

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Designation of Area of Potential Effects on Historic Properties and Request for Information about Historic Properties for Siemens Water Technologies (formerly US Filter Westates) Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

Siemens Water Technologies is a hazardous waste treatment facility on the Colorado River Indian Reservation near Parker, Arizona. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is in the process of making a permit decision at Siemens.

#### Designation of Area of Potential Effects

As part of the permit decision, EPA must comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). In compliance with the NHPA, EPA is designating an Area of Potential Effects on historic properties for its permit decision at Siemens.

The map to the right shows the Area of Potential Effects on historic properties. EPA is designating this Area of Potential Effects after consultation with the Colorado River Indian Tribes, the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office, the Town of Parker, and Siemens, and with consideration of public comments on a proposed Area of Potential Effects. You may find information about the comments EPA received and the basis for our designating this Area of Potential Effects on EPA's website, at local public repositories listed to the right, or by contacting EPA. Contact information is noted to the right.

*Please note that this Area of Potential Effects is for potential effects **only on historic properties** from EPA's permit decision regarding the Siemens facility. Under a separate authority, EPA is also requiring Siemens to conduct a human health and ecological risk assessment which will evaluate potential human health and ecological effects up to 30 miles from the facility due to Siemens' operations. In the future, EPA will publish separate public notices regarding the risk assessment and other EPA actions at Siemens, such as the draft permit decision. If you would like to receive future public notices in the mail, please let us know by phone, email, or mail, and we'll put you on our mailing list.*

#### Determining Whether There May Be Adverse Effects to Historic Properties

EPA must now determine whether a hazardous waste permit decision at Siemens may cause adverse effects to any historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects. EPA will make this determination after researching public records, consulting with the consulting parties noted above, and considering comments from the public. Therefore, EPA would like to hear from you about any historic properties that you know of within the Area of Potential Effects and about any adverse effects you believe a Siemens permit may cause to the historic properties. For each historic property, please describe why you believe it to be a historic property and please describe the specific adverse effects you believe a Siemens permit may cause.

#### Criteria for Identifying Historic Properties and Adverse Effects

EPA will use NHPA criteria in determining whether a site or structure within the Area of Potential Effects is a historic property and whether a Siemens permit may cause adverse effects to the historic properties. Under the NHPA, a historic property may be a building, structure, site, object, or district that is important in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, or culture. The term "historic property" also includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian Tribe. Under the NHPA, an adverse effect to a historic property is any effect that would diminish the integrity of certain aspects of the property such as location, design, setting, or feeling.

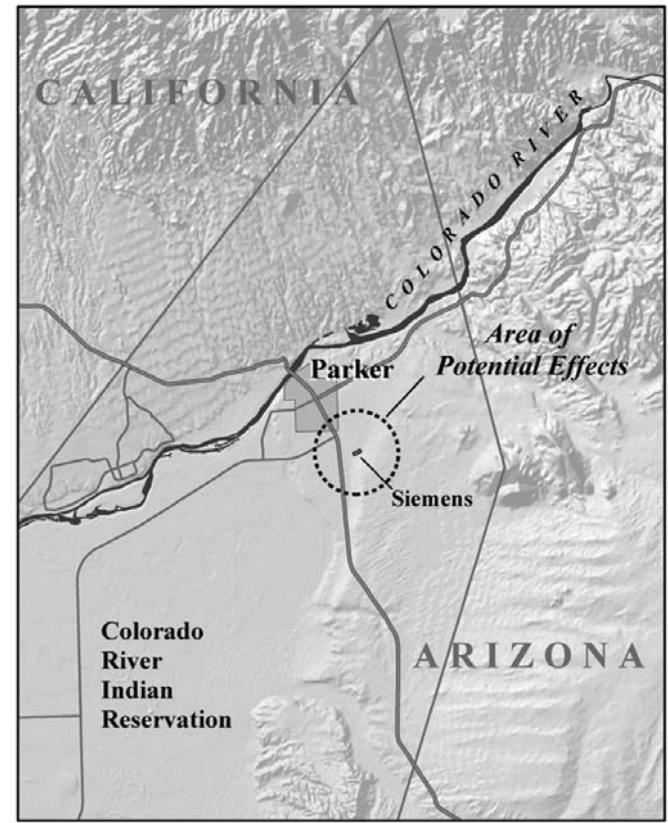
To learn more about the NHPA process and criteria for identifying historic properties and adverse effects you may access "Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review" at [www.achp.gov/citizensguide.html](http://www.achp.gov/citizensguide.html) and "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation" at [www.cr.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/](http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/). You may also obtain these documents by contacting EPA or visiting the public repositories.

#### Next Steps

EPA must take possible adverse effects to historic properties into consideration in making its permit decision. If EPA determines that there are no historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects, or that a Siemens permit will not cause adverse effects to any historic properties, then EPA will issue a public notice making this determination, and this will complete the NHPA process. If EPA determines that there are historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects and that a Siemens permit may cause adverse effects to the historic properties, then EPA will consult with the consulting parties to determine whether mitigation measures are necessary. EPA will then issue a public notice either proposing mitigation measures, or making a determination that mitigation measures are not necessary.

#### We are interested in any information you may have on historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects

If you have information on historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects, including possible adverse effects from a Siemens permit to the historic properties, please let EPA know by **March 5, 2007**. Any information you submit will become part of the public record. However, if there is information that you would like to provide, but that you believe should remain confidential either for your anonymity or to protect the historic property, please contact us by phone, and we will explore options for keeping the information confidential. You may contact EPA at any time during the process to advise us of concerns or comments you may have regarding the NHPA process at Siemens.



A detailed map and additional documents regarding the steps leading up to this determination are available at public repositories at the Parker Public Library and the Colorado River Indian Tribes Museum. You may also obtain these documents and information, as well as information about Siemens and the National Historic Preservation Act, at the public repositories, by contacting EPA at the address or phone number to the right, and at EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/region9/waste/siemens/>.

To comment, or for more information, you may write, email, or call Karen Scheuermann at:

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