen's Committee to help serve as a conduit of information for the public in regards to the UVSP. We plan to bring recommendations back to the Town Council in the next 30-60 days relating to the formation of a committee for this purpose.

In advance of the May 19th meeting, Clarkdale officials have met with representatives of numerous other Clarkdale and Verde Valley communities, agencies and organizations in order to discuss the UVSP. A copy of Freeport's Fact Sheet about the project has been posted on the Town of Clarkdale's webpage, as has the initial application that Freeport filed with ADEQ to participate in the Voluntary Remediation Program. Announcements for dates and times of future public meetings on this topic will also be made available on the website:
<http://www.clarkdale.az.gov>

Having held several meetings with various representatives from FMC in the past month, Clarkdale's team has drafted a list of questions that we feel need to be addressed during the May



Staff Report

19th Public Meeting. FMC has already addressed a number of these issues with various Clarkdale representatives, but we felt it important that they be addressed in a public meeting as well. These questions are not meant to be all-encompassing, but we believe they will be of interest to the Town Council and to our citizens:

What was the trigger to initiate this project?

What substances are you testing for, and what are the allowable levels for those substances?

Have you done soil testing in Clarkdale yet, and, if so, what were the results?

What are the health risks to humans associated with the metals you are testing for?

Are there concerns about ingesting food grown in soil if these metals are present?

How did you establish the initial testing area, and what will trigger expansion of that area?

Will you provide soils testing for properties outside the Initial Project Area if requested by a property owner?

How do you plan to reach out to property owners in the Initial Project Area?

What if someone does not want their property tested or remediated?

What are your plans for testing and remediation at the Clarkdale-Jerome School and in our public parks?

Please describe how the soil testing would be handled for a typical residential property.

Please describe how the remediation of a typical residential property would be handled were the soils tests to show the need for remediation.

Will you relocate homeowners during the remediation of their property?

How do you handle mature trees and vegetation?

Are there opportunities to replace high water use landscaping with lower water use landscaping?

Will you warranty the landscaping that you provide?

Will the standards applied for the Soils Program be consistent for both the Yavapai-Apache Nation and the Town of Clarkdale?

What is ADEQ's program authority on the Yavapai-Apache reservation in Clarkdale?

How will you handle testing and remediation for undeveloped properties that are currently zoned for residential or commercial use?



Staff Report

What are your plans for disposal of the remediated materials, and what is the source for new materials that would be brought into our community?

What are your plans for dust control during the soil remediation?

How long should we anticipate the testing and remediation phases to last?

In addition to soils, could the river or the groundwater be impacted?

Can we expect local job creation as a result of this project?

How will Clarkdale businesses be utilized during the project?

What types of local businesses will see the greatest economic impact (positive or negative)?

How can citizens stay updated on the latest information pertaining to this project?

What are your next steps and when will you hold an Open House to provide additional information to the community?

We know that the community understanding of the impacts that historic smelter operations may have had on our town will continue to evolve as more information is developed through the soil testing process. Although Freeport did not operate the historic smelter, they are the successor to Phelps Dodge, and as such have the responsibility for the impacts caused by the smelter. We believe that responsibility encompasses the need to remediate the impacts from the smelter and assist the community with recovery. Ultimately, we hope those efforts will allow Freeport to leave a positive legacy in Clarkdale.

Recommendations: Tonight's agenda items are scheduled as presentations only. No Council action is required at this time.



Staff Report

**Initial Project Area
As Referenced in Freeport's Voluntary Remediation Program Application
Dated July 24, 2014**





ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY VOLUNTARY REMEDIATION PROGRAM APPLICATION

PART I VOLUNTARY REMEDIATION PROGRAM (VRP) INFORMATION AND APPLICATION OVERVIEW

VRP Overview

The State of Arizona enacted Senate Bill 1454, which created a new Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP), to be implemented by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). The new VRP statutes went into effect on July 18, 2000. In accordance with the new statutes, ADEQ submitted a Notice of Exempt Rulemaking with the Secretary of State on January 19, 2000. This action finalized the adoption of the VRP interim fee rules. These interim fee rules went into effect on February 9, 2001 and can be found in the Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C), Title 18, Chapter 7, Article 5.

Fees

The interim fee rules:

- establish a \$2,000 non-refundable application fee (note that upon acceptance into the VRP, the fee will be credited against total reimbursable costs);
- establish an hourly VRP oversight rate of \$110 per hour;
- provide for an initial deposit of \$4,000 to be submitted with the applicant's work plan or request for No Further Action (NFA) or Conditional NFA;
- request additional deposits of \$4,000, if an account drops below \$1,000;
- provide small businesses with the opportunity to pay the application fee in installments under an agreement with the department;
- provide for quarterly billing statements.

The above is represented as a summary of the main elements of the interim fee rule. Contact the Secretary of State at (602) 542-4086, or the VRP at (602) 771-4398, or toll free in Arizona at 800-234-5677 Ext. 4398 to obtain complete copies of the rule. Additional information can also be found on the ADEQ website, www.adeq.state.az.us.

Application Overview

The application is subdivided into five parts: **PART I**, VRP Information and Application Overview; **PART II**, VRP Eligibility; **PART III**, Applicant, Site and Remedial Action Information; **PART IV**, Voluntary Remediation Agreement; and, **PART V**, Correctness of Information and Terms and Conditions Agreement Statement.

Application Fee and Process

After completing PARTS II - V of the application, the applicant shall include with the application a **non-refundable application fee of \$2,000**, pursuant to A.R.S. § 49-179 (A) and A.A.C. R18-7-502(A). The fee should be in the form of a company check, cashier's check, certified check, or money order **made payable to ADEQ**. Small businesses as defined in A.R.S. § 41-1001(19), may have their application approved upon receipt of a partial payment of the application fee, in an amount approved by ADEQ and an agreement to pay the remainder of the fee in scheduled installments.

Please return the completed application and the \$2,000 non-refundable fee to the:

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Voluntary Remediation Program, Fourth Floor
1110 W. Washington Street, MC 4415B-2
Phoenix, AZ 85007

After receipt of the application, the VRP will promptly review the application and approve, deny, or request modifications in order to determine the applicant's eligibility to participate in the VRP. An application shall be deemed complete unless the department, within sixty days of receipt, notifies the applicant that the application is incomplete or has been denied.

PART II: VRP ELIGIBILITY

Section I: Verification of VRP Eligibility

A. VRP Eligibility

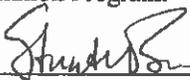
Please verify that your remedial activities are eligible for the VRP by answering "yes" or "no" to the below listed eligibility requirements specified in A.R.S. § 49-172(B). **If you circle "yes" to any of the remedial activities listed in the box below, contact the VRP for assistance at (602) 771-4398 or toll free in Arizona at (800) 234-5677 ext. 4398.**

<p>Are remedial actions required by the terms of any of the following :</p> <p>1) a written agreement between the applicant and the Director entered into before the date of the application;</p> <p>2) a judicial judgment or decree;</p> <p>3) an administrative order issued before the date of the application;</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> No</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p>Are remedial actions:</p> <p>sought to be required in the complaint in a judicial action filed and served by the state before the date of the application;</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p>Are remedial activities subject to:</p> <p>1) corrective action at or closure of a facility, that has qualified for interim status or to which a permit has been issued pursuant to A.R.S. § 49-922;</p> <p>2) listing on the WQARF Registry [see A.R.S § 49-287.01(D)] or location in a WQARF boundary area with the same contaminant(s) of concern. Specifically remedial actions at a site or portion of a site listed on the registry maintained pursuant to § 49-287.01, subsection D that address a contaminant of concern at that site, except that the department may accept an application under this article for remediation of a site or a portion of a site for which a preliminary investigation has been commenced or completed pursuant to § 49-287.01 but that has not been listed on the registry maintained pursuant to § 49-287.01, subsection D;</p> <p>3) a corrective action pursuant to A.R.S. § 49-1005, unless the person waives any right to reimbursement from the State Assurance Fund. Answer "no" to this question if the applicant and property owner agree not to seek reimbursement from the State Assurance Fund for LUST corrective actions, or no USTs are found on site. In all cases, if the applicant answers "no" to this question, the "Waiver of State Assurance Fund Reimbursement" must be completed.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> No</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>

If you have answered "no" to all of the above items, your site may be eligible for participation in the VRP. If you have any questions regarding eligibility requirements or application elements, please contact the VRP prior to submittal. **(Please note that the application fee is non-refundable)**

B. Waiver of State Assurance Fund Reimbursement (signatures are mandatory for VRP acceptance)

The applicant and property owner (if different from the applicant) shall not seek or request reimbursement from the ADEQ/State Assurance Fund for LUST corrective actions performed or approved under the Voluntary Remediation Program.

By:  Name: Stuart Brown Date: 7/24/14
(Applicant's Signature) *(Print or type)*

The property owner must sign, if different from the applicant.

By: N/A Name: _____ Date: _____
(Owner's Signature) *(Print or type)*

PART III: APPLICANT RELATED, SITE AND REMEDIAL ACTION INFORMATION

Section I: Applicant Related Information

A. Applicant

Name Stuart Brown
Company Freeport Minerals Corporation
Address 333 N. Central Ave.
City Phoenix State AZ Zip Code 85004
Phone (602) 366-8303 Fax () E-mail stuart_brown@fmi.com
Nature of the Relationship to the Site Project Manager

Type of Business: (Please circle ALL that apply to your business)

N - Native American Owned Entity O - Operator on Native American Property F - Federal Government
S - State Government C - County Government P - Partnership R - Corporation M - Municipality
Other _____

B. Applicant's Authorized Agent (if any)

Name _____ Relationship to Applicant _____
Company _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Zip Code _____ Phone () _____ Fax () _____ E-mail _____
Describe Agent's Authority _____

C. Property Owner

Name _____ Title _____
Company _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Zip Code _____ Phone () _____ Fax () _____ E-mail _____

D. Billing Information

Name Same as "Applicant"
Company _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____
Zip Code _____ Phone () _____ Fax () _____ E-mail _____

Section II: Site Information

A. Description of the Location and Boundaries of the Site or Portion of the Site, that is Subject to the Remediation

Site Name Stuart Brown
Address See attached map
City Clarkdale County Yavapai Zip Code 86324
Approximate Center of the Property:
Latitude _____° _____' _____" Longitude _____° _____' _____" ...
Site Size (acres or sq. feet) See attached map Parcel Number See attached map
Township _____ Range _____
Section _____ of the _____ 1/4 of the _____ 1/4 of the _____ 1/4
Legal description of the Property (attach a map showing the site): See attached map

B. Investigation Information

To the best of your knowledge, is the property (or any activity conducted on the property) **currently** the subject of an administrative, civil, or criminal investigation related to protection of the environment? Yes/No (circle one)
If yes, please describe: _____

To the best of your knowledge, has the property (or any activity conducted on the property) **ever been** the subject of an administrative, civil or criminal investigation related to protection of the environment? Yes/No (circle one)
If yes, please describe (including the approximate date of the investigation and any known outcome of the investigation): _____

Section III: Site Characterization

A. Description

Provide a general description of the results of the site characterization activities performed at the site or portion of the site (attach additional sheets if necessary): Freeport will provide ADEQ with a Sampling and Analysis Plan that will provide details of the proposed soil sampling to be performed in the area described in the attached map.

Section IV: Remedial Actions

A. Remediation

Indicate if the remediation is: Proposed In progress Completed

Provide a general description of the work to be performed or already performed. (attach additional sheets if necessary): Following the results of soil sampling, Freeport will provide ADEQ with a Remediation Action Work Plan for any soil remediation that is necessary based on the results of the soil sampling.

B. Please Check ALL Your Remedial Objectives While Participating in the VRP:

SOIL

- Residential Soil Remediation Levels
- Non-residential Soil Remediation Levels
- Property specific risk-based residential levels
- Property specific risk-based non-residential levels
- Background levels
- Intended cleanup level not known at this time

WATER

- Aquifer water quality standards
- Surface water quality standards
- Intended cleanup level not known at this time

List contaminants _____

List contaminants Arsenic, lead, and copper.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Please Describe A risk assessment has been performed for site-specific soil remediation levels for the Site. A copy of the risk assessment is enclosed for ADEQ review and approval.

Section II: Voluntary Remediation Agreement - Costs/Fees, Tasks, & Meetings

A. Reimbursement of ADEQ Costs

The applicant agrees to reimburse ADEQ for all reasonable and necessary costs of actions taken by ADEQ, pursuant to A.R.S §§ 49-173 through 49-182, and 49-185. Reimbursable costs include time spent by the ADEQ employees and the costs of goods and services contracted by ADEQ to carry out the activities described in the VRP authorities listed above (A.A.C. R18-7-504). The interim hourly reimbursement rate for ADEQ staff is \$110 per hour (A.A.C. R18-7-505). The applicant is responsible for costs associated with the services of any contractor retained by ADEQ. The applicant agrees to pay all costs incurred in collecting any amounts due under this agreement, including ADEQ's attorneys' fees, and other goods and services. If an application is withdrawn or terminated from the VRP, the applicant shall reimburse ADEQ for all costs incurred prior to the withdrawal or termination (A.A.C. R18-7-507).

B. Advance Deposits

The applicant agrees to provide an initial deposit of \$4,000 to ADEQ [A.A.C. 18-7-503(A)], to be submitted with the applicant's work plan or request for NFA or Conditional NFA, and before the applicant's work plan (A.R.S § 49-175) or NFA/CNFA report (A.R.S § 49-181) will be reviewed by the VRP. The deposit must be in the form of a company check, cashier's check, certified check, or money order made payable to ADEQ. A site-specific deposit account will be established for the site and ADEQ will charge all incurred reimbursable costs attributable to the applicant's site against the account. If the applicant's account falls below \$1,000, additional deposits of \$4,000 will be requested of the applicant. All deposits are due within 30-days of the request date. If any requested deposit is not received within 60-days of request, the applicant's site may be terminated from participation in the VRP. For more information see A.A.C. R18-7-503.

C. Work Plan Schedule

The applicant agrees to carry out the tasks described in the work plan pursuant to A.R.S § 49-175 in accordance with the schedule provided in the work plan, or to submit a report pursuant to A.R.S § 49-181.

D. Meeting and Conferring with ADEQ

The applicant agrees to meet and confer with the department regarding the progress of the tasks performed in accordance with the work plan, approved pursuant to A.R.S § 49-177, if applicable.

E. Notice of Referral

Please note that upon closure, withdrawal, or termination from the VRP, any environmental issues not resolved will be referred to the appropriate ADEQ program for further investigation and/or action

PART V: CORRECTNESS OF INFORMATION AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS AGREEMENT STATEMENT

I certify under penalty of law that this application and all attachments are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, and complete. I also agree to the terms and conditions as specified in PART IV, Section I and II - Voluntary Remediation Agreement. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of a fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Applicant's Signature

By: 
(Applicant's Signature)

Name: Stuart Brown
(Print or type)

Date: 7/24/14

Reviewed and Approved: Attorney Clark Work Product, Prepared at the Direction of Counsel

Clarkdale Overview

 Clarkdale
Draft Study Area

Parcels

 Parcels within Study Area
(546 Parcels)

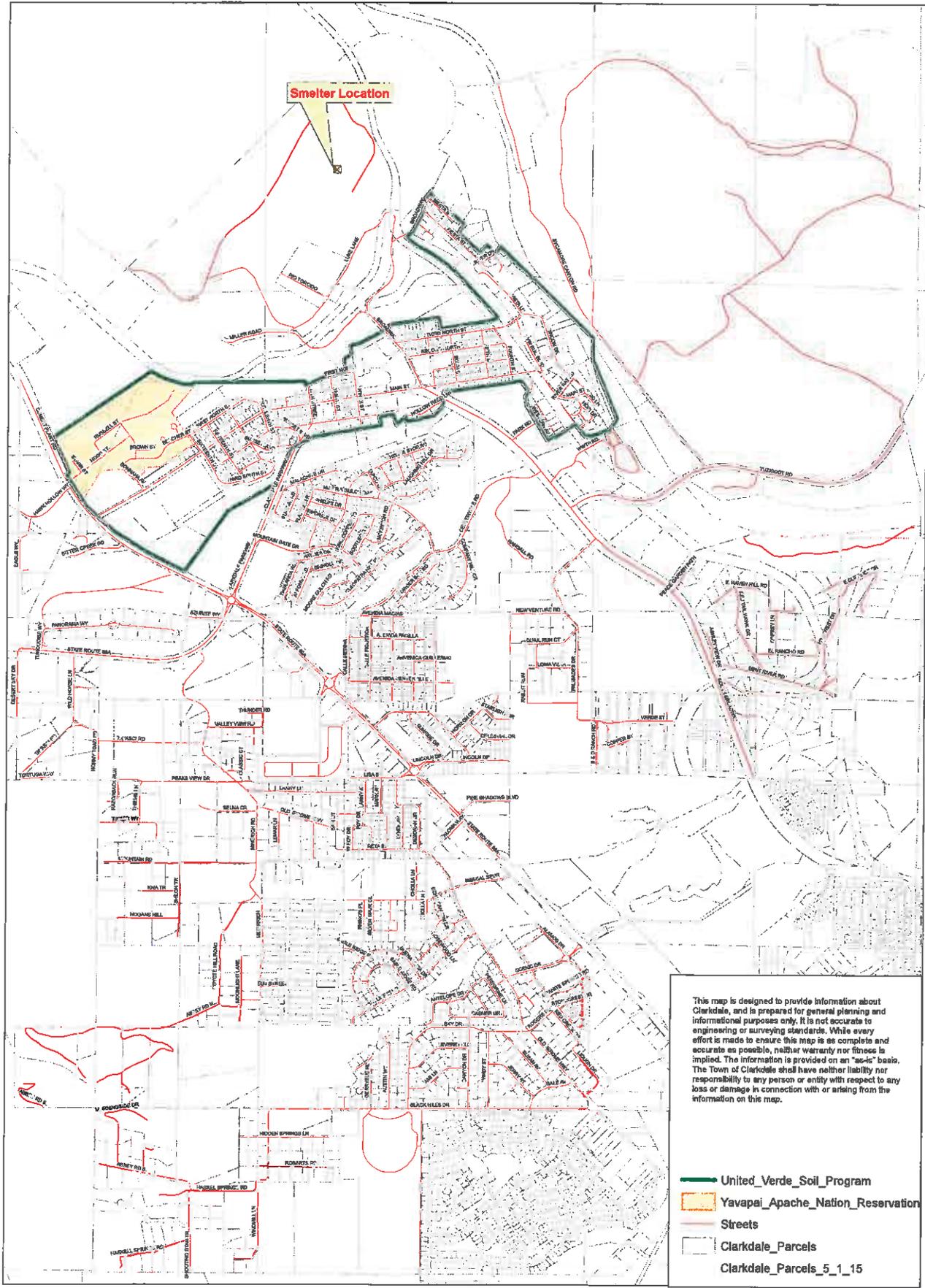
 0 50 100 Feet
1 inch = 50 feet





The Town of Clarkdale
 Utilities Department
 P.O. Box 308/890 Main Street
 Clarkdale, AZ 86324
 (928) 639-2520

Draft Study Area for the United Verde Soil Program as Referenced in the 7/24/14 Voluntary Remediation Program Application



This map is designed to provide information about Clarkdale, and is prepared for general planning and informational purposes only. It is not accurate to engineering or surveying standards. While every effort is made to ensure this map is as complete and accurate as possible, neither warranty nor fitness is implied. The information is provided on an "as-is" basis. The Town of Clarkdale shall have neither liability nor responsibility to any person or entity with respect to any loss or damage in connection with or arising from the information on this map.

- United_Verde_Soil_Program
- Yavapai_Apache_Nation_Reservation
- Streets
- Clarkdale_Parcels
- Clarkdale_Parcels_5_1_15



May 11, 2015

G.E.

Fact Sheet: United Verde Soil Program

The United Verde Copper Company operated a copper smelter northwest of Clarkdale from 1915 to 1932. The smelter was reopened in 1935 when Phelps Dodge Corporation purchased United Verde and continued to operate until 1953. Freeport Minerals Corporation (Freeport) is the successor to Phelps Dodge Corporation.

Because the Clarkdale smelter operated in an era before emissions control equipment was commonly used, historical air emissions from the smelter may have deposited metal-bearing particles on nearby soil. Freeport decided to conduct a soil testing program to investigate potential smelter-related impacts to soil in the area of Clarkdale near the former smelter. If test results determine that metals concentrations in soil exceed the target cleanup levels, then Freeport will offer soil replacement and landscaping restoration. This soil testing and cleanup program is named the United Verde Soil Program.

The United Verde Soil Program ("Program") is being undertaken voluntarily and will be overseen by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) through ADEQ's Voluntary Remediation Program. As part of its role, ADEQ will review and approve all work plans to sample and clean up properties under the Program.

Under the Program, owners of eligible properties within an ADEQ-approved initial study area will be contacted and have the opportunity to have soil on their properties sampled and tested for smelter-related metals that are associated with the United Verde/Jerome ore body (lead, arsenic and copper). Common property types include developed residential, non-residential (e.g., commercial) and public (e.g., schools, parks) properties. If concentrations of one or more of these metals exceed soil target cleanup levels approved by ADEQ for the Program, Freeport will remove and replace the impacted soil and restore the landscaping in the reclaimed area to similar condition. All of this work will be conducted at no cost to the property owner and all participation is strictly voluntary.

Freeport will establish a community outreach office in the Town of Clarkdale to provide access to information about the Program. In addition, Freeport will send letters to property owners within the initial study area informing them of the opportunity for soil testing and to request that their properties be entered into the Program for initial soil sampling and testing. Once the sampling results from the properties entered into the Program are validated, Freeport will review the sampling results with ADEQ to evaluate the adequacy of the initial study area. Freeport will also schedule additional opportunities or events for property owners to ask questions and receive information on the Program specifics. Once Freeport obtains sufficient property owner interest in the Program, soil sampling and testing would begin - possibly as soon as the summer of 2015.

Until an office is established locally, please contact Alicia Voss at Freeport Minerals Corporation for general information on the Program, at 602-366-8049.