



## RCRA Corrective Action

### Cleanup + Productive Use

## Economic Profile

# Onyx Environmental Services

Phoenix, Arizona

### BEFORE

Chemical waste handling and disposal facility

### AFTER



Steel Fabricator

### CLEANUP OVERSEEN BY

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

In 1981, the Onyx Environmental Services site began operations as a temporary waste storage facility. Onyx later received a RCRA permit from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to transfer and dispose of chemical waste. The facility closed in 2001.

Contamination of soil, concrete and groundwater occurred due to improper chemical storage practices. The site had 22 RCRA violations between 1985 and 1996. EPA conducted a preliminary assessment and site inspection in 1990. With oversight by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the site's cleanup was completed in 2019.

After being "clean closed" under RCRA, the site has been redeveloped and is now home to a steel fabricator that employs 25 people and generates nearly \$2 million in annual sales.



EMPLOYEES

**25**



ANNUAL SALES

**\$1.9 million**



ANNUAL WAGES

**\$1.2 million**

For more information about RCRA and the economic benefits of site reuse, visit [www.epa.gov/hw/learn-about-corrective-action](http://www.epa.gov/hw/learn-about-corrective-action)





AFTER BEING  
CLEANED UP, THIS  
FACILITY HAS BEEN  
RETURNED TO  
INDUSTRIAL USE.

Onyx Environmental Services worked cooperatively with both EPA and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to clean up the facility. Site cleanup included capping and plugging an unused well, removing empty drums and excavating soil contaminated with arsenic. Onyx's chemical storage area – which included polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and solvents – was also decontaminated.

In 2003, Onyx completed closure of its PCB storage facilities. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality acknowledged the facility's final closure in 2004 based on its approved implementation plan.

The site's cleanup was completed in 2019 with no additional controls required. Although the site is zoned for non-residential use, Onyx went above and beyond to clean up the site based on residential soil cleanup levels. Soil, concrete and groundwater at the site are now safe for all uses – residential, industrial or sensitive. With its new site business, Olt Fabrication & Manufacturing, the Onyx site has been reborn into new industrial use at the heart of Phoenix.



The site's cleanup included removing laboratory chemicals, in addition to containment and sump water.



Olt Fabrication produces manufactured steel products. The on-site business employs 25 people and provides an estimated \$1.2 million in employee income per year.

