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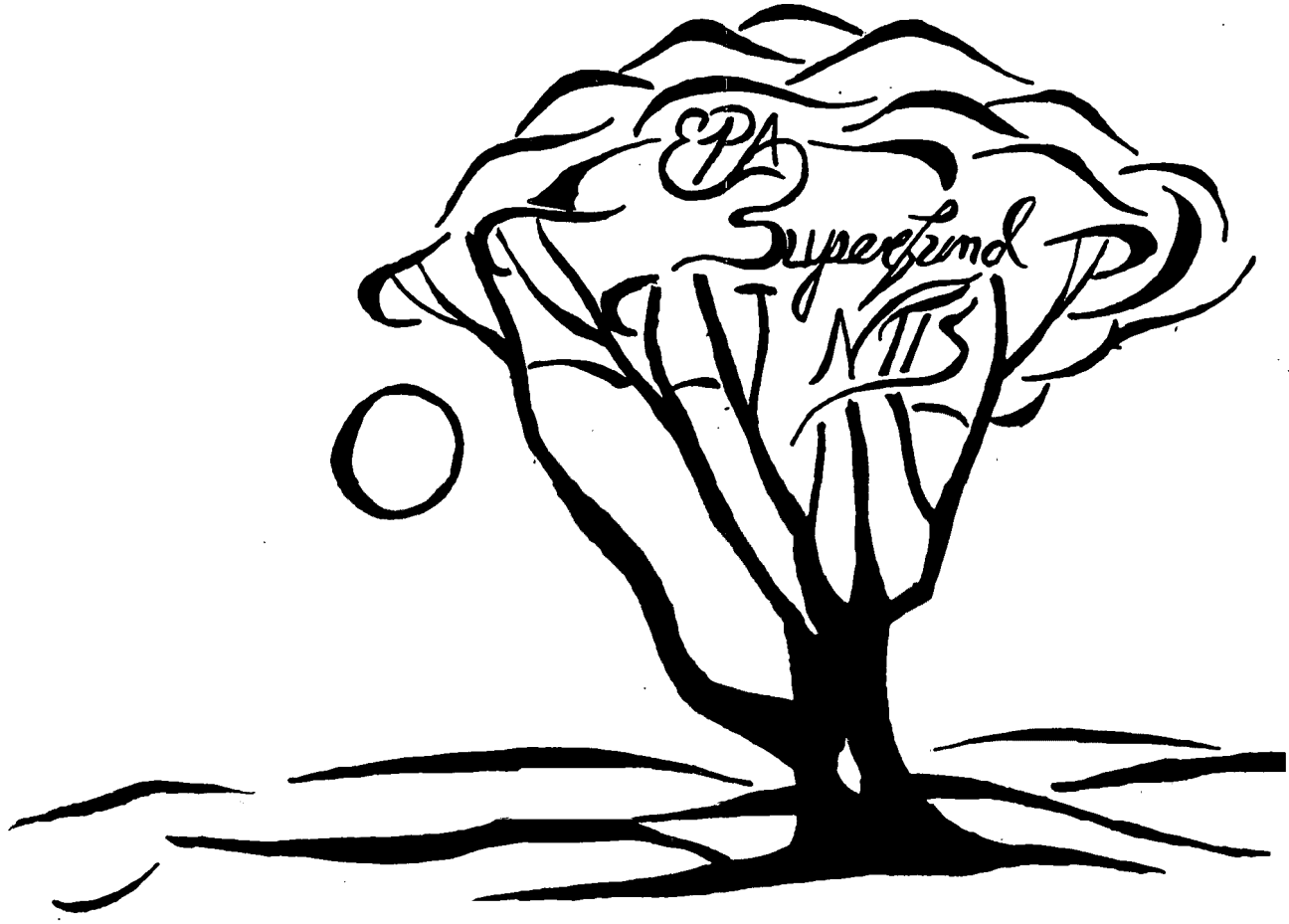
July 1994

EPA Superfund Record of Decision:

Aladdin Plating Site, PA



Declaration for the Record of Decision

Site Name and Location

Aladdin Plating Site
Ground Water Remedial Action--Operable Unit 2 (OU2)
Scott and South Abington Townships
Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania

Statement of Basis and Purpose

This decision document presents the selected remedial action for ground water contamination at the Aladdin Plating Site, in Scott and South Abington Townships, Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania. This remedial action was chosen in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA) and, to the extent practicable, the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). This decision document explains the factual and legal basis for selecting the remedy for Operable Unit 2. This decision is based on the administrative record for this Site.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources does not concur with the selected remedy.

Assessment of the Site

Actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances from this Site, if not addressed by implementing the response action selected in this Record of Decision (ROD), may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health, welfare, or the environment.

Description of the Selected Remedy

Chromium contamination at the Aladdin Plating Site resulted from alleged discharges of liquid electroplating wastes to two unlined surface impoundments and directly into the ground after the impoundments were filled in. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) divided the remedial response to contamination at this Site into two discrete actions, or operable units. The first operable unit, completed in 1992, included excavation and disposal of chromium-contaminated soil, which was the principal threat at the Site. (Prior to that Operable Unit, EPA completed a removal response action in 1987 to remove and dispose of the building, which housed electroplating equipment, and the source of the contamination--electroplating wastes.) This ROD describes the selection of the remedy for Operable Unit 2.

Chromium contamination in the shallow water-bearing zone, which was not treated in prior response actions, is the only problem remaining at the Site. This contamination exists primarily in the immediate area of the former electroplating building and impoundments. Although there is currently no threat to human health or the environment from this contamination in its undisturbed condition, there is a possibility that significant physical disturbances of the shallow water-bearing zone could create new exposure pathways or cause the contamination to migrate to the aquifer used for drinking water in the area. The remedial objective of Operable Unit 2 is to prohibit disturbances of the shallow water-bearing zone that might cause a threat to human health or the environment.

The major components of the selected remedy include the following:

- Institutional controls to prohibit excavation or well-drilling into or through the shallow water-bearing zone beneath the entire 6-acre parcel on which the electroplating building and impoundments were formerly located.

- Collection and analysis of samples from monitoring and residential wells for thirty years to ensure that contamination is not migrating to locations where it might present a threat to human health or the environment.

Statutory Determinations

The selected remedy is protective of human health and the environment. It complies with Federal and State requirements that are legally applicable or relevant and appropriate to the remedial action, except for the Pennsylvania hazardous waste management regulation requiring cleanup of contaminated ground water to background levels. Although this Pennsylvania requirement is considered "relevant and appropriate," EPA is waiving this requirement in accordance with section 300.430(f)(1)(ii)(C) of the NCP, 40 C.F.R. § 300.430(f)(1)(ii)(C). This waiver is based on EPA's determination that treatment of ground water in the shallow water-bearing zone is technically impracticable for reasons explained below. Consequently, this remedy does not satisfy the statutory preference for treatment as a principal element of the remedy.

EPA evaluated information on the treatment technologies for this Operable Unit, and has found that these technologies have not been shown to be effective under the conditions present at this Site. EPA believes there are significant technical limitations and uncertainties regarding the effectiveness and/or permanence of these technologies. Because of these limitations

and uncertainties, EPA has determined that treatment alternatives to attain background levels of chromium in the shallow water-bearing zone are technically impracticable.

Because this remedy will result in hazardous substances remaining on-site above health-based levels, EPA will review the Site within five years after commencement of remedial action to ensure that the remedy continues to provide adequate protection of human health and the environment.

12/30/93

for Stanley L. Laskowski
Acting Regional Administrator

Date

Declaration for the Record of Decision

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Aladdin Plating Site
Ground Water Remedial Action--Operable Unit 2 (OU2)
Scott and South Abington Townships
Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania

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The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources does not concur with the selected remedy.

Assessment of the Site

Actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances from this Site, if not addressed by implementing the response action selected in this Record of Decision (ROD), may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to public health, welfare, or the environment.

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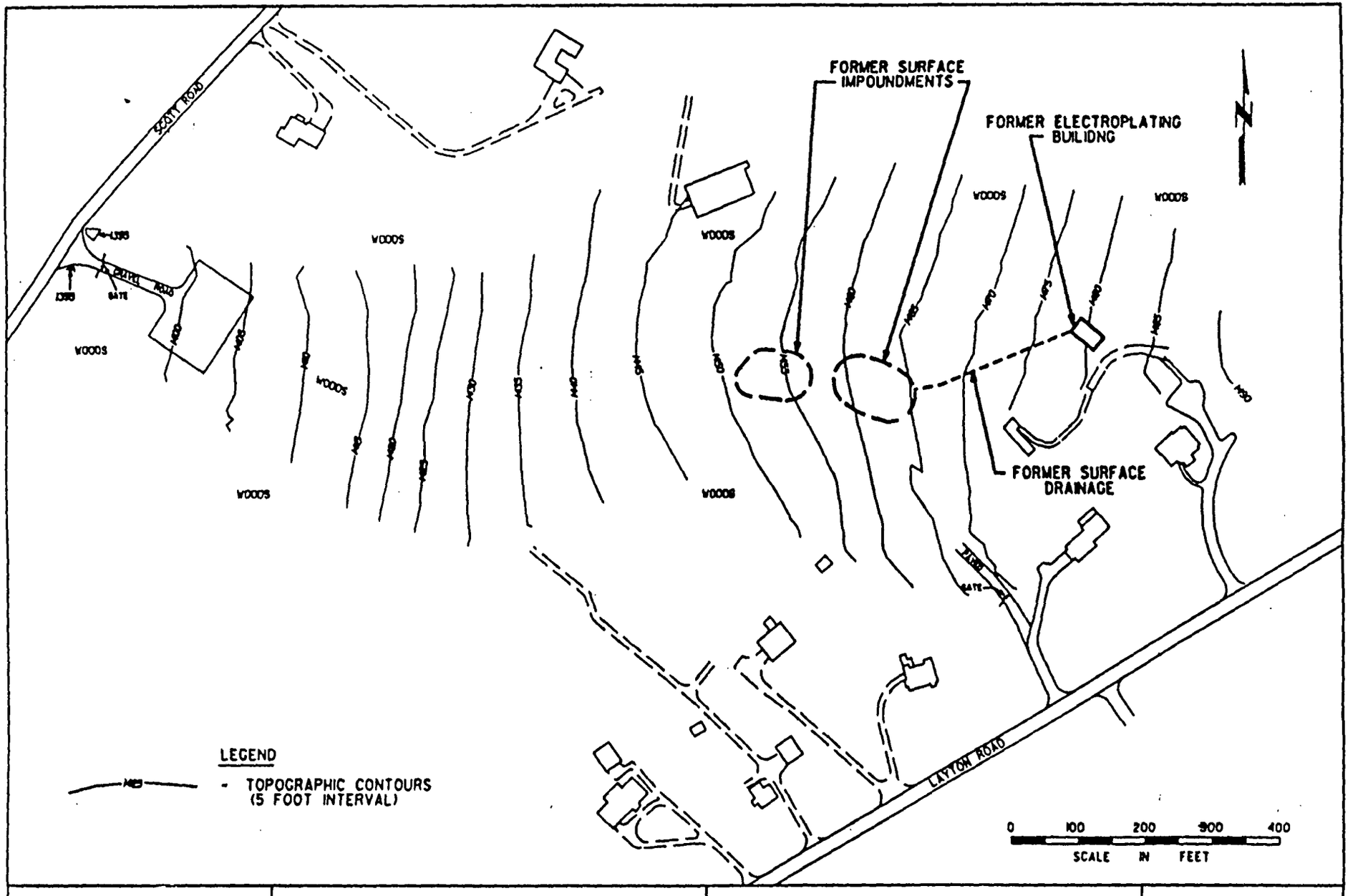
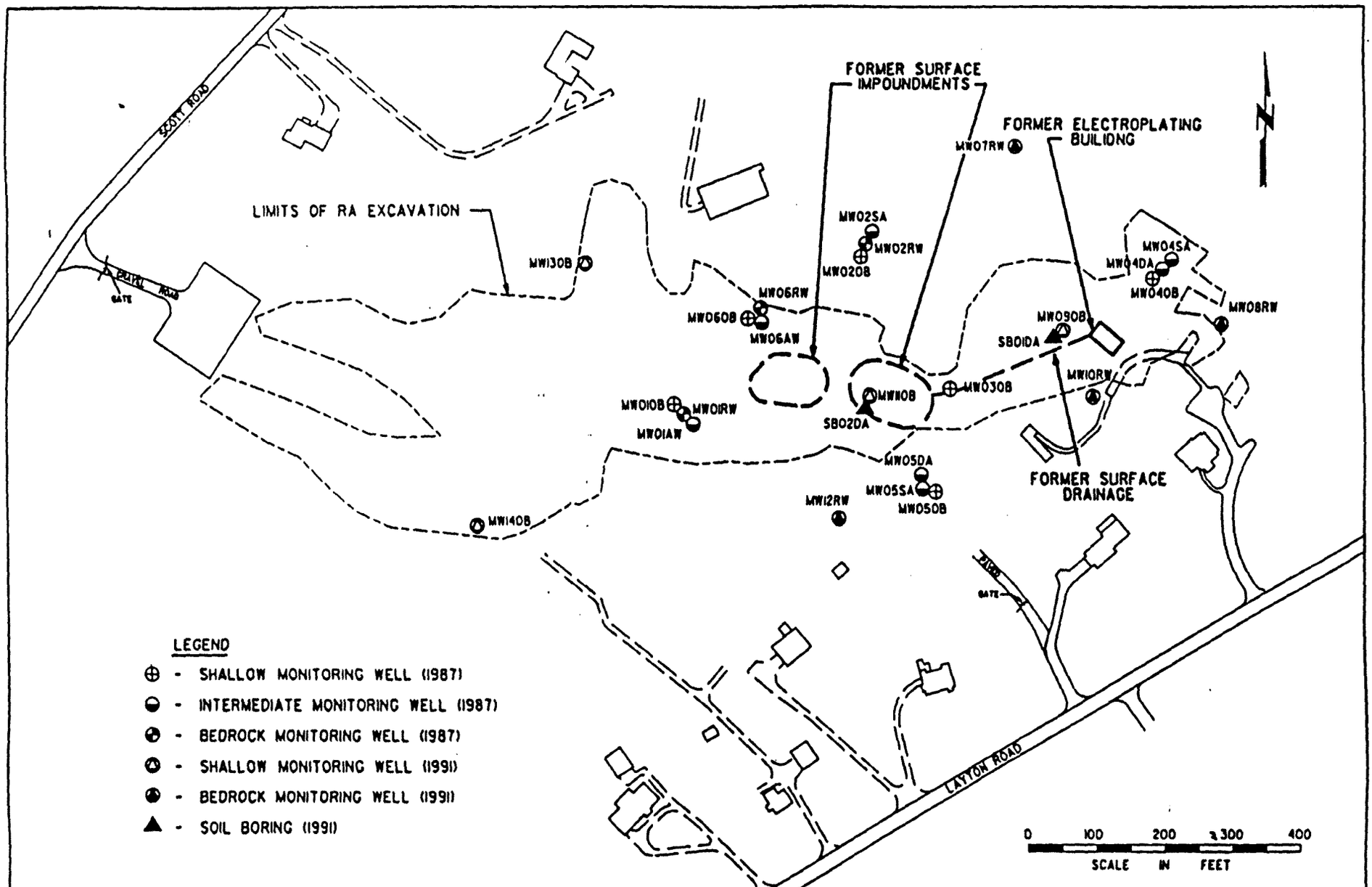
EPA evaluated information on the treatment technologies for this Operable Unit, and has found that these technologies have not been shown to be effective under the conditions present at this Site. EPA believes there are significant technical limitations and uncertainties regarding the effectiveness and/or permanence of these technologies. Because of these limitations

	ALADDIN PLATING RI/FS	SITE LOCATION - REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE	FIGURE 1

59-66



	ALADDIN PLATING RI/FS	FORMER ELECTROPLATING BUILDING AND SURFACE IMPOUNDMENTS	FIGURE 2



	ALADDIN PLATING RI/FS	ALL MONITORING WELLS ON SITE	FIGURE 3

Table 1
Well Depths and Water Level Elevations for Monitoring Wells

Wells	Total Depth (feet)	TOC Elevation (feet)	*TOC Depth to Water (feet)		Ground Water Elevation (feet)	
			January 1992	April 1992	January 1992	April 1992
MW01OB	18	1446.31	8.83	6.93	1437.48	1439.38
MW01RW	85	1448.05	67.17	63.05	1380.88	1385.00
MW01AW	40	1447.39	27.13	23.22	1420.26	1424.17
MW02OB	20	1458.64	4.30	2.67	1454.34	1455.97
MW02RW	66	0.00	Dry	Dry	Dry	Dry
MW02SA	46	0.00	Dry	Dry	Dry	Dry
MW03OB	25	1468.52	10.20	7.30	1458.32	1461.22
MW04OB	19	1484.52	9.93	7.13	1471.07	1473.87
MW04DA	119	1483.96	99.96	78.45	1382.72	1404.23
MW04SA	52	0.00	Dry	32.72	Dry	1448.92
MW05OB	14	1466.09	9.45	2.43	1455.92	1462.94
MW05DA	84	0.00	Dry	Dry	Dry	Dry
MW05SA	64	0.00	Dry	Dry	Dry	Dry
MW06OB	21	0.00	—	3.57	—	1445.40
MW06RW	87	1452.81	68.76	66.45	1384.05	1386.36
MW06AW	60	0.00	Dry	Dry	Dry	Dry
MW07RW	215	1469.44	149.05	145.04	1315.39	1319.40
MW08RW	235	1491.36	173.15	169.28	1313.05	1316.92
MW09OB	25	1478.18	8.59	5.70	1464.87	1467.76
MW10RW	235	1481.72	165.17	162.43	1311.75	1314.49
MW11OB	25	1462.25	8.93	5.24	1448.92	1457.01
MW12RW	184	1455.29	136.81	134.14	1314.08	1316.75
MW13OB	24	1441.17	9.57	8.88	1426.40	1427.09
MW14OB	25	1432.33	6.09	4.30	1422.28	1424.07

* TOC = Top of Casing

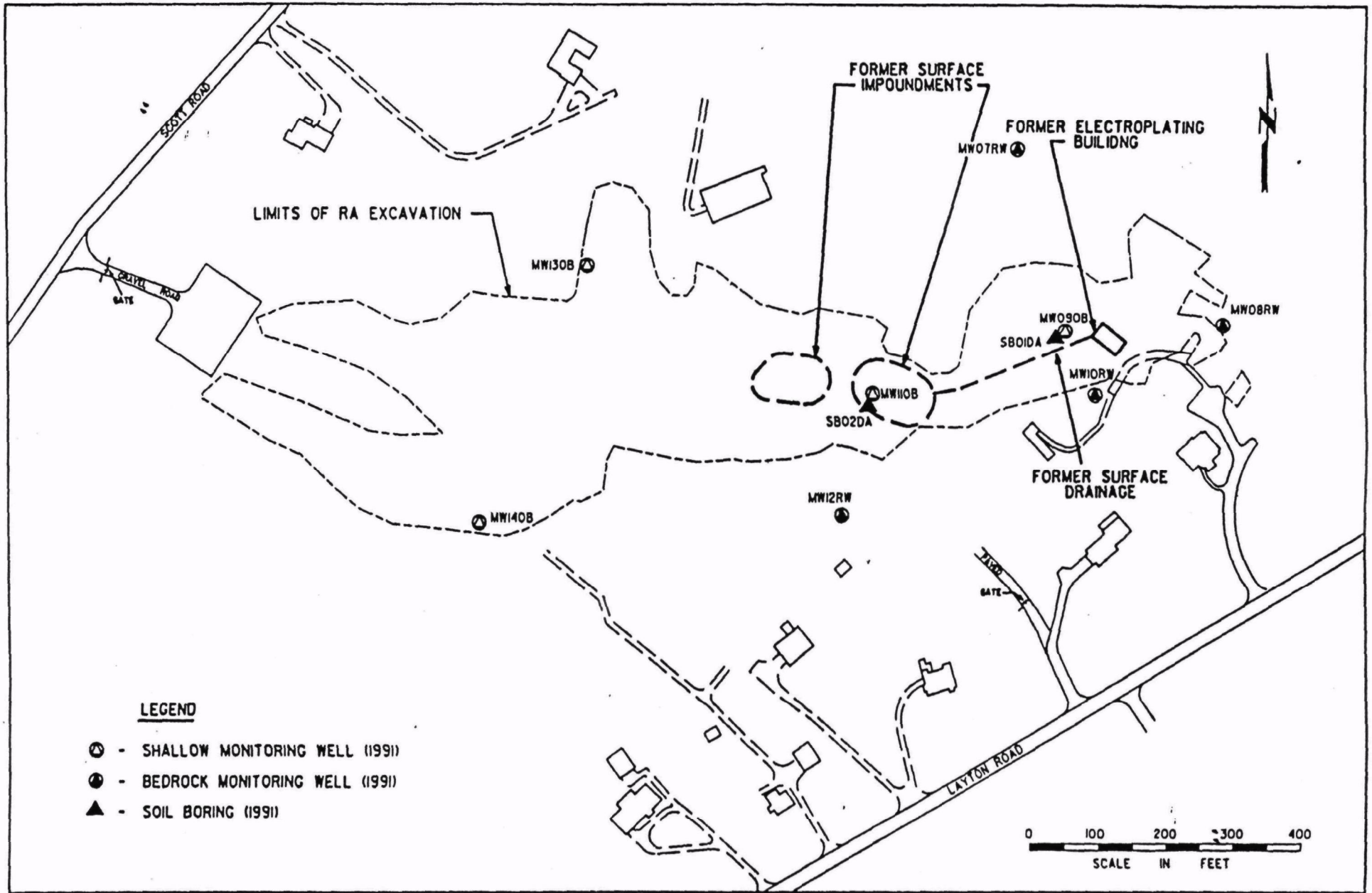
Table 2

ALADDIN PLATING SITE: ON-SITE MONITORING WELLS
SELECTED PRIORITY POLLUTANT METALS

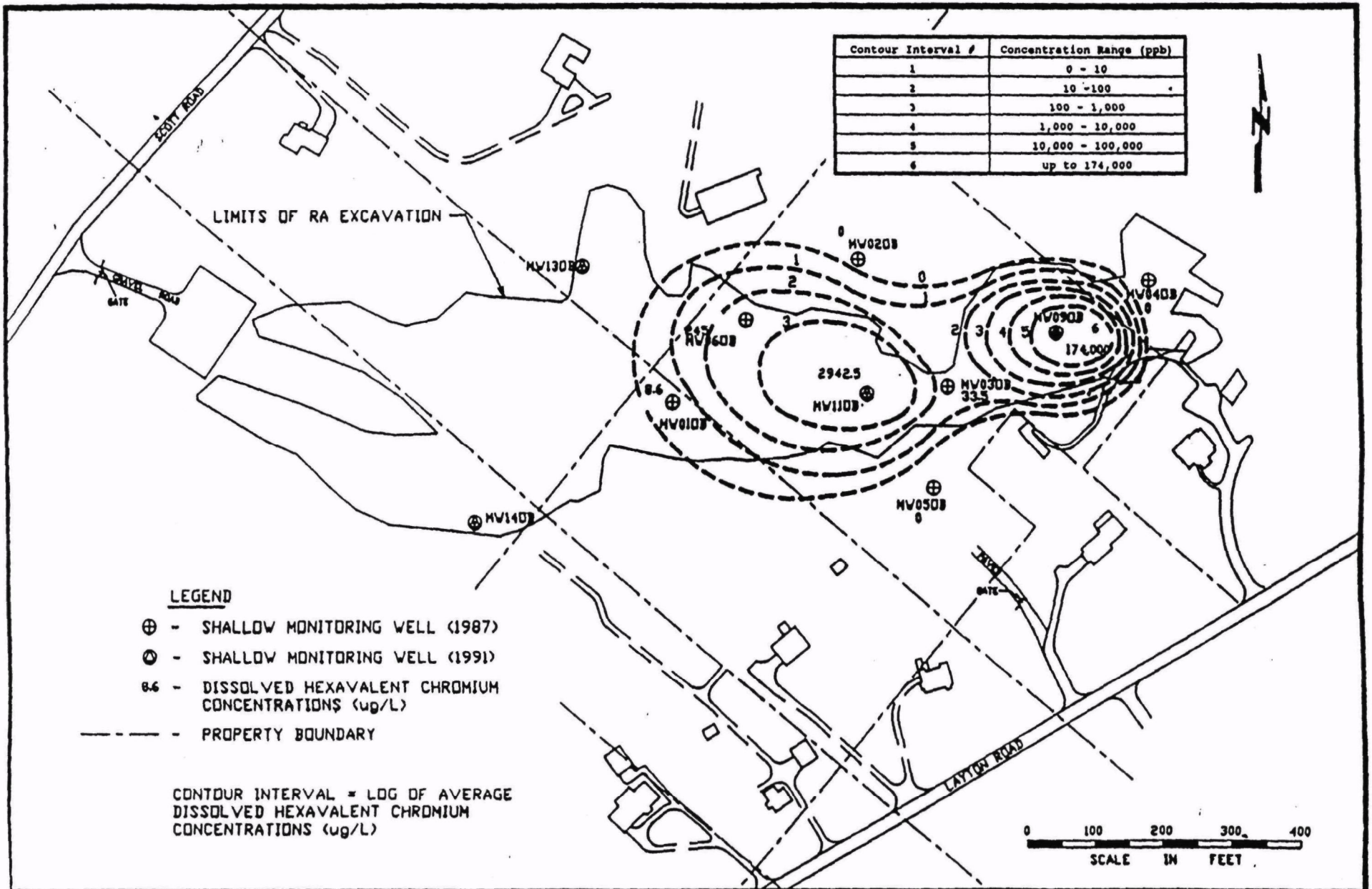
OCTOBER 1987 SAMPLING RESULTS

WELL #	ANTIMONY (mg/l) —	ARSENIC (mg/l) MCL: 0.05	CHROMIUM (mg/l) MCL: 0.05	COPPER (mg/l) MCL: 1.0	NICKEL (mg/l) —	SELENIUM (mg/l) MCL: 0.01	ZINC (mg/l) MCL: 5.0
MW-01-OB	0.3	—	0.067	—	—	—	0.03
DUPLICATE	—	—	0.053	—	—	—	0.02
MW-01-AW	0.2	0.002	0.076	—	—	—	0.02
DUPLICATE	0.3	0.002	0.12	—	0.02	—	0.02
MW-01-RW	0.2	—	0.005	—	—	—	0.01
DUPLICATE	—	—	0.004	—	—	—	0.02
MW-02-OB	0.2	—	0.005	—	—	—	0.03
MW-02-SA	—	—	0.013	—	—	—	0.05
MW-02-RW	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—
MW-03-OB	—	—	0.62	—	—	—	0.03
DUPLICATE	—	—	0.61	—	—	—	—
MW-04-OB	—	—	0.007	—	—	—	—
MW-04-SA	—	0.01	0.076	0.03	—	—	0.16
MW-04-DA	0.2	0.006	0.08	0.02	—	—	0.02
MW-05-OB	—	0.009	0.008	0.06	—	—	—
MW-05-SA	—	0.003	0.11	—	—	0.005	—
MW-06-OB	—	0.002	0.009	—	—	—	0.02
MW-06-AW	—	—	0.038	—	—	—	0.02
MW-06-RW	—	—	0.006	—	—	—	0.02
FIELD BLANK	—	—	0.004	—	—	—	—
FIELD BLANK	—	0.003	0.008	—	—	—	—

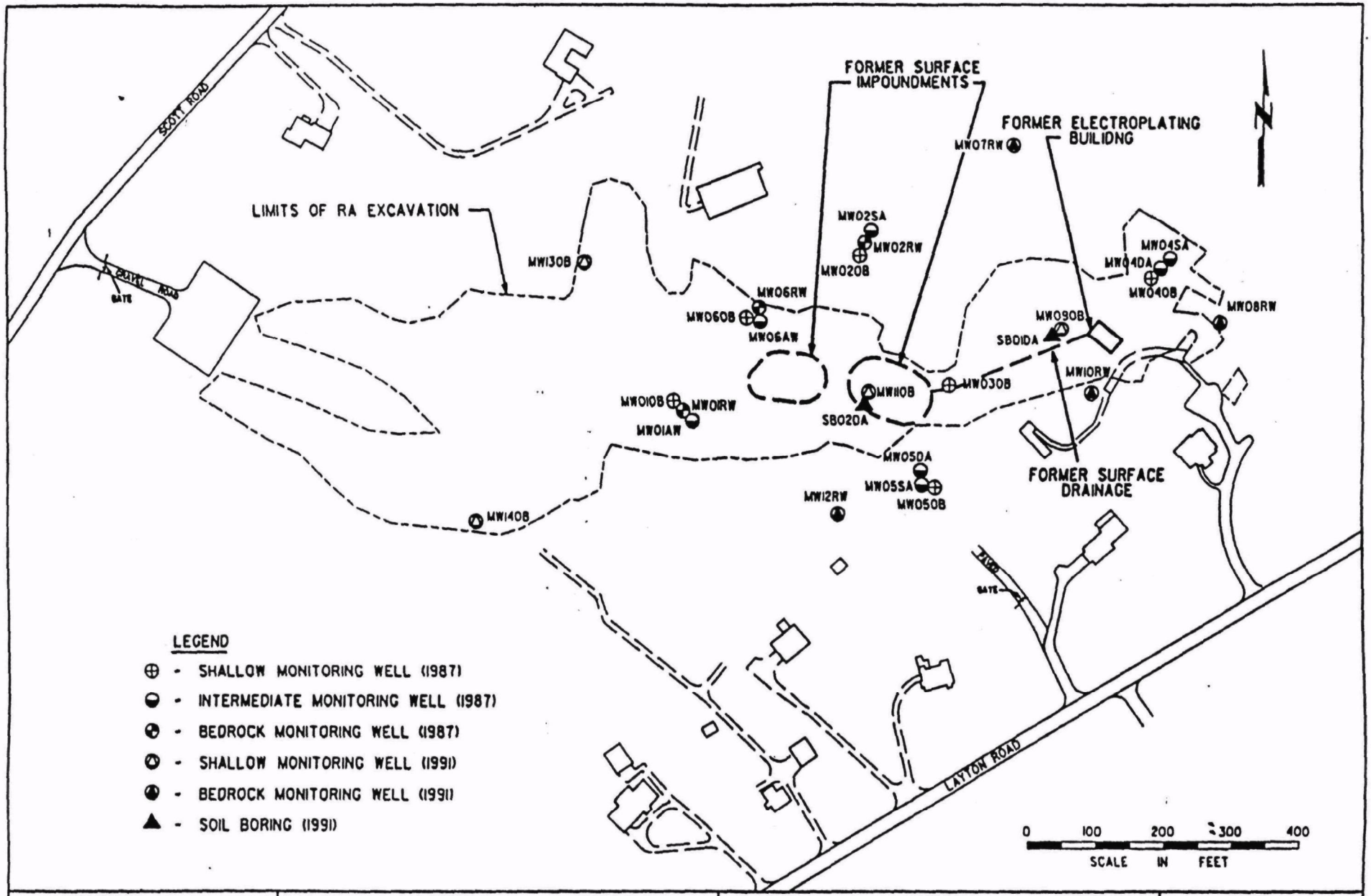
NOTE: No data for well MW-05-DA due to insufficient water column at time of sampling.



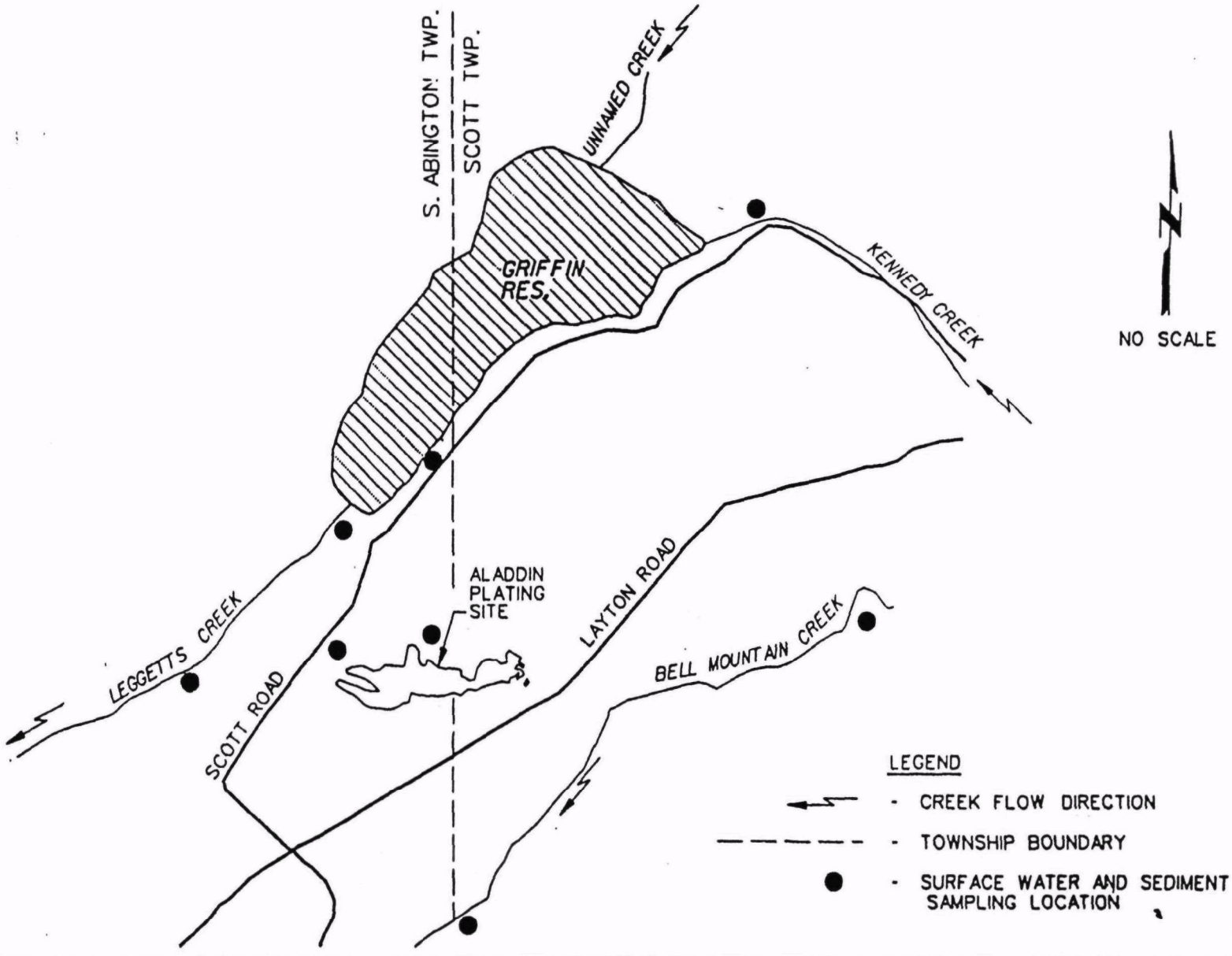
	ALADDIN PLATING RI/FS	SOIL EXCAVATION OUTLINE	FIGURE 4



	ALADDIN PLATING RI/FS	DISSOLVED HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM ISOCONCENTRATION LINE IN THE SHALLOW WATER-BEARING ZONE AND SURROUNDING PROPERTY LINES	FIGURE 5



	ALADDIN PLATING RI/FS	ALL MONITORING WELLS ON SITE	FIGURE 6



	ALADDIN PLATING RI/FS	SURFACE WATER AND SEDIMENT LOCATION MAP	FIGURE 7

Responsiveness Summary
Aladdin Plating Site
Scott and South Abington Townships
Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania

This Responsiveness Summary documents public comments received by EPA during the public comment period on the Proposed Plan for the Aladdin Plating Site ("the Site"). It also provides EPA's responses to those comments. The Responsiveness Summary is organized as follows:

SECTION I Overview

This section summarizes recent actions at the Site and the public's response to the remedial alternatives listed in the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (Proposed Plan). The Proposed Plan outlines various cleanup alternatives available to address Site contamination and highlights EPA's preferred alternative.

SECTION II Background on Community Involvement

This section provides a brief history of community interest in the site and identifies key issues.

SECTION III Summary of Major Comments and Questions Received During the Public Meeting and EPA's Responses

This section documents comments and questions from the public that were voiced during the public meeting regarding the Site and EPA's responses to them.

SECTION IV Summary of Written Comments and Questions Received During the Comment Period and EPA's Responses

This section documents written comments and questions from the public regarding the Site and EPA's responses to them.

I. Overview

The public comment period on the Proposed Plan for this Site began on July 21, 1993 and ended on September 5, 1993. This included a 15-day extension requested by a citizen. EPA held a public meeting at the Chinchilla Fire House on August 5, 1993. Copies of the newspaper advertisements announcing the meeting and comment period are attached.

The following participants were present at the meeting:

EPA	
Lisa Brown	Community Relations Coordinator
Gregory Ham	Remedial Project Manager
Fran Burns	Eastern PA Remedial Section Manager
Al Peterson	Community Relations Manager

DER	
Paul Panek	Project Manager

At the meeting, EPA representatives summarized the results of the Remedial Investigation (RI), Feasibility Study (FS), and the Risk Assessment performed for the Site. EPA presented the preferred alternative to address Site contamination. The Proposed Plan addressed the remaining area of contamination: the shallow water-bearing zone in the immediate area of the former electroplating building and surface impoundments. The preferred alternative for the Site presented to the public was Institutional Controls with Groundwater Monitoring. Institutional controls identified for the public included deed restrictions, orders, or other actions prohibiting any excavation, installation of wells, or other disturbances to the area of contamination at the Site.

The public was given an opportunity to ask questions or submit written comments on the alternatives outlined in the Proposed Plan and the results of the RI/FS for the Site. The comments and EPA's responses are summarized, and in some cases combined, in Section III and IV of this document. They are not presented in the order received at the meeting. The complete transcript of the public meeting is contained in the Administrative Record file for the Site.

SECTION II Background on Community Involvement

Throughout the history of EPA's involvement in this site, there have been opportunities for public involvement in the site cleanup process. A number of public meetings were held during the emergency removal action and during the remedial action. There has been significant public interest in the activities at the Site. Public comments were noted, and changes were made to the planned actions where they could be accommodated.

For this Record of Decision, a formal public meeting, as discussed above, was held. In addition, a public availability session was held on September 24, 1993 to allow all interested citizens to ask questions directly to EPA representatives about the Proposed Plan and the work that has been done at the Site during the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study. The main concerns espressed at these meetings were that EPA is proposing to leave the contamination on-site. Also, the application of deed restrictions

to the property on which the former electroplating plant was located is seen as having a negative impact on the community. These actions are seen as having an adverse impact on property values. There were several comments to the effect that EPA should "finish the job" of cleaning up the Site, and not leave any contamination remaining on the Site.

SECTION III Summary of Comments and Questions from the Public Meeting

Comment #1: The proposed alternative does not remove the contamination from the Site. One of the four active remediation measures should be tried, or if these aren't effective, some other method of cleaning up the Site should be found and implemented.

EPA Response: The proposed alternative was selected based on a review of the nine criteria established in the National Contingency Plan for selection of remediation alternatives. EPA has already performed extensive actions to clean up the principal threats at the Site, including the remaining plating wastes, the building itself, and the contaminated soil. The source of contamination has been removed, and the remaining contamination is limited to a small pocket of water in the shallow water-bearing zone. The risk assessment indicated that the current risk level with the Site in its undisturbed condition is within acceptable levels, since this contamination is not affecting the drinking water aquifer and there is no possibility of direct contact with the chromium.

EPA screened all the technologies that were potentially applicable to this Site. The four active remediation alternatives that were evaluated in the FS were selected from this screening process as those that were most likely to be suitable for use at the Site. EPA is not aware of other methods that would work under the unusual conditions presented by this Site.

As discussed in the Proposed Plan, the four active remediation measures considered are not believed to be capable of reducing chromium to levels equivalent to background. Each has uncertainties or problems associated with it. Given that current risk conditions are within acceptable levels for protecting human health and the environment, and the background ARAR can't be met with any of the alternatives, EPA has selected Alternative 2, Institutional Controls with Ground Water Monitoring.

Comment #2: The soil cleanup should have gone further, to find the source of the contamination in the shallow water-bearing zone.

EPA Response: EPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) in 1988 that determined that a soil cleanup at the Site was necessary. Based on this ROD, EPA initiated the remedial action to remove the contaminated soil from the site. At that time it was recognized that a groundwater study was needed, but that this would be

completed after the soil removal. The soil removal was designed to meet specific objectives: to excavate contaminated soil to a depth where chromium levels in soil were below 50 parts per million (ppm), and to ship this soil offsite for proper disposal.

The soil cleanup proceeded with these objectives, and was completed. Soil testing conducted as the excavation occurred indicated that the 50 ppm level was reached. Subsequent sampling during the RI/FS confirmed that the soil cleanup was effective.

During the excavation, it was noted that water collecting in the excavated areas did contain chromium. Some of the accumulated water was rainwater, but some was clearly seeping in from the soils adjacent to the excavation. The seepage was generally not visible, but water would accumulate slowly in the bottom of the excavation. This water was tested, and shipped offsite for proper disposal.

The objectives of this action were to address soil contamination, so it was decided that the excavated areas would be backfilled, and the groundwater study would be initiated. Based on the ROD that had been issued, EPA would have been exceeding its authority to proceed with efforts to remediate groundwater at that time.

Comment #3: Couldn't the entire area of contamination be excavated to remove the contaminated media?

EPA Response: This is probably the only sure way of removing the contamination. However, excavation of soil to remove ground water would be impractical because the large volume of soil and ground water would make this approach very expensive (as costly or more than the previous cleanup) and disruptive to the environment and the community. The low risk presented by the Site does not justify such extraordinary measures or costs. Excavation to this depth might also open increase the potential for the contamination to infiltrate to greater depths. Disturbing the conditions of the sub-surface materials (which have such a low permeability) might allow the contamination to move deeper prior to completion of the action.

Comment #4: Could wells be placed throughout the Site to withdraw the contaminated water?

EPA Response: Installation of wells, which are then pumped to withdraw contaminated groundwater is the standard treatment for groundwater contamination. However, at this Site, the soil permeability is so low that pumping is ineffective. During sampling at the Site, monitoring wells typically ran dry prior to yielding three well volumes of water. Many of these wells took several days to recharge. This makes pump and treat systems infeasible for this Site.

Comment #5: EPA states that the contamination is limited to a small area on the former electroplating facility property, and yet it has already contaminated adjacent properties.

EPA Response: There was contamination on adjacent properties, but this was soil contamination in the top 1 to 3 feet of soil. This contamination was deposited there when the surface impoundments overflowed, or when rainwater washed wastes that were disposed of on the surface down the slope at the Site. This surface contamination on adjacent properties did not migrate down into the groundwater, and was removed during the soil cleanup.

The contamination that remains is chromium contaminated water that is in the 5 to 20 foot subsurface area underneath the former facility. This contamination is believed to be the result of infiltration of water from the surface impoundments, and the direct disposal of waste liquids into floor drains in the building. Sampling of monitoring wells and residential wells on and off the Site have revealed that this contamination is not migrating offsite at rates that will adversely impact the drinking water wells for a very long time (estimated at over 2,000 years).

Comment #6: What happens if future monitoring indicates that the contamination is migrating faster than estimated?

EPA Response: The monitoring program is designed to determine if the contamination is migrating, and the two additional wells are intended to provide an early warning should this occur. If EPA determines in the future that groundwater is migrating more rapidly than currently estimated, the levels of contamination and rate of migration would be reevaluated. If it appears that the migration would create a threat to human health or the environment, the remedial alternatives previously reviewed, as well as any newly developed methods, would be reviewed for possible implementation to address the problem. A new record of decision, or an explanation of significant differences, would be issued, and appropriate notification and public meeting procedures would be followed.

Comment #7: Implementing actions later, if needed, would increase costs significantly over costs of implementing action today.

EPA Response: It could be more expensive to implement a response action at a later time. However, it may not be necessary to ever implement an action if the chromium remains contained in its present location and/or is naturally attenuated in the soil. Further, the methods considered in the FS may be more extensively developed by the time implementation would be necessary, and could be completed with more certainty, more effectively, and with less trial and error, which might reduce the cost of some of the Alternatives.

Comment #8: If the contamination will remain on-site for 2,000 years, the monitoring program should continue for 2,000 years.

EPA Response: The monitoring program will initially establish a baseline for the Site through the quarterly monitoring period of the first five years. Comparison of the baseline data with data collected in later years will indicate whether migration is occurring, and if so, what the rate of migration is. After 30 years, a comprehensive record of the status of the contamination will have been developed. If migration is going to occur, evidence of it will most likely have been seen by that time. On the other hand, if containment or natural attenuation result in no changes or a reduction in contamination levels, this will have been clearly established in thirty years. Therefore, this should be a sufficient period of time for determining what is occurring at the Site.

In addition to the thirty year monitoring, EPA is required to conduct five year reviews on any site where wastes are left onsite. This includes sampling to determine the level and status of any remaining contamination. These reviews will be continued indefinitely as long as contamination remains above health-based levels.

Comment #9: Is EPA leaving wastes onsite in other cases, and if so what has happened (i.e.- is the contamination migrating offsite)?

EPA Response: EPA has left wastes in place on other sites. This is common for landfills, where the volume of wastes is too large to remove. A cap is placed over the landfill to prevent infiltration of water, and a monitoring program is typically implemented. It has also been done at other types of sites.

The record of whether migration has occurred at other sites is not relevant here, since subsurface conditions at each site are unique. The fact that migration may have occurred at other sites does not mean that it will occur here. The limited area of high level contamination, the lack of a continuing source, the very low permeability of the soils at this Site, and the possibility of natural conversion of hexavalent chromium to trivalent chromium all contribute to the very low estimated migration rates.

Comment #10: The past several years have been relatively dry in this area. What happens if several years of wet weather occur?

EPA Response: The contamination has existed at the Site for at least thirty years. During this period, there have been both dry periods and wet periods, and the contamination has moved only a limited distance even with active waste discharging. Therefore, with the source and surface contamination removed, there is less contamination available for migration and less likelihood that an extended wet period would cause offsite contamination.

Comment #11: The RI/FS refers to fractured bedrock at the Site, which allows for faster migration of contamination. Also, aren't the positive results that have been found in several residential wells an indication that the contamination is moving?

EPA Response: The bedrock under the Site is fractured, and fractures usually increase the rate of travel of water. However, the bedrock is at more than 80 feet below the surface of the Site, and the contamination would have to travel through the glacial till overburden (which has extremely low permeability) at the Site before it reaches the fractured bedrock. This overburden material is what has contained the chromium so far, and what is anticipated to continue containing the contamination.

There have been a few positive chromium results in residential well samples. However, all these results have been very low (5 parts per billion or less). One of these residential wells with a low concentration of chromium is the furthest from the Site of all the wells that were tested. Chromium is a naturally occurring substance, and can be found in groundwater not associated with human activity. There have been no consistent chromium results in any wells but the monitoring wells in the shallow water-bearing zone. The source of the chromium found in the residential wells cannot be conclusively determined, but EPA believes that the lack of consistency and the fact that wells in between these wells and the Site are not contaminated indicate that the contamination is not steadily migrating offsite.

Comment #12: Is it possible that putting all the monitoring wells in at the Site, or excavating to remove the contaminated soil, may have introduced conduits for the contamination to move deeper?

EPA Response: Improperly installed wells can allow contamination to travel from shallow levels to deeper ones and vice versa. However, all of the monitoring wells installed by EPA were constructed using specifications that prevent this from occurring.

The excavation did open up the area of contamination, and rainwater did collect in the openings. However, all of this water was pumped out as quickly as possible and disposed of off-site to prevent its infiltration.

Comment #13: Over how wide an area did EPA test surface water and wells, and what are the plans for the future?

EPA Response: Surface water samples were collected from Bell Mountain Creek and Leggetts Creek above and below the area where runoff from the Site would enter them. Samples were also collected from Griffin Pond. No Site-related contamination was found in any of these samples.

Residential well samples were collected from locations as far as Mt. Bethel Drive, Peaceful Valley Road (on the southeast side of Bell Mountain Creek), along Scott and Layton Roads, and as far southwest as Sarah Drive. Results of this sampling are discussed in the response to Comment #11, and in the Record of Decision.

Comment #14: Alternative 3 appears to be a feasible alternative. The FS states that the electrokinetic method may be able to remove 70% or more of the chromium contamination, while the Proposed Plan reports that only 30% can be removed. Why is there a discrepancy?

EPA Response: The FS was based on research papers for projects that were conducted using trivalent chromium. During EPA's preparation of the Proposed Plan, this information was reviewed, along with additional information that was gathered from the literature, from discussions with vendors, and from discussion with EPA personnel involved with these methods. From this information, it was determined that this method is 70-95% effective with trivalent chromium, but that with hexavalent it may only be as much as 30% effective. Due to the ionic charge of the compounds that hexavalent chromium forms in groundwater, it moves in the opposite direction as trivalent chromium in an electrokinetic extraction system, thus reducing its effectiveness. Although there are methods that have been proposed to address this problem, they have not been extensively tested in the field at a site with conditions comparable to this Site to see how effective they would be.

Comment #15: Alternative 2 is listed as a "No Action" plan in the FS. It also doesn't meet the preference for permanent solutions and use of treatment technologies, and doesn't restore the Site to productive use.

EPA Response: This Alternative was listed as "No Action with Institutional Controls" in the FS. The NCP requires that every FS include the "No Action" option in its evaluation of alternatives as a baseline to which to compare the other options. There must be only one "No Action" alternative in each operable unit, so the name of Alternative 2 was changed to avoid confusion with Alternative 1. Also, characterizing Alternative 2 as "no action" is misleading because the use of Institutional Controls is a form of remedial action.

CERCLA does include a preference for permanent solutions and treatment as a principal element, where practicable. However, after evaluating the options available, EPA has concluded that the treatment methods available are characterized by significant inefficiencies and uncertainties that can interfere with their implementation. Treatment would not completely eliminate the contamination so institutional controls might still be required. With this uncertainty, and given that the Site under present conditions is not presenting risks above the normal range, EPA has

selected an Alternative that does not meet these preferences because they are impracticable at this Site.

The Site has been cleaned up to the point where some productive uses of this property would be acceptable. The controls to be applied will only limit actions that would disturb the subsurface. The surface can be used for agriculture, gardening, recreation, and other activities.

Comment #16: Actual removal of contamination from a site should carry a higher weight in the ranking of criteria for selection of remedial alternatives, rather than being of equal weight with the other eight criteria.

EPA Response: Alternatives involving the removal of contaminated materials are evaluated along with other alternatives to determine the comparative benefit of each against the nine criteria specified in the NCP. The NCP does not assign weights to the criteria, but directs the lead agency to select the alternative with the best balance of performance relative to the nine criteria. There may be some cases where disturbance of a site to remove the contamination might cause more of a hazard to human health or the environment than containing the wastes in place. In some cases such as a landfill, the volume of wastes make it prohibitively expensive to remove the wastes. A ranking system that gives added weight to removal of wastes would not take into account those circumstances where it may not be appropriate.

Comment #17: Deed restrictions will lower property values throughout the area, and are unacceptable. Can EPA purchase properties whose values have declined due to proximity to an NPL site, or reimburse owners for this loss in value?

EPA Response: There currently are no restrictions on land use at the site. Other types of institutional controls may be considered. These might include land use controls, permit limitations, or administrative orders.

CERCLA gives EPA has authority to take action to protect human health and the environment. EPA has no authority to take actions to restore property values or to purchase adjacent properties whose values are adversely affected by an NPL site. EPA does not have authority to reimburse property owners for any loss in property value.

Comment #18: What is EPAs authority for implementing deed restrictions, and what will happen if they cannot be implemented?

EPA Response: EPA will use its legal authorities and recommend the use of State and local authorities to impose institutional controls. Pursuant to Section 106 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §9606, EPA is authorized to issue orders to protect public health and welfare

and the environment. EPA has used this authority in the past to require property owners to place deed restriction on their properties. As with the exercise of other legal authorities, affected parties may attempt to challenge these authorities.

Other institutional controls are available to prohibit disruption of the contaminated area. Local building permits and land use restrictions, or administrative or judicial orders may be used where sufficient legal authority exists. If deed restrictions cannot be implemented, these other options would be considered. If none of the options were feasible, EPA would revisit its selection of alternatives, and might issue a new Record of Decision.

Comment #19: What is EPA doing to recover the costs of previous cleanup actions from the property owner?

EPA Response: EPA has placed a lien on the property subject to the remedial action and owned by the potentially responsible party in order to recover costs of cleanup if the property is sold. In all Superfund cases, EPA evaluates the financial status and assets of the potentially responsible parties to determine if actions should be taken to recover costs. This is being done with this Site. The Agency does not comment on the possibility of future actions to recover costs.

Comment #20: How will people be notified of EPA's decision on this matter?

EPA Response: An announcement will be sent out to people on the mailing list once the Record of Decision is completed. EPA will also issue press releases, so local media may report the decision.

Comment #21: What options do citizens have if they don't agree with the decision?

EPA Response: The provisions of CERCLA provide persons certain rights to seek review of Agency actions under specific circumstances. The scope of and limitations on these rights are too extensive to discuss in this summary which is primarily intended for the discussion of the remedy.

SECTION IV Summary of Written Comments and Questions Received During the Comment Period and EPA's Responses

During the public comment period, EPA received one request for a 15-day extension (which was granted), 9 comment letters, and a petition signed by 65 area residents. Many of the comments were similar to those expressed at the public meeting and answered above. These are not repeated here, but are listed at the end of this section.

Comment #22: EPA should not look at costs when selecting alternatives. The sole consideration should be preventing human exposure to contaminants in ground water and protecting drinking water supplies.

EPA Response: The NCP requires the lead agency to perform a detailed and comparative analysis of alternatives in selecting a remedy. Cost is one of the evaluation criteria that the lead agency is required to include in its detailed analysis and comparative analysis of alternatives [see 40 C.F.R. §300.430 (e) and (f)].

Comment #23: Alternative 2 does not meet the Pennsylvania requirement for cleanup of contamination to levels equivalent to background. EPA should not waive this requirement, and all Pennsylvania standards should be achieved.

EPA Response: Pennsylvania Hazardous Waste Management regulations require that ground water contamination be cleaned up to levels equivalent to background. In this case, background levels would be in the range from 0 to 5 parts per billion. With the level of contamination in the immediate area of the former facility, and the subsurface conditions which make withdrawal of the ground water in this shallow zone very difficult, EPA believes that achieving background levels is technically infeasible. If EPA finds an ARAR to be technically infeasible, it can be waived. The next most stringent ARAR would then be applied. Maximum contaminant levels (MCLs), which are standards that set maximum levels of contaminants that can be in water distributed in public water systems can be used as relevant and appropriate standards for water from wells, but would be applied to the drinking water aquifer, which has not been affected by the Site. Since the shallow water-bearing zone cannot be used as a drinking water source due to its extremely low yield, MCLs would not be relevant and appropriate standards for this zone. The level of cleanup already attained at the site in its undisturbed condition is protective of human health and the environment, which is also a threshold criteria for remedy selection.

Comment #24: Monitoring should be done monthly for the entire thirty years, rather than quarterly for two years and annually thereafter.

EPA Response: The rationale for the proposed monitoring program is explained in the response to comment #8 above. Given the very slow expected migration rate (less than 1 foot per year), monthly monitoring would not significantly add to the information available to evaluate the status of the Site. Because more frequent data are not required to evaluate ground water quality changes, monthly monitoring which is significantly more expensive than quarterly or annual monitoring, is not justified.

Comment #25: Any increases in Site-related contamination in monitoring wells or private wells should trigger a major cleanup program.

EPA Response: Site-related contamination must present an actual or potential threat to human health or the environmental in order to satisfy statutory requirements for EPA to initiate an action. Contamination in monitoring wells does not necessarily present a risk unless there is a likelihood that this contamination will migrate to areas used for drinking water supplies.

Comment #26: A collection pool to collect water from the contaminated area should be established.

EPA Response: Because of the slow movement of ground water under the Site, this technique would require leaving the pool open for a very long period of time (comparable to Alternative 5), and would be very disruptive to the community to construct and operate. Frequent removal of the liquid by tanker trucks would be required, and the potential effectiveness of this method is unknown. The entire area would have to be fenced off for the entire time, which means the area would not be usable. In short, this approach offers no advantage over the alternatives described in the Record of Decision that would entail increased risk to the environment.

Comment #27: If no action is being taken, Alternative 1 would be preferable, since not having deed restrictions would have less impact on adjacent properties.

EPA Response: The institutional controls are designed to prevent potential increased migration of contamination to adjacent properties. Without controls, the owner could allow actions on the Site that could increase migration rates. Therefore, some type of controls are needed to prevent this. However, some actions other than deed restrictions (such as restrictions on building permits, well installations, etc.) may be considered.

Comment # 28: EPA's estimate of 2000 years before the chromium contamination reaches the drinking water aquifer is based on the assumption that there are no fractures or other pathways that would expedite the migration, and that vertical and horizontal movement will be very slow. Both of these assumptions may not be accurate.

EPA Response: It is true that these assumptions were made to develop the estimate of how long it would take for migration to the drinking water aquifer to occur. However, these assumptions were made based on the extensive testing of the subsurface conditions at the site. No evidence has been found to date of any fractures in the overburden material above the bedrock, through which the contamination would have to migrate. Samples of this material were tested to determine its permeability, which is extremely low. In order to be conservative, the modeling used an estimate of vertical

migration velocity that was two orders of magnitude higher than the actual measured value.

The fact that the contamination has not migrated further than it has to date, even while active disposal of liquid wastes was occurring over a thirty-year period, is consistent with these assumptions. In addition, the monitoring that will be conducted will be a continuing check on the assumptions. The new wells to be installed at the edge of the contaminated area will also provide an early warning if the assumptions are incorrect.

Comment #29: EPA has dismissed the remediation technologies as infeasible too summarily. Why were they in the FS at all if they are infeasible?

EPA Response: EPA has determined that these methods are technically impracticable for cleaning up the chromium to background levels. These methods may be feasible for reducing chromium levels, but the level of level of reduction possible and the permanence of the reduction is uncertain.

The FS reviewed technologies that were potentially applicable to the Site. Because of the unique conditions at this Site, common ground water contamination treatment technologies (such as pumping and treating of the ground water) were not feasible. Therefore, the FS evaluated methods that have been less extensively used, and some that have only been tested in laboratory experiments for application to chromium contamination. These methods may have been used with other metal contaminants, or on sites with more advantageous conditions, but not on hexavalent chromium contamination in subsurface conditions such as at this Site. While these methods have some potential applications for this use, when evaluated in the context of these site-specific conditions they have been found to be technically impracticable for meeting the Pennsylvania cleanup to background requirement. Therefore, EPA is waiving this requirement.

Comment #30: The validity of the scoring system in the FS is questionable. Several of the values given to Alternatives 1 and 2 are not justified.

EPA Response: The scoring system presented in the RI/FS is a guide to be used in the decision-making process. Decisions were not made solely based on the scoring system. While some of the comments on specific values in the scoring matrix are valid, some of the values for the active remediation alternatives would also change (decrease) based on some of the site-specific problems discussed in the Proposed Plan, which also includes discussions of information that supplements the analysis provided in the FS. Some examples are the information on the efficiency of the electokinetic method for hexavalent chromium and the estimates of the length of time

required for Alternative 5 to achieve reductions in hexavalent chromium.

Written comments were also received that were similar to the following comments made at the public meeting on August 5, 1993: Comment #s 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 16, and 17. These comments and responses are not repeated here, as they were discussed in Section III.

...analyst with Paine Webber ... its rating. On Tuesday, the ...ck rose 4⅛ after the company ...ported much better-than-ex... Financial Group cut its earnings estimate for the company. ...four years ago, took the company helm back after announcing the resignation of James R. Paul.

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Merrill Lynch

...an Pleads ...g Charge

...im prison sentence of 20 years ...d a fine of $1 million.

According to officials, Pisano de...ered between 400 and 500 grams ...coc...ne between December 1990 ...d April 1992.

Pisano said he would resell ...gs he bought from David Au...st, the leader of the network.

August is now serving a 14-year ...sor sentence on federal drug ...rge... Pisano said he met August ...gym.

Pisano was indicted in May and ... the 29th person arrested as a ...ult of the "Operation Bad Influ...e" investigation.

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THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE

PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION FOR THE

ALADDIN PLATING SUPERFUND SITE

SCOTT AND SOUTH ABINGTON TOWNSHIPS, LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PA

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
Thursday, August 5, 1993
7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Chinchilla Fire House
Shady Lane, Chinchilla

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The RI examined the extent and nature of contaminants present at the site. The FS evaluated six remedial action alternatives for the site and provides supporting information leading to the alternative selection by EPA.

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4. Enhanced pumping and treatment, with On-site treatment and disposal
5. Chemical barriers
6. Chemical alteration and immobilization

July 21, 1993 to August 19, 1993
Public Comment Period on Alternatives in Proposed Plan

The preferred alternative is only a preliminary determination. EPA encourages the public to comment on the alternatives listed in the Proposed Plan. EPA will choose the final remedy after the Public Comment Period ends and may select any one of the alternatives after taking the public's comments into account.

The Public Comment Period begins July 21, 1993 and ends August 19, 1993. EPA will hold a public meeting to discuss the Proposed Plan and the preferred alternative on Thursday, August 5, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. in the Chinchilla Fire House, Shady Lane, Chinchilla, PA 18410.

The RI/FS, copies of the Proposed Remedial Action Plan, and other site related documents in the Administrative Record are available at the Scott Township Municipal Building, RR 1, Route 457, Olyphant, PA 18447 (717) 254-6969 and at the South Abington Township Building, 104 Shady Lane, Montdale, PA 18410 (717) 586-2111.

Written comments should be sent postmarked no later than August 19, 1993 to:

Gregory Ham (3HW22)
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. EPA, Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107

For more information regarding the site, please contact:

Lisa Brown (3EA21)
Community Relations Coordinator
U.S. EPA, Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 597-2129

again

New York Stock Exchange

N. Y. YORK (AP) — Selected noon national prices in New York Stock Exchange issues:

[illegible]

Dividends

[illegible]

Fed Expected To Increase Interest Rates

Associated Press

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The results Tuesday from Citicorp, Chemical Banking Corp., NationsBank, Banc One Corp., Wells Fargo & Co. and First Inter-

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When you think of Merril of stocks and bonds. But a with all of your financial ne earned a reputation of trust largest full-service firm in t

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ether it intends to hire Barbin the next board meeting.
n another tax matter, the board s updated on an attempt by The w Globe Store to have its assess nt reduced.
Abrahamsen said a trial has en scheduled Oct. 18 in Lacka- nna County Court on The New obe Store's appeal of its assessed uation.
Abrahamsen said the store is king to reduce its assessed val- lion by two-thirds — from $12 llion to $4 million.
le said the city has agreed to it the costs of fighting the ap- l with the district.

NEI, Barons To Test Vision Of Teen Athletes

The Northeastern Eye Institute d the Scranton–Wilkes-Barre d Barons will join forces to ovide area youngsters with a free orts vision screening Saturday m 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at NEI, 200 ffin Ave.
Boys and girls through the teens o participate in school sports d other activities are eligible. Space is limited, so appointments encouraged and can be made contacting the institute.
ted Barons pitcher Jeff Patter- will be on hand from 10 a.m. til noon to greet the youngsters d sign autographs. The first 100 nups will receive tickets to a d Barons game.
Eyesight is not the same as ion," said Dr. Arthur J. Jordan. sion is the ability to interpret at is being seen and that's what re going to be looking at.'
Jordan, Dr. John Boyle and Dr. ry Ann DeSanto will do the eenings.

THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

EXTENDS THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON THE PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION FOR THE

ALADDIN PLATING SUPERFUND SITE

SCOTT AND SOUTH ABINGTON TOWNSHIPS, LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PA

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Public Comment Period on Alternatives in Proposed Plan Extended From August 19,1993 to September 5, 1993

The preferred alternative is only a preliminary determination. EPA encourages the public to comment on the alternatives listed in the Proposed Plan. EPA will choose the final remedy after the Public Comment Period ends and may select any one of the alternatives after taking the public's comments into account.

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...girl sits down in my ... every girl is different," ...ite of Little Rock, Ark. "I ...ak them up to look all

...said the changes represent ...ressure for the contestants, ...f whom don't know how to ...ake-up that works under ...e of television lights. ...ink it's going to hurt (the ...)," she said. ...lis, who has produced five ...ay Awards shows and other ...cials, said the pageant musi- ...mbers will compete with the the Oscars. ...re really going to have a different flavor and style,"

...nother new twist, each con- must shoot a 3- to 5-minute video describing her life. ...pes will be edited to about ...onds and broadcast while ...f the 10 finalists parades the stage. ...ers also will see footage ...g the daily experiences of ...ants during their two weeks ...ntic City leading up to the ...t.

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New York Stock Exchange

NEW YORK (AP) — Selected noon national prices for New York Stock Exchange issues:

Sales PE 100s High Low Last Chg.

— A-A —

Dividends

TUESDAY DIVIDENDS DECLARED

	Period	Rate	Stk. of record	Payable
IRREGULAR				
Borden Chem LP	.	.18	7-30	8-9
CrossTimber Royal	.	.1258	7-30	8-13
Mesa Offsh Tr	.	.0170	7-30	10-30
Mesa Rylty	.	.3480	7-30	10-30
Mesa Trust	.	.06	7-30	8-30
Midwest Banshrs	.	.10	8-6	8-20
Nuveen SelMatMu 3	.	.110	7-30	8-1
Rank Organ PLC	z	.5736	7-22	10-1
z- approx. amount per ADR.				
San Juan Basin	.	[illegible]	7-30	8-13
Thomson Advisory	.	.45	8-1	8-10
STOCK				
Banc One Corp	z		8-3	8-31
z- 5 for 4 split.				
Fst Westrn Bncp	.	5pc	8-3	8-20
Gyrodyne Co	.	3pc	8-31	9-20
Pioneer Group	z		8-1	8-1
z- 2 for 1 split.				
INCREASED				
CCB Fincl	Q	.38	8-13	10-1
Fst Western Bncp	Q	.20	8-6	8-6
Indiana United	Q	.13	8-10	8-30
Panhandle Rylty	Q	.125	8-10	8-15
Raven Indust	Q	.09	8-31	10-15
Versa Tech	Q	.08	7-30	8-10
SPECIAL				
Versa Tech	.	.20	7-30	8-10
INITIAL				
Banc One Corp n	.	.31	8-15	8-30
Capital RI Inv III	.	.136	7-31	11-13
n- expected pay date.				
Cell Corp a	.	.08	8-13	8-27
Eagle Bncp a	.	.13	7-30	8-13
GAB Bancorp	.	.25	7-27	7-31
Pioneer Group n	.	.13	9-3	9-18
REGULAR				
Charter FSB	Q	.30	7-30	8-6
Citizens Banking	Q	.19	7-30	8-11
Clorox Co	Q	.45	7-30	8-13
Colonial Hi IncoMu	M	.067	7-30	8-13
Colonial IntermHi	M	.08	7-30	8-13
Colonial Muni Inco	M	.053	7-30	8-13
Del Grp Div Inco	M	.080	8-13	8-27
Eastern Util	Q	.30	8-2	8-14
Falls Fincl	Q	.18	8-31	9-10
Fedl Natl Mtg	Q	.40	7-30	8-25
Fst Interstate	Q	.40	8-10	8-31
Fst Tennessee	Q	.38	9-10	10-1
Hechinger Co A	Q	.04	7-30	8-30
Hechinger Co B	Q	.010	7-30	8-30
Heine Mfg	Q	.03	8-1	9-1
Honeywell Inc	Q	.225	8-27	9-13
Howell Indust	Q	.25	8-4	8-18
Interpublic Grp	Q	.125	8-30	9-15
K Mart Corp	Q	.24	8-12	9-13
Loews Corp	Q	.25	8-6	9-1
Magna Group	Q	.18	8-15	9-10
Mellon Bank	Q	.35	7-30	8-16
Nuveen Sel Matur	M	.0536	7-30	9-1

Fed Expected To Increase Interest Rates

Associated Press

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Attention

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largest full-service firm in t

Quality Personal Servic

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...eights to st...udy OBE reforms once new board is seated

The Ab...ngtons

...t William Spady, a nationally ...cognized OBE proponent, is an ...bservable demonstration of ...nowledge, combined with compet...ence, combined with orientations."

The major domains of OBE are ...at the student shall know, what ...e student shall be able to do and ...hat the student shall be like, ...cording to information provided ...Spady.

The current educational system ...based on each student earning ...many Carnegie Unit credits in ...ecific areas of study, such as ...athematics, science, social ...udies and English.

While Thompson said he would ...ke to have proponents and oppo...nents alike at a meeting, Assistant ...uperintendent Leonard Vender ...aid the debate is over because ...hapter 5 has been mandated.

"How it's defined is the choice of ...he community," he said. "That's ...hat the strategic planning com...mittee and the board will have to ...ecide."

The strategic planning commit...ee, which includes three board ...embers, five teachers, adminis...trators and members of the busi...ness community last met in ...anuary, but put its meetings on hiatus because of the teachers' strike, said Director Bonnie Perugini, who serves on the committee.

She also said the committee also sought to bring in more segments of the community. It will continue to discuss the changes by the state, she said, but it is nowhere near making any decisions on what changes may occur within the district.

"As far as I'm concerned, that committee is in place. That committee knows what we want as a community," she said.

Vender also said the committee stopped meeting until the final step was taken in approval of the Chapter 5 regulations. Last week, the attorney general also looked at the regulations to see if any were in violation of the state constitution and did not find any violations, he said.

Thompson said he believed the taxpayers have a right to know as much as possible about the changes and how they will affect the educational system.

But Vender said bringing in proponents and opponents of OBE from outside the district may only cause friction because they may be pushing their own agendas with no concern for the district.

"We could be in compliance with those regulations pretty much with what we're doing right now," he said. "What we want to do is build on the good things we're doing now."

While the strategic planning committee will reconvene to discuss the matter in public, Thompson suggested the committee wait until after December when the new board members take office. The three board members — Perugini, Terry Singer and Steuart Bailey — who serve on the committee now will be out of office in December. Bailey resigned about two weeks ago.

In another matter, Superintendent Elvin C. LaCoe said damage from a fire Monday evening at the Abington Heights Middle School is estimated at $500,000.

The fire caused a considerable amount of damage to the heart of the school's electrical system. The reason for the cost being so high is because of the damage to the school's communications network, including video equipment, he said.

The fire is still under investigation, LaCoe said, but he thanked the three volunteer fire companies who helped contain the fire — Newton-Ransom, Clark's Summit and Chinchilla.

The school will be ready for operation in September, he said.

...ing cutter ...ot as good ...ty for hear... disease

...s major drawback.

...n the larger of the latest studies, ...ected by Dr. Eric J. Topol of the ...leveland Clinic Foundation, doc...s randomly assigned 1,012 pa...tients at 35 hospitals in the United ...tates and Europe to have atherec...tomy or angioplasty.

Among the findings, published in ...oday's New England Journal of ...Medicine [illegible] ...tures was [illegible] ...ercent [illegible] the atherectomy pa...tients and [illegible] percent for those ...etting angioplasty. [illegible]

■ Nine [illegible] of those getting ...therectomy [illegible] or suffered heart ...ttacks [illegible] months of their ...re... [illegible] with ... ...en... of those getting angioplasty.

■ Average total hospital bills for ...th... [illegible] patients were $17,489, ... [illegible] $15,283 among an...

...ntly of the pharmaceutical firm.

The research "basically shows ...at they are both viable alterna...tives.

"They provide the doctor with ...nother choice in treating pa...tients," said David Pomfret, an Eli ...Lilly spokesman.

The new findings do not neces...sarily mean the device has been ...used inappropriately in individual ...cases. Some experts believe ather... [illegible] better for some ... [illegible] that fail to respond well to angioplasty, such as oddly shaped build-ups.

...In an editorial in the journal, Dr. ...John A. Bittl of Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston said ...doctors should choose ordinary an...gioplasty in most cases "because it ...is the safer and more cost effective ...of the two procedures."

However, Dr. Donald Baim of

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Responsiveness Summary
Aladdin Plating Site
Scott and South Abington Townships
Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania

This Responsiveness Summary documents public comments received by EPA during the public comment period on the Proposed Plan for the Aladdin Plating Site ("the Site"). It also provides EPA's responses to those comments. The Responsiveness Summary is organized as follows:

SECTION I Overview

This section summarizes recent actions at the Site and the public's response to the remedial alternatives listed in the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (Proposed Plan). The Proposed Plan outlines various cleanup alternatives available to address Site contamination and highlights EPA's preferred alternative.

SECTION II Background on Community Involvement

This section provides a brief history of community interest in the site and identifies key issues.

SECTION III Summary of Major Comments and Questions Received During the Public Meeting and EPA's Responses

This section documents comments and questions from the public that were voiced during the public meeting regarding the Site and EPA's responses to them.

SECTION IV Summary of Written Comments and Questions Received During the Comment Period and EPA's Responses

This section documents written comments and questions from the public regarding the Site and EPA's responses to them.

I. Overview

The public comment period on the Proposed Plan for this Site began on July 21, 1993 and ended on September 5, 1993. This included a 15-day extension requested by a citizen. EPA held a public meeting at the Chinchilla Fire House on August 5, 1993. Copies of the newspaper advertisements announcing the meeting and comment period are attached.

The following participants were present at the meeting:

EPA	
Lisa Brown	Community Relations Coordinator
Gregory Ham	Remedial Project Manager
Fran Burns	Eastern PA Remedial Section Manager
Al Peterson	Community Relations Manager

DER	
Paul Panek	Project Manager

At the meeting, EPA representatives summarized the results of the Remedial Investigation (RI), Feasibility Study (FS), and the Risk Assessment performed for the Site. EPA presented the preferred alternative to address Site contamination. The Proposed Plan addressed the remaining area of contamination: the shallow water-bearing zone in the immediate area of the former electroplating building and surface impoundments. The preferred alternative for the Site presented to the public was Institutional Controls with Groundwater Monitoring. Institutional controls identified for the public included deed restrictions, orders, or other actions prohibiting any excavation, installation of wells, or other disturbances to the area of contamination at the Site.

The public was given an opportunity to ask questions or submit written comments on the alternatives outlined in the Proposed Plan and the results of the RI/FS for the Site. The comments and EPA's responses are summarized, and in some cases combined, in Section III and IV of this document. They are not presented in the order received at the meeting. The complete transcript of the public meeting is contained in the Administrative Record file for the Site.

SECTION II Background on Community Involvement

Throughout the history of EPA's involvement in this site, there have been opportunities for public involvement in the site cleanup process. A number of public meetings were held during the emergency removal action and during the remedial action. There has been significant public interest in the activities at the Site. Public comments were noted, and changes were made to the planned actions where they could be accommodated.

For this Record of Decision, a formal public meeting, as discussed above, was held. In addition, a public availability session was held on September 24, 1993 to allow all interested citizens to ask questions directly to EPA representatives about the Proposed Plan and the work that has been done at the Site during the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study. The main concerns espressed at these meetings were that EPA is proposing to leave the contamination on-site. Also, the application of deed restrictions

to the property on which the former electroplating plant was located is seen as having a negative impact on the community. These actions are seen as having an adverse impact on property values. There were several comments to the effect that EPA should "finish the job" of cleaning up the Site, and not leave any contamination remaining on the Site.

SECTION III Summary of Comments and Questions from the Public Meeting

Comment #1: The proposed alternative does not remove the contamination from the Site. One of the four active remediation measures should be tried, or if these aren't effective, some other method of cleaning up the Site should be found and implemented.

EPA Response: The proposed alternative was selected based on a review of the nine criteria established in the National Contingency Plan for selection of remediation alternatives. EPA has already performed extensive actions to clean up the principal threats at the Site, including the remaining plating wastes, the building itself, and the contaminated soil. The source of contamination has been removed, and the remaining contamination is limited to a small pocket of water in the shallow water-bearing zone. The risk assessment indicated that the current risk level with the Site in its undisturbed condition is within acceptable levels, since this contamination is not affecting the drinking water aquifer and there is no possibility of direct contact with the chromium.

EPA screened all the technologies that were potentially applicable to this Site. The four active remediation alternatives that were evaluated in the FS were selected from this screening process as those that were most likely to be suitable for use at the Site. EPA is not aware of other methods that would work under the unusual conditions presented by this Site.

As discussed in the Proposed Plan, the four active remediation measures considered are not believed to be capable of reducing chromium to levels equivalent to background. Each has uncertainties or problems associated with it. Given that current risk conditions are within acceptable levels for protecting human health and the environment, and the background ARAR can't be met with any of the alternatives, EPA has selected Alternative 2, Institutional Controls with Ground Water Monitoring.

Comment #2: The soil cleanup should have gone further, to find the source of the contamination in the shallow water-bearing zone.

EPA Response: EPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) in 1988 that determined that a soil cleanup at the Site was necessary. Based on this ROD, EPA initiated the remedial action to remove the contaminated soil from the site. At that time it was recognized that a groundwater study was needed, but that this would be

completed after the soil removal. The soil removal was designed to meet specific objectives: to excavate contaminated soil to a depth where chromium levels in soil were below 50 parts per million (ppm), and to ship this soil offsite for proper disposal.

The soil cleanup proceeded with these objectives, and was completed. Soil testing conducted as the excavation occurred indicated that the 50 ppm level was reached. Subsequent sampling during the RI/FS confirmed that the soil cleanup was effective.

During the excavation, it was noted that water collecting in the excavated areas did contain chromium. Some of the accumulated water was rainwater, but some was clearly seeping in from the soils adjacent to the excavation. The seepage was generally not visible, but water would accumulate slowly in the bottom of the excavation. This water was tested, and shipped offsite for proper disposal.

The objectives of this action were to address soil contamination, so it was decided that the excavated areas would be backfilled, and the groundwater study would be initiated. Based on the ROD that had been issued, EPA would have been exceeding its authority to proceed with efforts to remediate groundwater at that time.

Comment #3: Couldn't the entire area of contamination be excavated to remove the contaminated media?

EPA Response: This is probably the only sure way of removing the contamination. However, excavation of soil to remove ground water would be impractical because the large volume of soil and ground water would make this approach very expensive (as costly or more than the previous cleanup) and disruptive to the environment and the community. The low risk presented by the Site does not justify such extraordinary measures or costs. Excavation to this depth might also open increase the potential for the contamination to infiltrate to greater depths. Disturbing the conditions of the sub-surface materials (which have such a low permeability) might allow the contamination to move deeper prior to completion of the action.

Comment #4: Could wells be placed throughout the Site to withdraw the contaminated water?

EPA Response: Installation of wells, which are then pumped to withdraw contaminated groundwater is the standard treatment for groundwater contamination. However, at this Site, the soil permeability is so low that pumping is ineffective. During sampling at the Site, monitoring wells typically ran dry prior to yielding three well volumes of water. Many of these wells took several days to recharge. This makes pump and treat systems infeasible for this Site.

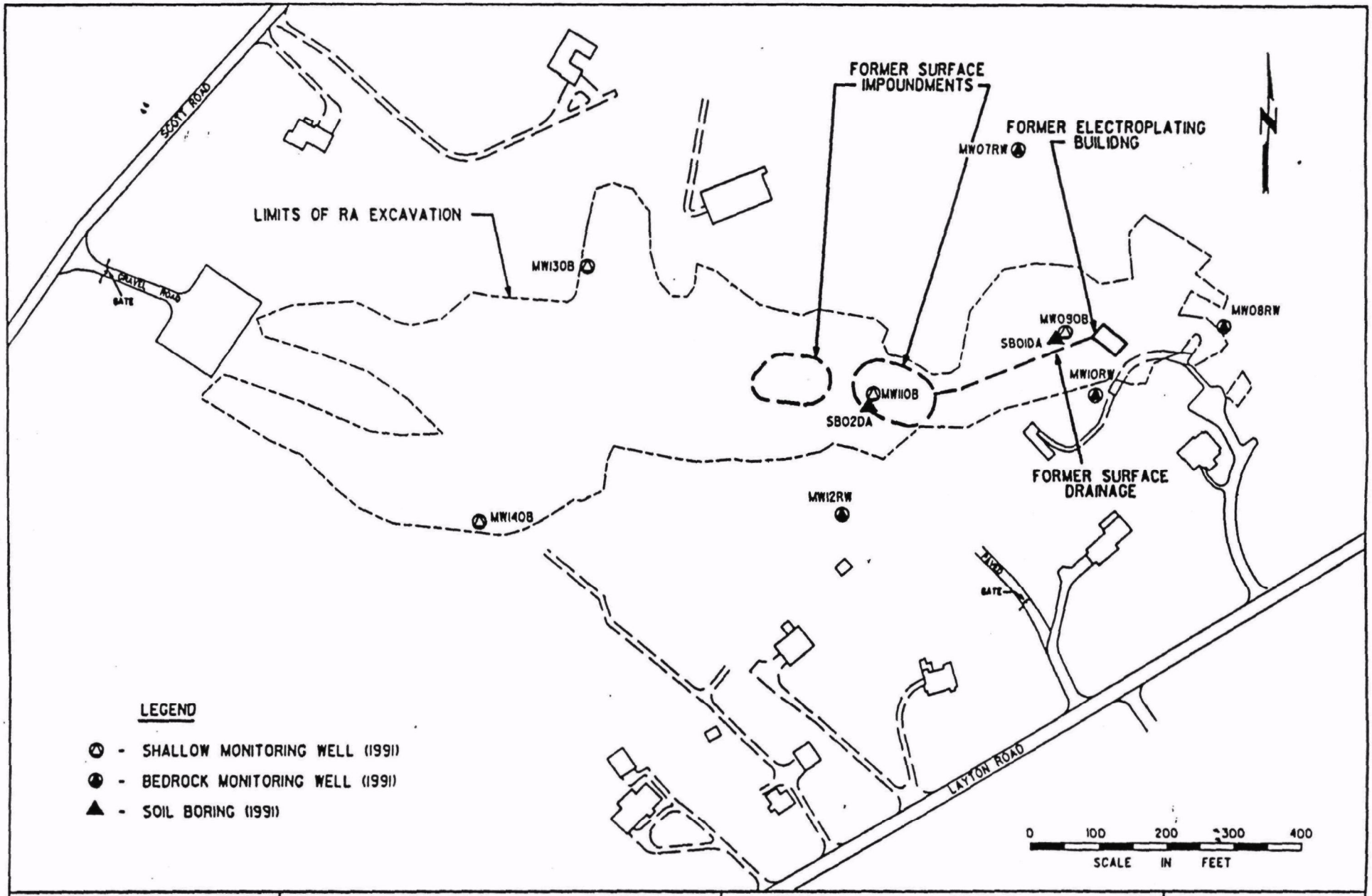
Table 2

ALADDIN PLATING SITE: ON-SITE MONITORING WELLS
SELECTED PRIORITY POLLUTANT METALS

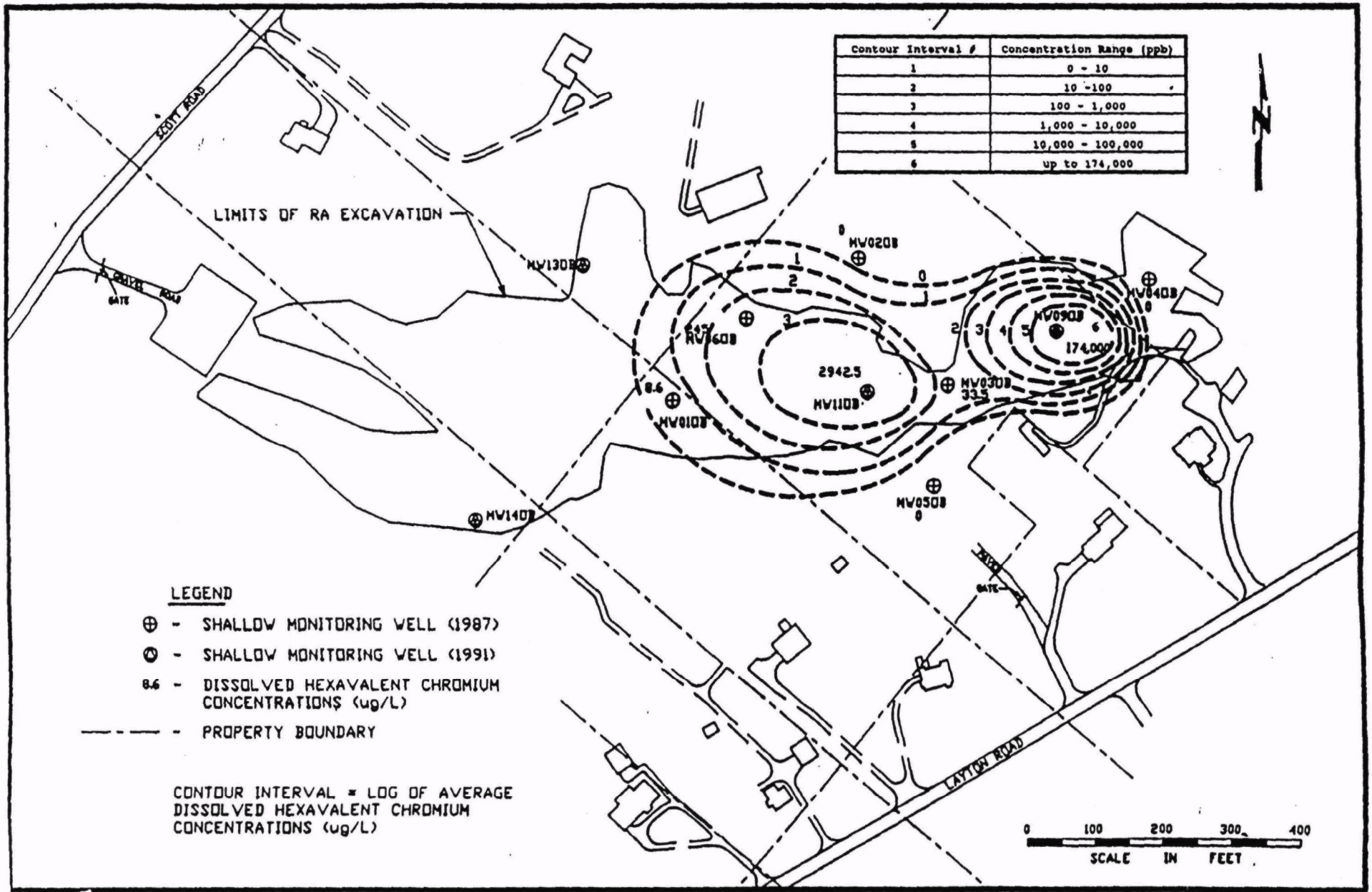
OCTOBER 1987 SAMPLING RESULTS

WELL #	ANTIMONY (mg/l) —	ARSENIC (mg/l) MCL: 0.05	CHROMIUM (mg/l) MCL: 0.05	COPPER (mg/l) MCL: 1.0	NICKEL (mg/l) —	SELENIUM (mg/l) MCL: 0.01	ZINC (mg/l) MCL: 5.0
MW-01-OB	0.3	—	0.067	—	—	—	0.03
DUPLICATE	—	—	0.053	—	—	—	0.02
MW-01-AW	0.2	0.002	0.076	—	—	—	0.02
DUPLICATE	0.3	0.002	0.12	—	0.02	—	0.02
MW-01-RW	0.2	—	0.005	—	—	—	0.01
DUPLICATE	—	—	0.004	—	—	—	0.02
MW-02-OB	0.2	—	0.005	—	—	—	0.03
MW-02-SA	—	—	0.013	—	—	—	0.05
MW-02-RW	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—
MW-03-OB	—	—	0.62	—	—	—	0.03
DUPLICATE	—	—	0.61	—	—	—	—
MW-04-OB	—	—	0.007	—	—	—	—
MW-04-SA	—	0.01	0.076	0.03	—	—	0.16
MW-04-DA	0.2	0.006	0.08	0.02	—	—	0.02
MW-05-OB	—	0.009	0.008	0.06	—	—	—
MW-05-SA	—	0.003	0.11	—	—	0.005	—
MW-06-OB	—	0.002	0.009	—	—	—	0.02
MW-06-AW	—	—	0.038	—	—	—	0.02
MW-06-RW	—	—	0.006	—	—	—	0.02
FIELD BLANK	—	—	0.004	—	—	—	—
FIELD BLANK	—	0.003	0.008	—	—	—	—

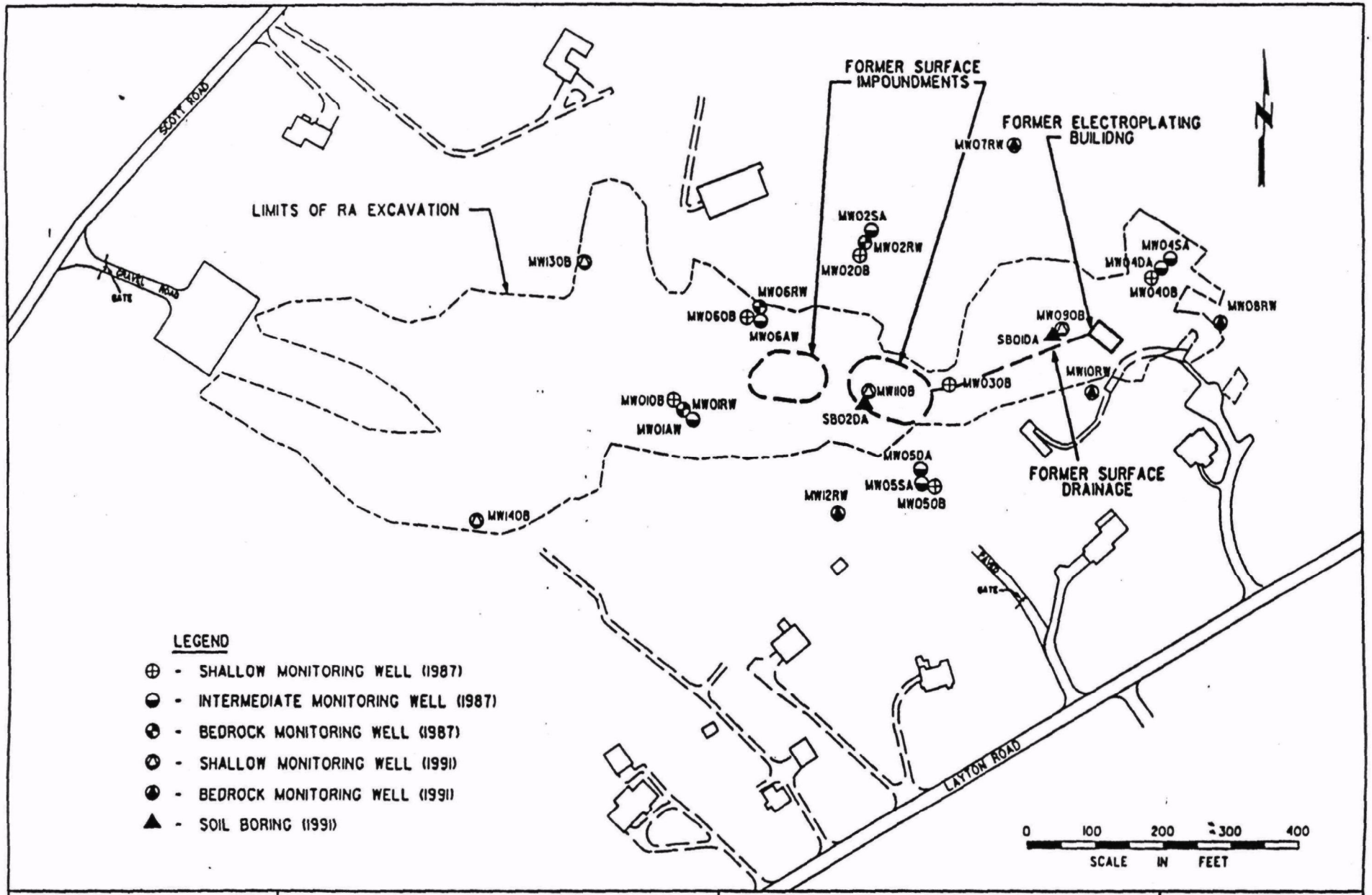
NOTE: No data for well MW-05-DA due to insufficient water column at time of sampling.



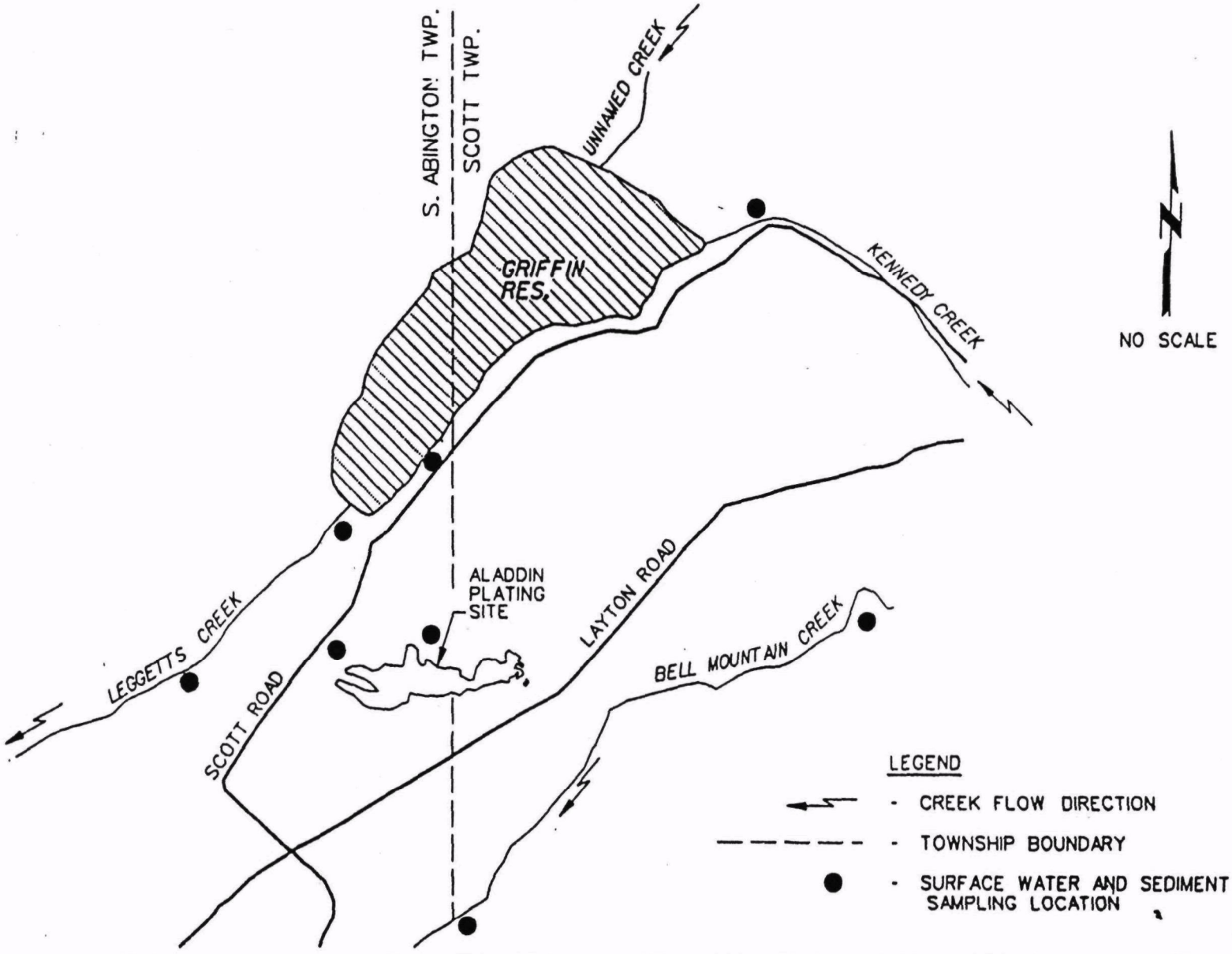
	ALADDIN PLATING RI/FS	SOIL EXCAVATION OUTLINE	FIGURE 4



	ALADDIN PLATING RI/FS	DISSOLVED HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM ISOCONCENTRATION LINE IN THE SHALLOW WATER-BEARING ZONE AND SURROUNDING PROPERTY LINES	FIGURE 5



	ALADDIN PLATING RI/FS	ALL MONITORING WELLS ON SITE	FIGURE 6



	ALADDIN PLATING RI/FS	SURFACE WATER AND SEDIMENT LOCATION MAP	FIGURE 7

Comment #5: EPA states that the contamination is limited to a small area on the former electroplating facility property, and yet it has already contaminated adjacent properties.

EPA Response: There was contamination on adjacent properties, but this was soil contamination in the top 1 to 3 feet of soil. This contamination was deposited there when the surface impoundments overflowed, or when rainwater washed wastes that were disposed of on the surface down the slope at the Site. This surface contamination on adjacent properties did not migrate down into the groundwater, and was removed during the soil cleanup.

The contamination that remains is chromium contaminated water that is in the 5 to 20 foot subsurface area underneath the former facility. This contamination is believed to be the result of infiltration of water from the surface impoundments, and the direct disposal of waste liquids into floor drains in the building. Sampling of monitoring wells and residential wells on and off the Site have revealed that this contamination is not migrating offsite at rates that will adversely impact the drinking water wells for a very long time (estimated at over 2,000 years).

Comment #6: What happens if future monitoring indicates that the contamination is migrating faster than estimated?

EPA Response: The monitoring program is designed to determine if the contamination is migrating, and the two additional wells are intended to provide an early warning should this occur. If EPA determines in the future that groundwater is migrating more rapidly than currently estimated, the levels of contamination and rate of migration would be reevaluated. If it appears that the migration would create a threat to human health or the environment, the remedial alternatives previously reviewed, as well as any newly developed methods, would be reviewed for possible implementation to address the problem. A new record of decision, or an explanation of significant differences, would be issued, and appropriate notification and public meeting procedures would be followed.

Comment #7: Implementing actions later, if needed, would increase costs significantly over costs of implementing action today.

EPA Response: It could be more expensive to implement a response action at a later time. However, it may not be necessary to ever implement an action if the chromium remains contained in its present location and/or is naturally attenuated in the soil. Further, the methods considered in the FS may be more extensively developed by the time implementation would be necessary, and could be completed with more certainty, more effectively, and with less trial and error, which might reduce the cost of some of the Alternatives.

Comment #8: If the contamination will remain on-site for 2,000 years, the monitoring program should continue for 2,000 years.

EPA Response: The monitoring program will initially establish a baseline for the Site through the quarterly monitoring period of the first five years. Comparison of the baseline data with data collected in later years will indicate whether migration is occurring, and if so, what the rate of migration is. After 30 years, a comprehensive record of the status of the contamination will have been developed. If migration is going to occur, evidence of it will most likely have been seen by that time. On the other hand, if containment or natural attenuation result in no changes or a reduction in contamination levels, this will have been clearly established in thirty years. Therefore, this should be a sufficient period of time for determining what is occurring at the Site.

In addition to the thirty year monitoring, EPA is required to conduct five year reviews on any site where wastes are left onsite. This includes sampling to determine the level and status of any remaining contamination. These reviews will be continued indefinitely as long as contamination remains above health-based levels.

Comment #9: Is EPA leaving wastes onsite in other cases, and if so what has happened (i.e.- is the contamination migrating offsite)?

EPA Response: EPA has left wastes in place on other sites. This is common for landfills, where the volume of wastes is too large to remove. A cap is placed over the landfill to prevent infiltration of water, and a monitoring program is typically implemented. It has also been done at other types of sites.

The record of whether migration has occurred at other sites is not relevant here, since subsurface conditions at each site are unique. The fact that migration may have occurred at other sites does not mean that it will occur here. The limited area of high level contamination, the lack of a continuing source, the very low permeability of the soils at this Site, and the possibility of natural conversion of hexavalent chromium to trivalent chromium all contribute to the very low estimated migration rates.

Comment #10: The past several years have been relatively dry in this area. What happens if several years of wet weather occur?

EPA Response: The contamination has existed at the Site for at least thirty years. During this period, there have been both dry periods and wet periods, and the contamination has moved only a limited distance even with active waste discharging. Therefore, with the source and surface contamination removed, there is less contamination available for migration and less likelihood that an extended wet period would cause offsite contamination.

Comment #11: The RI/FS refers to fractured bedrock at the Site, which allows for faster migration of contamination. Also, aren't the positive results that have been found in several residential wells an indication that the contamination is moving?

EPA Response: The bedrock under the Site is fractured, and fractures usually increase the rate of travel of water. However, the bedrock is at more than 80 feet below the surface of the Site, and the contamination would have to travel through the glacial till overburden (which has extremely low permeability) at the Site before it reaches the fractured bedrock. This overburden material is what has contained the chromium so far, and what is anticipated to continue containing the contamination.

There have been a few positive chromium results in residential well samples. However, all these results have been very low (5 parts per billion or less). One of these residential wells with a low concentration of chromium is the furthest from the Site of all the wells that were tested. Chromium is a naturally occurring substance, and can be found in groundwater not associated with human activity. There have been no consistent chromium results in any wells but the monitoring wells in the shallow water-bearing zone. The source of the chromium found in the residential wells cannot be conclusively determined, but EPA believes that the lack of consistency and the fact that wells in between these wells and the Site are not contaminated indicate that the contamination is not steadily migrating offsite.

Comment #12: Is it possible that putting all the monitoring wells in at the Site, or excavating to remove the contaminated soil, may have introduced conduits for the contamination to move deeper?

EPA Response: Improperly installed wells can allow contamination to travel from shallow levels to deeper ones and vice versa. However, all of the monitoring wells installed by EPA were constructed using specifications that prevent this from occurring.

The excavation did open up the area of contamination, and rainwater did collect in the openings. However, all of this water was pumped out as quickly as possible and disposed of off-site to prevent its infiltration.

Comment #13: Over how wide an area did EPA test surface water and wells, and what are the plans for the future?

EPA Response: Surface water samples were collected from Bell Mountain Creek and Leggetts Creek above and below the area where runoff from the Site would enter them. Samples were also collected from Griffin Pond. No Site-related contamination was found in any of these samples.

Residential well samples were collected from locations as far as Mt. Bethel Drive, Peaceful Valley Road (on the southeast side of Bell Mountain Creek), along Scott and Layton Roads, and as far southwest as Sarah Drive. Results of this sampling are discussed in the response to Comment #11, and in the Record of Decision.

Comment #14: Alternative 3 appears to be a feasible alternative. The FS states that the electrokinetic method may be able to remove 70% or more of the chromium contamination, while the Proposed Plan reports that only 30% can be removed. Why is there a discrepancy?

EPA Response: The FS was based on research papers for projects that were conducted using trivalent chromium. During EPA's preparation of the Proposed Plan, this information was reviewed, along with additional information that was gathered from the literature, from discussions with vendors, and from discussion with EPA personnel involved with these methods. From this information, it was determined that this method is 70-95% effective with trivalent chromium, but that with hexavalent it may only be as much as 30% effective. Due to the ionic charge of the compounds that hexavalent chromium forms in groundwater, it moves in the opposite direction as trivalent chromium in an electrokinetic extraction system, thus reducing its effectiveness. Although there are methods that have been proposed to address this problem, they have not been extensively tested in the field at a site with conditions comparable to this Site to see how effective they would be.

Comment #15: Alternative 2 is listed as a "No Action" plan in the FS. It also doesn't meet the preference for permanent solutions and use of treatment technologies, and doesn't restore the Site to productive use.

EPA Response: This Alternative was listed as "No Action with Institutional Controls" in the FS. The NCP requires that every FS include the "No Action" option in its evaluation of alternatives as a baseline to which to compare the other options. There must be only one "No Action" alternative in each operable unit, so the name of Alternative 2 was changed to avoid confusion with Alternative 1. Also, characterizing Alternative 2 as "no action" is misleading because the use of Institutional Controls is a form of remedial action.

CERCLA does include a preference for permanent solutions and treatment as a principal element, where practicable. However, after evaluating the options available, EPA has concluded that the treatment methods available are characterized by significant inefficiencies and uncertainties that can interfere with their implementation. Treatment would not completely eliminate the contamination so institutional controls might still be required. With this uncertainty, and given that the Site under present conditions is not presenting risks above the normal range, EPA has

selected an Alternative that does not meet these preferences because they are impracticable at this Site.

The Site has been cleaned up to the point where some productive uses of this property would be acceptable. The controls to be applied will only limit actions that would disturb the subsurface. The surface can be used for agriculture, gardening, recreation, and other activities.

Comment #16: Actual removal of contamination from a site should carry a higher weight in the ranking of criteria for selection of remedial alternatives, rather than being of equal weight with the other eight criteria.

EPA Response: Alternatives involving the removal of contaminated materials are evaluated along with other alternatives to determine the comparative benefit of each against the nine criteria specified in the NCP. The NCP does not assign weights to the criteria, but directs the lead agency to select the alternative with the best balance of performance relative to the nine criteria. There may be some cases where disturbance of a site to remove the contamination might cause more of a hazard to human health or the environment than containing the wastes in place. In some cases such as a landfill, the volume of wastes make it prohibitively expensive to remove the wastes. A ranking system that gives added weight to removal of wastes would not take into account those circumstances where it may not be appropriate.

Comment #17: Deed restrictions will lower property values throughout the area, and are unacceptable. Can EPA purchase properties whose values have declined due to proximity to an NPL site, or reimburse owners for this loss in value?

EPA Response: There currently are no restrictions on land use at the site. Other types of institutional controls may be considered. These might include land use controls, permit limitations, or administrative orders.

CERCLA gives EPA has authority to take action to protect human health and the environment. EPA has no authority to take actions to restore property values or to purchase adjacent properties whose values are adversely affected by an NPL site. EPA does not have authority to reimburse property owners for any loss in property value.

Comment #18: What is EPAs authority for implementing deed restrictions, and what will happen if they cannot be implemented?

EPA Response: EPA will use its legal authorities and recommend the use of State and local authorities to impose institutional controls. Pursuant to Section 106 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §9606, EPA is authorized to issue orders to protect public health and welfare

and the environment. EPA has used this authority in the past to require property owners to place deed restriction on their properties. As with the exercise of other legal authorities, affected parties may attempt to challenge these authorities.

Other institutional controls are available to prohibit disruption of the contaminated area. Local building permits and land use restrictions, or administrative or judicial orders may be used where sufficient legal authority exists. If deed restrictions cannot be implemented, these other options would be considered. If none of the options were feasible, EPA would revisit its selection of alternatives, and might issue a new Record of Decision.

Comment #19: What is EPA doing to recover the costs of previous cleanup actions from the property owner?

EPA Response: EPA has placed a lien on the property subject to the remedial action and owned by the potentially responsible party in order to recover costs of cleanup if the property is sold. In all Superfund cases, EPA evaluates the financial status and assets of the potentially responsible parties to determine if actions should be taken to recover costs. This is being done with this Site. The Agency does not comment on the possibility of future actions to recover costs.

Comment #20: How will people be notified of EPA's decision on this matter?

EPA Response: An announcement will be sent out to people on the mailing list once the Record of Decision is completed. EPA will also issue press releases, so local media may report the decision.

Comment #21: What options do citizens have if they don't agree with the decision?

EPA Response: The provisions of CERCLA provide persons certain rights to seek review of Agency actions under specific circumstances. The scope of and limitations on these rights are too extensive to discuss in this summary which is primarily intended for the discussion of the remedy.

SECTION IV Summary of Written Comments and Questions Received During the Comment Period and EPA's Responses

During the public comment period, EPA received one request for a 15-day extension (which was granted), 9 comment letters, and a petition signed by 65 area residents. Many of the comments were similar to those expressed at the public meeting and answered above. These are not repeated here, but are listed at the end of this section.

Comment #22: EPA should not look at costs when selecting alternatives. The sole consideration should be preventing human exposure to contaminants in ground water and protecting drinking water supplies.

EPA Response: The NCP requires the lead agency to perform a detailed and comparative analysis of alternatives in selecting a remedy. Cost is one of the evaluation criteria that the lead agency is required to include in its detailed analysis and comparative analysis of alternatives [see 40 C.F.R. §300.430 (e) and (f)].

Comment #23: Alternative 2 does not meet the Pennsylvania requirement for cleanup of contamination to levels equivalent to background. EPA should not waive this requirement, and all Pennsylvania standards should be achieved.

EPA Response: Pennsylvania Hazardous Waste Management regulations require that ground water contamination be cleaned up to levels equivalent to background. In this case, background levels would be in the range from 0 to 5 parts per billion. With the level of contamination in the immediate area of the former facility, and the subsurface conditions which make withdrawal of the ground water in this shallow zone very difficult, EPA believes that achieving background levels is technically infeasible. If EPA finds an ARAR to be technically infeasible, it can be waived. The next most stringent ARAR would then be applied. Maximum contaminant levels (MCLs), which are standards that set maximum levels of contaminants that can be in water distributed in public water systems can be used as relevant and appropriate standards for water from wells, but would be applied to the drinking water aquifer, which has not been affected by the Site. Since the shallow water-bearing zone cannot be used as a drinking water source due to its extremely low yield, MCLs would not be relevant and appropriate standards for this zone. The level of cleanup already attained at the site in its undisturbed condition is protective of human health and the environment, which is also a threshold criteria for remedy selection.

Comment #24: Monitoring should be done monthly for the entire thirty years, rather than quarterly for two years and annually thereafter.

EPA Response: The rationale for the proposed monitoring program is explained in the response to comment #8 above. Given the very slow expected migration rate (less than 1 foot per year), monthly monitoring would not significantly add to the information available to evaluate the status of the Site. Because more frequent data are not required to evaluate ground water quality changes, monthly monitoring which is significantly more expensive than quarterly or annual monitoring, is not justified.

Comment #25: Any increases in Site-related contamination in monitoring wells or private wells should trigger a major cleanup program.

EPA Response: Site-related contamination must present an actual or potential threat to human health or the environmental in order to satisfy statutory requirements for EPA to initiate an action. Contamination in monitoring wells does not necessarily present a risk unless there is a likelihood that this contamination will migrate to areas used for drinking water supplies.

Comment #26: A collection pool to collect water from the contaminated area should be established.

EPA Response: Because of the slow movement of ground water under the Site, this technique would require leaving the pool open for a very long period of time (comparable to Alternative 5), and would be very disruptive to the community to construct and operate. Frequent removal of the liquid by tanker trucks would be required, and the potential effectiveness of this method is unknown. The entire area would have to be fenced off for the entire time, which means the area would not be usable. In short, this approach offers no advantage over the alternatives described in the Record of Decision that would entail increased risk to the environment.

Comment #27: If no action is being taken, Alternative 1 would be preferable, since not having deed restrictions would have less impact on adjacent properties.

EPA Response: The institutional controls are designed to prevent potential increased migration of contamination to adjacent properties. Without controls, the owner could allow actions on the Site that could increase migration rates. Therefore, some type of controls are needed to prevent this. However, some actions other than deed restrictions (such as restrictions on building permits, well installations, etc.) may be considered.

Comment # 28: EPA's estimate of 2000 years before the chromium contamination reaches the drinking water aquifer is based on the assumption that there are no fractures or other pathways that would expedite the migration, and that vertical and horizontal movement will be very slow. Both of these assumptions may not be accurate.

EPA Response: It is true that these assumptions were made to develop the estimate of how long it would take for migration to the drinking water aquifer to occur. However, these assumptions were made based on the extensive testing of the subsurface conditions at the site. No evidence has been found to date of any fractures in the overburden material above the bedrock, through which the contamination would have to migrate. Samples of this material were tested to determine its permeability, which is extremely low. In order to be conservative, the modeling used an estimate of vertical

migration velocity that was two orders of magnitude higher than the actual measured value.

The fact that the contamination has not migrated further than it has to date, even while active disposal of liquid wastes was occurring over a thirty-year period, is consistent with these assumptions. In addition, the monitoring that will be conducted will be a continuing check on the assumptions. The new wells to be installed at the edge of the contaminated area will also provide an early warning if the assumptions are incorrect.

Comment #29: EPA has dismissed the remediation technologies as infeasible too summarily. Why were they in the FS at all if they are infeasible?

EPA Response: EPA has determined that these methods are technically impracticable for cleaning up the chromium to background levels. These methods may be feasible for reducing chromium levels, but the level of level of reduction possible and the permanence of the reduction is uncertain.

The FS reviewed technologies that were potentially applicable to the Site. Because of the unique conditions at this Site, common ground water contamination treatment technologies (such as pumping and treating of the ground water) were not feasible. Therefore, the FS evaluated methods that have been less extensively used, and some that have only been tested in laboratory experiments for application to chromium contamination. These methods may have been used with other metal contaminants, or on sites with more advantageous conditions, but not on hexavalent chromium contamination in subsurface conditions such as at this Site. While these methods have some potential applications for this use, when evaluated in the context of these site-specific conditions they have been found to be technically impracticable for meeting the Pennsylvania cleanup to background requirement. Therefore, EPA is waiving this requirement.

Comment #30: The validity of the scoring system in the FS is questionable. Several of the values given to Alternatives 1 and 2 are not justified.

EPA Response: The scoring system presented in the RI/FS is a guide to be used in the decision-making process. Decisions were not made solely based on the scoring system. While some of the comments on specific values in the scoring matrix are valid, some of the values for the active remediation alternatives would also change (decrease) based on some of the site-specific problems discussed in the Proposed Plan, which also includes discussions of information that supplements the analysis provided in the FS. Some examples are the information on the efficiency of the electokinetic method for hexavalent chromium and the estimates of the length of time

required for Alternative 5 to achieve reductions in hexavalent chromium.

Written comments were also received that were similar to the following comments made at the public meeting on August 5, 1993: Comment #s 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 16, and 17. These comments and responses are not repeated here, as they were discussed in Section III.

...analyst with Painewebber ... its rating. On Tuesday, the ...ck rose 4⅛ after the company ...ported much better-than-ex...

Financial Group cut its earnings estimate for the company.

four years ago, took the company helm back after announcing the resignation of James R. Paul.

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Merrill Lynch

...an Pleads ...g Charge

...im prison sentence of 20 years ...d a ...ine of $1 million.

According to officials, Pisano de...cre... between 400 and 500 grams ...coc...ne between December 1990 ...d April 1992.

...Pisano said he would resell ...gs ...e bought from David Au...st, the leader of the network.

...Aug...st is now serving a 14-year ...sor sentence on federal drug ...arg... Pisano said he met August ...gym.

...Pisano was indicted in May and ...the 29th person arrested as a ...ult of the "Operation Bad Influ...e" investigation.

...hat if you ...g for sale ...d $500 you ...duced rate ...ribune ...ed?
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THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION FOR THE
ALADDIN PLATING SUPERFUND SITE
SCOTT AND SOUTH ABINGTON TOWNSHIPS, LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PA

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
Thursday, August 5, 1993
7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Chinchilla Fire House
Shady Lane, Chinchilla

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region III, has completed the Proposed Remedial Action Plan for the Aladdin Plating Superfund Site (site), which occupies 8.5 acres on Layton Road. The Proposed Plan presents alternatives for addressing ground water contamination, and is based upon an EPA Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study (FS).

The RI examined the extent and nature of contaminants present at the site. The FS evaluated six remedial action alternatives for the site and provides supporting information leading to the alternative selection by EPA.

EPA's preferred alternative for the site is Alternative 2, installing monitoring wells, issuing land-use restrictions, and conducting periodic ground water monitoring. This alternative is preferred because it is believed to best satisfy evaluation criteria. The remedial alternatives EPA evaluated are:

1. No Action (with ground water monitoring)
2. Installation of two monitoring wells, land-use restrictions, and ground water monitoring
3. Enhanced pumping and treatment, with Off-site treatment and disposal
4. Enhanced pumping and treatment, with On-site treatment and disposal
5. Chemical barriers
6. Chemical alteration and immobilization

July 21, 1993 to August 19, 1993
Public Comment Period on Alternatives in Proposed Plan

The preferred alternative is only a preliminary determination. EPA encourages the public to comment on the alternatives listed in the Proposed Plan. EPA will choose the final remedy after the Public Comment Period ends and may select any one of the alternatives after taking the public's comments into account.

The Public Comment Period begins July 21, 1993 and ends August 19, 1993. EPA will hold a public meeting to discuss the Proposed Plan and the preferred alternative on Thursday, August 5, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. in the Chinchilla Fire House, Shady Lane, Chinchilla, PA 18410.

The RI/FS, copies of the Proposed Remedial Action Plan, and other site related documents in the Administrative Record are available at the Scott Township Municipal Building, RR 1, Route 457, Olyphant, PA 18447 (717) 254-6969 and at the South Abington Township Building, 104 Shady Lane, Montdale, PA 18410 (717) 586-2111.

Written comments should be sent postmarked no later than August 19, 1993 to:

Gregory Ham (3HW22)
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. EPA, Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107

For more information regarding the site, please contact:

Lisa Brown (3EA21)
Community Relations Coordinator
U.S. EPA, Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 597-2129

New York Stock Exchange

N. Y. YORK (AP) — Selected noon national prices for New York Stock Exchange issues:

[illegible]

Dividends

[illegible]

Fed Expected To Increase Interest Rates

Associated Press

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The results Tuesday from Citicorp, Chemical Banking Corp., NationsBank, Banc One Corp., Wells Fargo & Co. and First Inter-

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earned a reputation of trust
largest full-service firm in t

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Our professionally train

Targets Properties

ether it intends to hire Barbin the next board meeting.
n another tax matter, the board s updated on an attempt by The w Globe Store to have its assess nt reduced.
Abrahamsen said a trial has en scheduled Oct. 18 in Lacka- nna County Court on The New obe Store's appeal of its assessed uation.
Abrahamsen said the store is king to reduce its assessed val- ion by two-thirds — from $12 llion to $4 million.
le said the city has agreed to it the costs of fighting the ap- l with the district.

NEI, Barons To Test Vision Of Teen Athletes

The Northeastern Eye Institute d the Scranton–Wilkes-Barre d Barons will join forces to ovide area youngsters with a free orts vision screening Saturday m 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at NEI, 200 ffin Ave.
Boys and girls through the teens o participate in school sports d other activities are eligible. Space is limited, so appointments encouraged and can be made contacting the institute.
ted Barons pitcher Jeff Patter- will be on hand from 10 a.m. til noon to greet the youngsters d sign autographs. The first 100 nups will receive tickets to a d Barons game.
Eyesight is not the same as ion," said Dr. Arthur J. Jordan. sion is the ability to interpret at is being seen and that's what re going to be looking at.'
ordan, Dr. John Boyle and Dr. ry Ann DeSanto will do the eenings.

THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

EXTENDS THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON THE PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION FOR THE

ALADDIN PLATING SUPERFUND SITE

SCOTT AND SOUTH ABINGTON TOWNSHIPS, LACKAWANNA COUNTY, PA

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region III, has completed the Proposed Remedial Action Plan for the Aladdin Plating Superfund Site (site), which occupies 8.5 acres on Layton Road. The Proposed Plan presents alternatives for addressing ground water contamination, and is based upon an EPA Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study (FS).

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Public Comment Period on Alternatives in Proposed Plan Extended From August 19,1993 to September 6, 1993

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The Public Comment Period began on July 21, 1993. EPA held a public meeting to discuss the Proposed Plan and the preferred alternative on Thursday, August 5, 1993 at 7:00 p.m. at the Chinchilla Fire House, Shady Lane, Chinchilla. EPA has extended the public comment period to run through September 5, 1993.

The RI/FS, copies of the Proposed Remedial Action Plan, and other site related documents in the Administrative Record are available at the Scott Township Municipal Building, RR 1, Route 457, Olyphant, PA 18447 (717) 254-6969 and at the South Abington Township Building, 104 Shady Lane, Montdale, PA 18410 (717) 586-2111.

Written comments should be sent postmarked no later than September 5, 1993 to:

Gregory Ham (3HW22)
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. EPA, Region III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107

For more information regarding the site, please contact:

Lisa Brown (3EA21)
Community Relations Coordinator
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...burgh housewives.
... girl sits down in my ... every girl is different," ...ite of Little Rock, Ark. "I ...ake them up to look all ...

... said the changes represent ...ressure for the contestants, ...f whom don't know how to ...ake-up that works under ...e of television lights. ...ink it's going to hurt (the ...)," she said. ...dis, who has produced five ...y Awards shows and other ...cials, said the pageant musi... ...nbers will compete with the ... the Oscars. ...'re really going to have a ... different flavor and style," ...

...nother new twist, each con... ... must shoot a 3- to 5-minute ...video describing her life. ...pes will be edited to about ...onds and broadcast while ...f the 10 finalists parades ...he stage. ...ers also will see footage ...g the daily experiences of ...ants during their two weeks ...ntic City leading up to the ...l.

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...screw holes drilled into the ...hat spans the highway didn't ... the holes on the sign. ...ause of these complications, ...eration that we know from ...xperience should have only ... 20 minutes, took much ..." said Leo Leonetti, assist... ...oject engineer for PennDOT. ... a.m., the beginning of the ...ng rush hour, the sign was ...t affixed to the 156-foot long ...according police. Workers at ...blocked both the north and ...ound lanes as they contin... ...try. ...usands of motorists were de... ...before the sign was finally in ... a little after 6 a.m. ...nDOT apologized for the mis...

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THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE

PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION FOR THE

ALADDIN PLATING SUPERFUND SITE

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Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 597-2129

New York Stock Exchange

NEW YORK (AP) — Selected noon national prices for New York Stock Exchange issues:

Dividends

TUESDAY DIVIDENDS DECLARED

	Period	Rate	Stock of record	Payable date
IRREGULAR				
Borden Chem LP		.18	7-30	8-0
CrossTimber Royal		.1238	7-30	8-13
Mesa Offsh Tr		.0170	7-30	10-29
Mesa Rylty		.3480	7-30	10-29
Mesa Trust		.08	7-30	8-29
Midwest Barshrs		.10	8-6	8-30
Nuveen SelMatMu 3		.116	7-30	8-1
Rank Organ PLC	x	.3726	7-23	10-1
x- approx amount per ADR.				
San Juan Basin		[illegible]	7-30	8-13
Thomson Advisory		.46	8-1	8-10
STOCK				
Banc One Corp	a		8-3	8-31
a- 5 for 4 split.				
Fst Westrn Bncp		5pc	8-3	8-20
Dynodyne Co		2pc	8-31	8-26
Pioneer Group	b		8-1	8-1
b- 2 for 1 split.				
INCREASED				
CCB Finl	Q	.38	8-13	10-1
Fst Western Bncp	Q	.20	8-6	8-6
Indiana United	Q	.13	8-10	8-30
Panhandle Rylty	Q	.125	8-10	8-15
Raven Indust	Q	.09	8-31	10-15
Versa Tech	Q	.05	7-30	8-10
SPECIAL				
Versa Tech		.30	7-30	8-10
INITIAL				
Banc One Corp a		.31	8-13	8-30
Capital RI Inv III		.128	7-31	11-12
a- expected pay date.				
Cntl Corp a		.08	8-13	8-27
Eagle Bncp a		.13	7-30	8-13
GAB Bancorp		.25	7-27	7-31
Pioneer Group a		.13	8-3	8-18
REGULAR				
Charter FSB	Q	.20	7-30	8-0
Citizens Banking	Q	.18	7-30	8-11
Clorox Co	Q	.45	7-30	8-13
Colonial HI IncoMu	M	.057	7-30	8-13
Colonial Intermktl	M	.05	7-30	8-13
Colonial Muni Inco	M	.052	7-30	8-13
Dal Grp Div Inco	M	.080	8-13	8-27
Eastern Util	Q	.30	8-3	8-18
Falls Finl	Q	.15	8-31	9-10
Fedl Natl Mtg	Q	.46	7-30	8-25
Fst Interstate	Q	.40	8-10	8-31
Fst Tennessee	Q	.30	9-10	10-1
Hechinger Co A	Q	.04	7-30	8-20
Hechinger Co B	Q	.010	7-30	8-20
Holco Mtg	Q	.03	8-1	8-1
Honeywell Inc	Q	.325	8-27	8-13
Howell Indust	Q	.25	8-6	8-18
Interpublic Grp	Q	.125	8-20	9-15
K Mart Corp	Q	.24	8-13	8-13
Loews Corp	Q	.25	8-6	9-1
Magna Group	Q	.18	8-15	9-10
Mellon Bank	Q	.38	7-30	8-14
Nuveen Sel Matur	M	.0536	7-23	8-1

Fed Expected To Increase Interest Rates

Associated Press

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The results Tuesday from Citicorp, Chemical Banking Corp., NationsBank, Banc One Corp., Wells Fargo & Co. and First Inter-

Attention

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has op
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Investment expertis
is now right in

When you think of Merril
of stocks and bonds. But a
with all of your financial ne
earned a reputation of trust
largest full-service firm in t

Quality Personal Servic
Our professionally train

...eights to st...udy OBE reforms once new board is seated

The Ab...ngtons

...t William Spady, a nationally ...cognized OBE proponent, is an ...bservable demonstration of ...owledge, combined with compet...ce, combined with orientations."

The major domains of OBE are ...at the student shall know, what ...e student shall be able to do and ...hat the student shall be like, ...cording to information provided ...Spady.

The current educational system ...based on each student earning ...many Carnegie Unit credits in ...ecific areas of study, such as ...athematics, science, social ...udies and English.

While Thompson said he would ...ke to have proponents and oppo...nents alike at a meeting, Assistant ...uperintendent Leonard Vender ...aid the debate is over because ...hapter 5 has been mandated.

"How it's defined is the choice of ...he community," he said. "That's ...hat the strategic planning com...mittee and the board will have to ...ecide."

The strategic planning commit...tee, which includes three board ...members, five teachers, adminis...trators and members of the busi...ness community last met in ...anuary, but put its meetings on hiatus because of the teachers' strike, said Director Bonnie Perugini, who serves on the committee.

She also said the committee also sought to bring in more segments of the community. It will continue to discuss the changes by the state, she said, but it is nowhere near making any decisions on what changes may occur within the district.

"As far as I'm concerned, that committee is in place. That committee knows what we want as a community," she said.

Vender also said the committee stopped meeting until the final step was taken in approval of the Chapter 5 regulations. Last week, the attorney general also looked at the regulations to see if any were in violation of the state constitution and did not find any violations, he said.

Thompson said he believed the taxpayers have a right to know as much as possible about the changes and how they will affect the educational system.

But Vender said bringing in proponents and opponents of OBE from outside the district may only cause friction because they may be pushing their own agendas with no concern for the district.

"We could be in compliance with those regulations pretty much with what we're doing right now," he said. "What we want to do is build on the good things we're doing now."

While the strategic planning committee will reconvene to discuss the matter in public, Thompson suggested the committee wait until after December when the new board members take office. The three board members — Perugini, Terry Singer and Steuart Bailey — who serve on the committee now will be out of office in December. Bailey resigned about two weeks ago.

In another matter, Superintendent Elvin C. LaCoe said damage from a fire Monday evening at the Abington Heights Middle School is estimated at $500,000.

The fire caused a considerable amount of damage to the heart of the school's electrical system. The reason for the cost being so high is because of the damage to the school's communications network, including video equipment, he said.

The fire is still under investigation, LaCoe said, but he thanked the three volunteer fire companies who helped contain the fire — Newton-Ransom, Clark's Summit and Chinchilla.

The school will be ready for operation in September, he said.

Clipboard

...ing cutter ...ot as good ...ty for hear... disease

...s major drawback.

...n the larger of the latest studies, ...ected by Dr. Eric J. Topol of the ...leveland Clinic Foundation, doc...s randomly assigned 1,012 pa...tients at 35 hospitals in the United ...ates and Europe to have atherec...tomy or angioplasty.

Among the findings, published in ...oday's New England Journal of Medicine: [illegible] ...tures was [illegible] ...ercent [illegible] the atherectomy pa...tients and [illegible] percent for those ...etting angioplasty. [illegible]

■ Nine [illegible] of those getting ...atherectomy [illegible] or suffered heart ...attacks [illegible] months of their ...re[illegible] with [illegible] ...ent of those getting angioplasty.

■ Average total hospital bills for ...ath...rectomy patients were $17,489, [illegible] $15,3[illegible] among [illegible]

...ntly of the pharmaceutical firm.

The research "basically shows ...hat they are both viable alterna...tives.

"They provide the doctor with ...nother choice in treating pa...tients," said David Pomfret, an Eli ...illy spokesman.

The new findings do not neces...sarily mean the device has been ...used inappropriately in individual ...cases. Some experts believe ather[illegible] better for some [illegible] that fail to respond well to angioplasty, such as oddly shaped build-ups.

In an editorial in the journal, Dr. John A. Bittl of Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston said ...doctors should choose ordinary an...gioplasty in most cases "because it ...s the safer and more cost effective ...of the two procedures."

However, Dr. Donald Baim of

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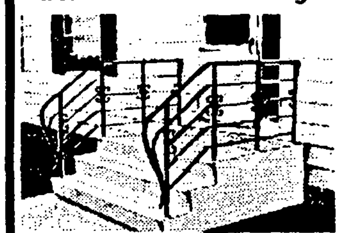

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