PUBLIC NOTICE

Announcing a Public Workshop and Requesting Comments on US Filter Westates' Proposed Air Emissions Test Plan and Risk Assessment Workplan

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold a public workshop on February 11, 2004 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the BlueWater Casino, 11300 Resort Drive, Parker, Arizona. At the workshop EPA will provide information about US Filter Westates' proposed Air Emissions Test Plan and Risk Assessment Workplan, and will receive public comment on the Plans. The public may also provide written comments as described below.

Westates, a hazardous waste storage and treatment facility located on the Colorado River Indian Reservation near Parker, Arizona, is currently seeking a permit to operate on a permanent basis. As part of the permit process, Westates is required to complete an air emissions test and a risk assessment. The Air Emissions Test Plan and Risk Assessment Workplan outline how Westates proposes to carry out each of these steps. EPA is requesting comments on these Plans.

Emissions from Westates contain contaminants such as metals, dioxins, nitrogen oxides, and particulates. The air emissions test will determine the amount of contaminants coming from the exhaust stack at Westates. The risk assessment will estimate the risk from these contaminants to the surrounding community.

EPA received the revised Air Emissions Test Plan and Risk Assessment Workplan in December 2003. EPA is currently reviewing the Plans and is not yet proposing approval or modification of the Plans. EPA will consider comments from the public during its review of the Plans. You may provide comments to EPA on the Plans at the public workshop on February 11, 2004 or in writing by March 15, 2004. Written comments should be sent to Wenona Wilson, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator, at the address below. Written comments may be sent by email, fax, or regular mail.

The proposed Air Emissions Test Plan and Risk Assessment Workplan may be found at the following locations:

Colorado River Indian Tribes Library CRIT Administrative Complex 2nd Avenue & Mohave Road Parker, AZ 85334 (928) 669-1285 Parker Public Library 1001 South Navajo Avenue Parker, AZ 85334 (928) 669-2622

If you are unable to visit these locations, please contact Wenona Wilson at the address or phone number below. She will send you a copy of the Plans.

We also invite questions or comments at any time about the permit process or about opportunities for public comment. If you have questions or comments, or would like to be included on EPA's mailing list to receive future fact sheets and public notices regarding the hazardous waste permit decision at Westates, please contact:

Wenona Wilson, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator

phone: (415) 972-3239 • (800) 231-3075 • fax: (415) 947-3528 • email: wilson.wenona@epa.gov mail: Wenona Wilson (SFD-3), US EPA, Region 9, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

The Air Emissions Test and Risk Assessment are important steps in Westates' permit application process. After Westates completes the Air Emissions Test and Risk Assessment, they will submit the results of the Test and Risk Assessment to EPA. Westates will also submit a permit application to EPA. EPA will use the results of the Air Emissions Test and Risk Assessment, as well as the permit application, to make its proposed permit decision. Before EPA makes its permit decision, you will have an opportunity to comment on the results of the Air Emissions Test, Risk Assessment, and permit application.