

Blackwell Journal-Tribune

HISTORICAL BUILDING
OKLAHOMA CITY OK 73105



SHOWERS

Tonight and Friday: Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Low near 60. High in the mid 70s.

May 22, 1997

Blackwell, Oklahoma (UPS 057-640)

Copyright © 1997 Blackwell Journal-Tribune

8 Pages

50¢

CANDY THOMAS EXPLAINS:

Different residential remediation approaches

There are several different approaches of residential remediations, Candy Thomas, community resources director, explained Thursday morning.

"One is areas that have been tested at the request of property owners all over town where known historical residue has been deposited from the former Blackwell smelter site," she said.

"Those areas were tested and those people who had residue that exceeded the ODEQ standard level

for residential metal content were sent a letter, test results and a map of their property showing what areas needed to be remediated and requesting access to the property. We had over 100 responses to this.

"Another approach of residential remediations was those resident areas surrounding the smelter site or along a drainage tributary that flowed through the smelter site.

"Those areas were tested and again, those residents were sent a letter, test results and a map of

their property and a letter requesting access for remediations.

"The third approach is specific to Blackwell Heights and Cyprus-AMAX is considering an option of a buyout of the residential property and converting it to an industrial use.

"To explore this option, they have sent letters to property owners of vacant lots offering to purchase the property. They have also done some surveying of residential properties to get a feel of the number of

homeowners that would be willing to relocate.

"This option is based upon a voluntary decisions of the property owners. It would take an 80 percent consensus or more for this to be a viable option.

"The other option for Blackwell Heights is residential remediation as it's being conducted all over town where contaminated areas of the properties would be removed

and replaced with clean top soil.

"There is no threat to property owners being forced to do anything. It's strictly voluntarily."

Thomas said anybody interested is welcome to attend any public hearings that are held on a periodic basis with the citizens group, the Environmental Steering Committee, and the ODEQ.

"All the remediation reports are available at Blackwell City Hall," she said.