

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED PLAN FOR THE

HOPEWELL PRECISION AREA GROUNDWATER SUPERFUND SITE HOPEWELL JUNCTION, DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces the opening of a 30-day comment period on the Proposed Plan and preferred cleanup alternative to address contamination at the Hopewell Precision Area Groundwater Superfund site in Hopewell Junction, Dutchess County, New York. The comment period begins on July 31, 2009 and ends on August 30, 2009. As part of the public comment period, EPA will hold a Public Meeting on Tuesday, August 11, 2009 at 7:00 PM at the Gayhead Elementary School, 15 Entry Road, Hopewell Junction, New York 12533. To learn more about the meeting you can contact Ms. Cecilia Echols, EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator, at 212-637-3678 or 1-800-346-5009 or visit our website at www.epa.gov/region2/superfund/npl/hopewell.

The Hopewell Precision Area Groundwater Superfund site is listed on the Superfund National Priorities List. EPA recently concluded a remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS), Operable Unit (OU) 1, for the site to assess the nature and extent of contamination in site media and to evaluate cleanup alternatives for the site. Based upon the results of this OU 1, EPA has prepared a Proposed Plan which describes the findings of the remedial investigation and potential remedy evaluations detailed in the feasibility study and provides the rationale for recommending the preferred cleanup alternative.

The preferred cleanup alternatives is comprised of:

•An investigation and pilot study of aerobic cometabolic bioremediation (ACB) to determine the rate and the parameters for full-scale enhancement of aerobic cometabolic degradation in the aquifer.

•Remedial design and full-scale enhancement implementation of ACB remedy to achieve restoration of the groundwater to drinking water standards within a reasonable time period.

•Long-term monitoring to track the movement of and changes in the contaminated groundwater plume.

•Annual vapor monitoring of homes determined to be "at risk" for vapor intrusion and implementation of vapor mitigation systems in houses that exceed protective levels, based on changes in the plume.

During the August 11, 2009 Public Meeting, EPA representatives will be available to further elaborate on the reasons for recommending the preferred cleanup alternative for OU 1 and public comments will be received.

The RI Report, FS Report, Risk Assessment, Proposed Plan and other site-related documents are available for public review at the information repositories established for the site at the following locations:

Town of East Fishkill Community Library: 348 Route 376, Hopewell Junction, New York 11787 (845) 221-9943 Hours: Mon. - Thurs., 10am - 8pm; Fri., 10am - 6pm; Sat., 10am - 5pm

USEPA Region 2: Superfund Records Center, 290 Broadway, 18th Floor, New York, NY 10007-1866, (212) 637-4308 Hours: Mon. - Fri., 9am - 5pm

EPA relies on public input to ensure that the selected remedy for each Superfund site meets the needs and concerns of the local community. It is important to note that although EPA has identified a preferred cleanup alternative for the site, no final decision will be made until EPA has considered all public comments received during the public comment period. EPA will summarize these comments along with EPA's responses in a Responsiveness Summary, which will be included in the Administrative Record file as part of the Record of Decision. Written comments and questions regarding the Hopewell Precision Area Groundwater Superfund site, postmarked no later than August 30, 2009 may be sent to:

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Division of Environmental Remediation

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